

Department for Communities and Local
Government
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Telephone: 030 3444 0000

Dr James Glocking
Fire Protection Association
Via 'What do they know'

Date: **5 August 2015**

Dear Dr Glocking

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 4 August 2015.

You requested: *This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for an electronic (database, CSV, or excel) copy of Fire Statistics data as collected for each case via the Incident Recording System (ref: CLG Document 'Incident Recording System' Questions and Lists Version 1.6 " (XML Schemas v1-0p)' from inception to the half-year ending 30th June 2015. Under section 7 of that law, you are obliged to make a copy available to the public.*

As a model of how well such case data can be provided to the public with locational details I would example the Police Crime dataset that is freely distributed from <https://data.police.uk/>. My request is for full 'case data' that might enable the Fire Protection Association, as the UK's National Fire Safety Organisation and key member of the Fire Sector Federation, to undertake case-by-case cause and effect analyses in association with our own case datasets to better understand fire loss issues and use this knowledge to support our own research and development and provision of risk control guidance.

Cognisant of the need to protect the identities of persons involved I request the exclusion the following question answers from the data you provide: 1.4, 5.23-5.30, 6.3, 8.31-8.34, 9.17-9.19, 9.23.

The Fire Protection Association is the UK National Fire Safety Organisation, a not-for-profit company promoting fire safety in the home and resilient and safe business within the UK. We invest around £1M per year in this research and distribute our work freely (see www.RISCAuthority.co.uk & www.theFPA.co.uk). Access to this data by us (and other organisations) is considered paramount to achieving our goals and it remains odd to us that in this time of openness access to it remains so elusive. We historically negotiated access to this dataset under direction from DCLG to seek approval from all CFO's which was achieved with the grateful assistance of CFO - this document, which was never honoured, can be made available to you as part of this FOI request if of interest.

We are dealing with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we aim to send a response by 2 September 2015.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 may restrict the release of some or all of the information you have requested. We will carry out an assessment and if any exemptions apply to some or all of the information then we might not provide that information to you. We will inform you if this is the case and advise you of your rights to request an internal review and to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.

We will also advise you if we cannot provide you with the information requested for any other reason, together with details of how you may appeal (if appropriate).

Yours sincerely

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