



Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service

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Chief Fire & Rescue Officer

Michael Graham

Our Ref: RG/ FOI 46-20

16 September 2020

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST DATED 20 AUGUST 2020

Please be advised of the following in relation to your request.

Question 1 For 2015-2020, please outline for each year how many bonfire related incidents the NIFRS attended over the course of the year (please break this down into individual dates)

From 01 April 2015 – 31 March 2020 NIFRS attended 1,879 bonfire related incidents. See below for breakdown by financial year and breakdown of dates for each respective financial year.

Number of bonfire related incidents financial years 2015-2020

Financial Year	No. of Incidents
2015/2016	380
2016/2017	403
2017/2018	399
2018/2019	357
2019/2020	340
Grand Total	1879

Number of bonfire related incidents by date for financial year 2015-16

Month/ Date	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Grand Total
01	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	5	11
02	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
03	0	0	0	0	2	7	1	0	1	0	11
04	0	0	1	4	3	7	1	0	1	1	18
05	0	0	2	0	1	8	1	0	1	0	13
06	0	0	1	0	2	7	0	0	1	1	12
07	0	0	1	2	4	1	2	0	1	0	11
08	0	0	1	1	1	7	7	0	0	1	18
09	1	0	0	1	2	5	3	0	0	0	12
10	0	0	0	0	1	9	1	0	1	0	12
11	0	0	1	0	1	19	1	0	0	0	22
12	0	0	1	1	4	24	1	0	1	0	32
13	0	0	0	1	5	7	0	0	1	0	14
14	0	1	1	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	9
15	0	0	0	0	5	4	1	0	3	0	13
16	0	0	0	1	6	0	3	1	0	0	11
17	2	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	9
18	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
19	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	8
20	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	6
21	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	7
22	1	2	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	11
23	0	2	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
24	0	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	8
25	0	4	1	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	16
26	0	1	3	5	3	0	0	1	2	0	15
27	0	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	9
28	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	3	0	9
29	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	0	7
30	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	1	0	8
31	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	21	0	25
Grand Total	5	17	23	32	103	121	24	2	45	8	380

Number of bonfire related incidents by date for financial year 2016-17

Month/ Date	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
01	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	5	0	13
02	1	0	0	1	0	1	8	1	0	0	2	0	14
03	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	1	0	0	0	1	12
04	0	0	0	0	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	10
05	0	0	0	1	2	7	4	2	0	0	0	0	16
06	0	0	1	0	3	5	3	1	0	0	1	0	14
07	0	0	0	0	2	3	3	1	0	0	1	0	10
08	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	15	0	0	0	0	24
09	0	0	1	1	2	1	8	2	0	0	0	0	15
10	0	2	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	2	0	0	11
11	0	0	0	0	1	2	28	1	0	1	0	1	34
12	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	0	0	2	0	0	18
13	0	0	0	0	3	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	17
14	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	5	0	2	0	0	15
15	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	3	0	1	0	0	9
16	0	0	0	1	3	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	11
17	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	8
18	0	0	0	3	3	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	11
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
20	0	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
21	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	7
22	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	6
23	0	1	0	0	2	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	9
24	0	2	1	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
25	0	0	0	2	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
26	0	0	1	3	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	10
27	0	0	0	1	2	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	10
28	0	0	1	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
29	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	12
30	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	7
31	0	0	0	0	7	0	2	0	0	31	0	0	40
Grand Total	1	5	8	21	62	73	124	42	2	53	10	2	403

