



Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

Please ask for: Service Information Team Leader
Tel: 01604 797000
Our ref:
Your ref: N/A
Date: 07 January 2021
If you have any difficulty in obtaining the above telephone number please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk.

Re: Request for information (our ref: NFRS2020-259-303)

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received 11 December 2020. Our response is provided below:

Q1 Please provide a breakdown per year for the last five calendar years to date of the number of fires in warehouses.

Fires in warehouses recorded by Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) during the last five calendar years is as follows:

- 01/01/2015 – 31/12/2015: 8
- 01/01/2016 – 31/12/2016: 12
- 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2017: 7
- 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018: 5
- 01/01/2019 – 31/12/2019: 5

Q2 Please provide a breakdown per year for the last five calendar years to date of the number of fires in schools that were deliberately started. For each incident, please include extent of damage.

Fires that were deliberately started in schools recorded by NFRS during the last five calendar years is as follows:

- 01/01/2015 – 31/12/2015: 1
- Paper and refuse ignited, extinguished by staff, advice by Fire Service only, minimal damage.
- 01/01/2016 – 31/12/2016: 1
- Toilet roll holder set on fire, damage to small piece of wall and smoke damage to cubicle.
- 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2017: 0
- 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018: 0
- 01/01/2019 – 31/12/2019: 0

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Q3 *Please provide a breakdown per year for the last five calendar years to date of the number of fires in empty shops/commercial buildings. For each incident, please include building usage (e.g. office, retail etc) and cause of fire.*

We have utilised the methodology applied by the Office for National Statistics with regards to defining a commercial premises. Therefore we have reported on the following categories from our Incident Recording System (IRS):

- Offices and call centres
- Sporting venues
- Retail
- Vehicle Repair
- Hotel/motel
- Entertainment and culture
- Food and Drink
- Education
- Other Restaurant/café - not licensed
- Other Restaurant/café - not known if - licensed

There is not a field in our IRS for entering whether or not a property is empty so we can only report on what data has been entered into the incident notes/summary section of the IRS.

Below is the number of fires that NFRS has recorded during the last five calendar years as being in an empty shop/commercial premises (please note that it is possible that there were more incidents at empty commercial premises but we can only report on what is recorded on our IRS):

- 01/01/2015 – 31/12/2015: 1
- Café, caused by hot ashes being put in a skip.
- 01/01/2016 – 31/12/2016: 1
- Snooker Club, deliberate ignition.
- 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2017: 2
- 2 x Public Houses, both deliberate ignition.
- 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018: 2
- Department Store, deliberate ignition.
- Public House, deliberate ignition.
- 01/01/2019 – 31/12/2019: 1
- Photography Studio, accidental from a fire being used by someone to keep warm.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference NFRS2020-259-303.

Yours sincerely

Service Information Team Leader

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If you are unhappy with the response, you can ask the Service to review it. To do this, please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk or alternatively write to the address below:

Service Information Manager
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
Moulton Logistics Centre
Moulton Way
Northampton
NN3 6XJ

If our internal review does not resolve the issue to your complete satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision at the following address:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF