



Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service

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Andy Hearn
Interim Chief Fire & Rescue Officer

Our Ref: IU/ FOI 149-22-23

12 December 2022

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear,

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

Q1 Relating to Fires by electrical appliances can NIFRS confirm if the data is collected in a different format compared to GB?

Information collected by NIFRS follows national guidelines which are adhered to by all fire services.

Q2 How many fires have there been for the past 5 years involving chargers for various appliances e.g. phones, laptops, vapes, e-bikes, e-scooters etc in Northern Ireland?

Please see tables below.

Charger Fires	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Battery Charger	0	1	1	1	0	1	4
Charger	0	2	0	4	0	1	7
Hoverboard Charger	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Phone Charger	2	0	0	2	1	0	5
Power Tool Charger	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Screwdriver Charger	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Wheelchair Charger	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Grand Total	4	3	1	8	3	2	21

Charger Fires shows fires where the charger or the charging of the object caused the fire.

Appliance Fires	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Ebike Battery	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ecigarette Battery	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Escooter Battery	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Laptop Battery	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Phone Battery	0	0	1	0	2	3	6
Wheelchair Battery	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	1	2	3	0	4	4	14

Appliance Fires shows where the object was on fire but there was no information on where the object was or wasn't charging at the time.

Disclaimer

For the purposes of this enquiry, data is reported for the period 01/01/2017 to 30/11/2022

The data is taken from the 5-year data Damage Data set which is cleansed by NIFRS annually.

Additional incidents may have occurred however limited detail within the recorded data would render these incidents unable to be extracted.

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 Unit