Number of bonfire related incidents by date for financial year 2017-18

Month / Date	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
01	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	7
02	0	1	0	0	2	0	6	1	0	0	2	0	12
03	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	9
04	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	7
05	0	0	0	3	2	0	10	3	0	1	0	0	19
06	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	8
07	0	0	0	3	3	1	4	3	0	1	0	0	15
08	0	0	0	5	0	1	10	8	1	0	0	0	25
09	0	0	0	1	3	1	9	2	0	0	0	0	16
10	0	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	11
11	0	0	0	3	1	0	43	3	0	0	0	0	50
12	0	0	0	1	3	2	24	3	0	0	0	0	33
13	0	0	0	3	2	3	10	2	0	0	0	0	20
14	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	1	0	0	8
15	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	0	2	0	0	8
16	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	5
17	0	0	0	1	0	6	1	1	1	0	0	0	10
18	0	0	0	2	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
19	0	0	2	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
20	0	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
21	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
22	0	0	0	5	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	11
23	0	0	2	3	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	9
24	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
25	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
26	0	0	1	1	3	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	12
27	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
28	0	0	2	1	4	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	12
29	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	9
30	0	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	10
31	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	28
Grand Total	1	1	10	54	48	53	148	30	3	43	7	1	399

Number of bonfire related incidents by date for financial year 2018-19

Month/ Date	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Grand Total
01	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
02	0	0	0	2	0	8	0	0	1	0	11
03	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	0	0	1	9
04	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	2	8
05	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	4
06	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	6
07	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
08	0	0	1	1	1	6	14	0	0	0	23
09	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
10	0	0	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	13
11	0	0	0	2	3	47	2	0	1	0	55
12	0	0	1	2	1	46	1	0	0	0	51
13	0	0	2	7	0	3	1	0	0	0	13
14	0	0	0	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	8
15	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	4
16	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	4
17	0	1	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	1	8
18	0	0	1	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	11
19	0	0	1	6	0	4	0	0	0	0	11
20	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	7
21	0	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	6
22	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	5
23	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
24	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
25	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
26	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
27	0	0	0	5	4	1	0	0	1	0	11
28	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	6
29	0	1	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	15
30	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	4	0	12
31	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	19	0	24
Grand Total	3	6	12	43	57	177	25	1	28	5	357

Number of bonfire related incidents by date for financial year 2019-20

Month/ Date	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Grand Total
01	0	0	2	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	10
02	0	0	2	1	3	3	2	0	0	0	11
03	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	1	0	1	8
04	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	7
05	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	6
06	0	0	2	1	2	6	2	0	1	0	14
07	1	0	2	0	2	9	1	0	2	0	17
08	0	0	0	0	1	6	9	0	0	0	16
09	0	0	1	1	0	6	4	0	0	0	12
10	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	1	0	8
11	0	0	1	3	2	28	0	1	0	0	35
12	0	0	1	6	0	23	0	0	0	0	30
13	0	0	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
14	0	0	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	7
15	0	0	1	2	2	2	5	0	1	0	13
16	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	7
17	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
18	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
19	0	0	7	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	13
20	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	7
21	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	8
22	0	0	2	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	8
23	0	0	3	6	9	4	0	0	0	0	22
24	0	0	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	9
25	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
26	0	0	1	3	5	1	0	0	1	0	11
27	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
28	0	1	2	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	11
29	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	6
30	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	3	0	9
31	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	11	0	16
Grand Total	1	2	37	64	50	124	30	2	29	1	340

Question 2. For each of the bonfire related incidents noted in (1), please outline the locations/nature of these call outs

Bonfire related incidents by Area Command/Incident Group for financial years 2015-20

Incident Group	Eastern	Northern	Southern	Western	Grand Total
FALSE ALARM DUE TO APP	0	2	0	5	7
FALSE ALARM GOOD INTENT	192	118	150	105	565
FALSE ALARM MALICIOUS	1	0	0	0	1
MAJOR FIRE DWELLING	3	2	2	1	8
MAJOR FIRE OTHER	4	2	1	0	7
MAJOR FIRE OTHER BUILDING	1	1	0	0	2
SECONDARY FIRE	597	260	277	151	1285
SPECIAL SERVICE CALL OTHER	3	0	1	0	4
Grand Total	801	385	431	262	1879

Question 3. For 2015-2020, please outline for each month of each year the amount spent to attend bonfire related incidents

