



## REFUSE FIRES ATTENDED BY SWFRS

Produced by Stats & Risk Team, 24/12/2019

**Request summary:** FOI IG000072 16/12/2019

I'm in the middle of putting together a report for the Welsh Government to try and influence them to fund a Fly-tipping Enforcement Task Force team. I'd like to include data from partners to evidence the effect fly-tipping is having on resources etc so I'd be really grateful if you have any information that I could include from the Fire Service.

I've been forwarded some figures from Andrew Elias but ideally I'd like to know if rubbish fires (more specially – fly-tipped rubbish) is on the increase in Wales. I'd also like to find how these type of incidents are having an effect on the resources of the Fire Service.

Is this something you can assist with please?

**Scope:** Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS from 01/04/2014 to date, additional detail regarding loose refuse categories collected from 01/04/2019

**Data:** Based on data extracted from SWFRS IRS system, 24/12/2019 – data may be subject to change pending validation of IRS incident records. Report criteria: Incident category = Fire, Category (level 3) property type = Loose refuse (incl in garden), Over the Border = No, Creation date >= 01/04/2014

Data may be subject to change, pending completion/validation of IRS records

\* Statistics for 2019/20 YTD to 24/12/2019

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### REPORT AND STATISTICS

Fly-tipped refuse is recorded under the IRS property category "Outdoor - Other Outdoors (including land)" and included in the sub-category "Loose refuse (incl in garden)". The national recording system does not require further categorization. However, from April 2019 SWFRS has asked for additional information from crews attended loose refuse fires to enable additional analysis of these incidents.

Page 2 of this report provides an overview of Loose Refuse Fires attended by SWFRS over the last 5 financial years plus the current year to date.

Page 3 onwards provides analysis for the current financial year based on the additional data being collected on loose refuse fires.

Unitary Authority	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*	TOTAL
Blaenau Gwent	215	199	175	216	174	115	1094
Bridgend	124	132	91	156	170	125	798
Caerphilly	221	276	279	290	350	191	1607
Cardiff	321	295	364	403	445	310	2138
Merthyr Tydfil	152	149	107	105	101	69	683
Monmouthshire	31	27	25	24	44	22	173
Newport	285	354	398	413	354	220	2024
Rhondda Cynon Taf	318	300	288	324	474	236	1940
Torfaen	79	132	115	88	124	72	610
Vale of Glamorgan	75	63	75	90	95	60	458
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1821</b>	<b>1927</b>	<b>1917</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>2331</b>	<b>1420</b>	<b>11525</b>

Table 1 - Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS by unitary authority / financial year

Month	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*	TOTAL
Apr	190	303	156	293	142	223	1307
May	141	170	180	213	238	229	1171
Jun	206	214	178	184	224	167	1173
Jul	225	163	160	180	336	254	1318
Aug	129	150	184	176	189	145	973
Sep	215	155	145	150	181	131	977
Oct	124	222	212	194	242	103	1097
Nov	144	110	240	306	194	110	1104
Dec	93	67	152	123	74	58	567
Jan	75	79	115	97	195		561
Feb	108	112	69	117	142		548
Mar	171	182	126	76	174		729
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1821</b>	<b>1927</b>	<b>1917</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>2331</b>	<b>1420</b>	<b>11525</b>

Table 2 - Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS by month / financial year

Motive	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*	TOTAL
Deliberate	1704	1801	1806	2004	2161	1328	10804
Accidental / Not known	117	126	111	105	170	92	708
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1821</b>	<b>1927</b>	<b>1917</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>2331</b>	<b>1420</b>	<b>11512</b>

Table 3 - Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS by motive / financial year

**LOOSE REFUSE FIRES 2019/20\*:**

Unitary Authority	Flytipped furniture	Litter	Bin bags – household – discarded	Other waste type (unidentified)	Green waste incl grass cuttings	Bin bags – household – for collection	Construction / demolition / excavation	Tyres	Vehicle parts	Bin bags – commercial – discarded	Bin bags – commercial – for collection	Other electrical	White goods	Chemical drums, oil, fuel	TOTAL
Blaenau Gwent	24	18	29	18	4	6	3	6	1	1	2	1	1	1	115
Bridgend	18	27	29	17	10	5	6	2	6	2	1	1		1	125
Caerphilly	39	39	41	17	21	14	3	6		2	2	4	1	2	191
Cardiff	76	74	44	23	24	25	18	5	5	2	4	7	2	1	310
Merthyr Tydfil	19	11	17	2	1	3	3	3	2	5		1	2		69
Monmouthshire	2	4	4	3	1	1	2		1		1		2	1	22
Newport	41	38	62	21	18	23	3	8		1	1		4		220
Rhondda Cynon Taf	56	37	37	32	32	12	13	4	3	2	3	3	2		236
Torfaen	18	14	10	6	7	3	4	3	1	2	2	1	1		72
Vale of Glamorgan	7	17	5	12	8	4	2		1	2	2				60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1420</b>

Table 4 - Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS 2019/20\* - by unitary authority / refuse type

<b>LOOSE REFUSE TYPE</b>	<b>Agricultural</b>	<b>Back alleyway</b>	<b>Commercial / industrial</b>	<b>Council land</b>	<b>Derelict property</b>	<b>Footpath / bridleway</b>	<b>Highway</b>	<b>Other land type (unidentified)</b>	<b>Private / residential</b>	<b>Public park / sports ground</b>	<b>Railway</b>	<b>Watercourse / bank</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Flytipped furniture (not in garden, excludes street furniture)	6	41	15	62	6	50	17	38	30	31		4	300
Litter	2	20	8	49	2	79	13	18	20	64	1	3	279
Bin bags – household – discarded	2	39	5	44	4	57	14	19	54	37	1	2	278
Other waste type (unidentified)	6	13	11	22	4	11	2	19	30	28		5	151
Green waste incl grass cuttings	7	7	1	15		24	4	6	40	19	1	2	126
Bin bags – household – for collection		17		7	1	18	6	6	33	8			96
Construction / demolition / excavation	4	7	5	3	3	7	3	3	21	1			57
Tyres		1	2	7	1	7	1	6	1	8	2	1	37
Vehicle parts		4	6	1	1	4		2	1	1			20
Bin bags – commercial – discarded	1	5	1	2		2	1	1	4	2			19
Bin bags – commercial – for collection		4	6	1		3	3	1					18
Other electrical	1		2	3		2	1	1	2	5	1		18
White goods		1	1	1		2	1	4	4			1	15
Chemical drums, oil, fuel			2			1	1		2				6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1420</b>

Table 5 - Loose refuse fires attended by SWFRS 2019/20\* - by refuse type / location type