



Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Westburn Drive, Cambuslang
G72 7NA

firescotland.gov.uk

Jonathan Black

Our Ref: FOI-19238-2023
Your Ref:
Contact: Sharon Reid
Contact No.
Email: Sharon.Reid@firescotland.gov.uk
Date: 3 November 2023

Dear Mr Black

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information.

Your request has been processed in accordance with Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

You requested –

- 1- How many fires in total have the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended due to the impacts of climate change from when earliest records began till 2023? (Please separate by year).
- 2- Of these fires how many people died? (Please separate by year)

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) response –

The SFRS currently utilise the Home Office Incident Recording Systems (IRS) to record attendance at all incidents. This system uses a series of predetermined categories to record data and is used by UK Fire and Rescue Services to provide consistent statistical returns to the Home Office.

It has not changed since its launch in 2009. There are a number of new technologies such as the impact of climate change that does not have specific reporting category within the IRS.

The Home Office are currently holding regular consultation meetings with Fire and Rescue Services with a view to updating and replacing the IRS sometime next year, of which, the likes of the impact of climate change may be included as a specific reporting category.

However, in terms of your request there is no specific category to record incidents due to the impact of climate change, therefore we are unable to provide incident data in response to your exact question. Consequently, Section 17(1) (b) of Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, notice that information not held is applicable.

In line with the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has in place a procedure by which a review of the way in which we handle requests for information can be carried out. If you are dissatisfied Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have dealt with your request or about any decision made by them in connection with your request, and wish a review to be carried out, please inform me of this by 4 January 2024. In doing so, it would be helpful if you could state the matter, which has given rise to your dissatisfaction.

Staff not involved in the original decision will handle any review.

Should you not be satisfied with the outcome of our review, you will then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months. The Commissioner will decide whether your request has been dealt with properly, in accordance with the Act.

To make an online appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner –

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.asp>
[X](#)

To make a written appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner –

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews, Fife
KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610
Fax: 01334 464611

E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

For further details, please see the Commissioner's website at www.itspublicknowledge.info.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Reid
Data Protection/Freedom of Information Officer
Strategic Planning, Performance and Communications Directorate