The indicative cost to the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service of mobilisations to Fire Related Incidents that had the term 'bonfire' for the period 2015 to 2020 (by month) is set out below.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
2015/16	3,342	3,506	14,658	23,604	3,760	408	8,750	1,505			701	2,324	62,559
2016/17	2,197	7,662	14,700	25,798	5,310	316	12,202	1,571	261	81	554	727	71,378
2017/18	7,137	6,703	7,188	31,629	4,347	625	9,270	1,279	230	428	104	810	69,750
2018/19	1,666	5,813	9,581	35,970	4,793	238	5,557	937			484	560	65,597
2019/20	3,505	8,467	6,686	25,902	5,055	301	6,234	108			331	170	56,758
Total	17,847	32,150	52,812	142,904	23,265	1,888	42,012	5,399	490	509	2,173	4,591	326,041

Due to the nature of the information held in relation to the incidents, it has been necessary to apply assumptions in the calculation of the cost and therefore the cost is indicative.

The cost is calculated based on the costs that are directly attributable to attendance at an incident (direct staff time and fuel consumption), and does not therefore include overheads and other indirect costs such as administration; wear and tear of equipment; and command and control.

It should also be noted that NIFRS has recently reviewed its costing model. The costing for this request is based on that model. For this reason the costs may not be comparable to similar incident costings previously provided.

Question 4. For 2015-2020, please outline for each year the number of attacks on NIFRS crews or appliances whilst carrying out their operational activities at bonfire related incidents throughout the province? Please provide the dates of these incidents.

For financial years 2015-20, there were 57 bonfire related incidents during which attacks on NIFRS crew or appliances, whilst carrying out operational activities, were recorded. See below for a breakdown by date.

Number of bonfire related incidents with attacks on NIFRS by date for financial years 2015-20

Date	No. of Incidents
05/06/2015	1
15/06/2015	1
16/06/2015	2
12/07/2015	1
15/08/2015	1
16/09/2015	1
04/11/2015	1
17/02/2016	1
20/02/2016	1
06/05/2016	1
14/05/2016	1
03/06/2016	1
11/07/2016	1
16/07/2016	1
17/07/2016	1
22/07/2016	1
04/08/2016	1
08/08/2016	4
31/10/2016	1
07/04/2017	2
11/04/2017	1
09/07/2017	1
11/07/2017	2
12/07/2017	1
05/08/2017	2
08/08/2017	1
11/08/2017	1
15/08/2017	2
15/10/2017	1
31/10/2017	2
01/11/2017	1
19/03/2018	1
13/05/2018	1

Date	No. of Incidents
18/06/2018	1
11/07/2018	1
14/07/2018	1
18/07/2018	1
15/08/2018	1
22/04/2019	1
23/04/2019	1
24/04/2019	1
31/05/2019	1
23/06/2019	1
24/06/2019	1
08/07/2019	1
11/07/2019	1
08/08/2019	1
31/10/2019	1
Grand Total	57

Question 5. For any attacks outlined in (4) please outline the nature of these attacks and whether any NIFRS employees were injured/hurt as a result.

There are 3 classifications used to record attacks on NIFRS; Damage to Appliance, Injury to Personnel and Hostile Crowd where there was no damage to appliance or injury to personnel. Out of the 57 bonfire related incidents in (4) there was 1 incident where an NIFRS employee received an injury. See below for the breakdown of the nature of attacks in (4).

Nature of NIFRS attacks at bonfire related incidents for financial years 2015-20

Nature of Attack	No. of Incidents
Hostile Crowd – No Damage or Injury	51
Damage to Appliance	5
Injury to Personnel	1
Grand Total	57

Review Process

Under the terms of the legislation, if you are unhappy with this response you have the right to seek a review within the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service in the first instance. If you wish to do so, please write to Stuart Crawford the Governance, Information & Business Support Services Manager, 1 Seymour Street, Lisburn, BT27 4SX within two calendar months of the date of this letter.

If after such a review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner who will undertake an independent review. The Information Commissioner contact details are – 3rd Floor 14 Cromac Place Belfast BT7 2JB.

Please visit www.nifrs.org for more information about NIFRS.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
Freedom of Information Officer