



**Gofynner am/  
Please ask for:** Information Governance  
and Compliance

**Tel:** 01443232000

**E-bost/E-mail:** DataProtection@southwales-fire.gov.uk

**Our ref:** IG001080

**Dyddiad/Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

## RE: Request for Information held by SWFRS

Your request ref: IG001080 has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked us:

- How many fires involving balconies occurred between 1st August 2020 and 31st July 2021?
- In the same period, how many building fires occurred where balconies were found to have contributed to the external spread of the fire?
- Please provide data on the causes of any fires that started on balconies (ie; barbecue, discarded cigarette, electrical appliance fault, etc) and please provide the number of occurrences for each cause.

Our response:

We do not specifically list balconies on our list of locations where a fire starts. Crews may identify balconies as an 'Other location' option or they may use the external structure option which would also include cladding, fascia boards, guttering etc.

The table below includes all fires where balcony has been identified in the other location field on our Incident Recording System and any fires where the incident log reports a confirmed balcony fire.

Pencadlys Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru,  
Parc Busnes Forest View, Llantrisant, Pont-y-clun, CF72 8LX.

Ffôn 01443 232000 • Ffacs 01443 232180  
www.decymru-tan.gov.uk

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y gymraeg a'r saesneg - byddwn yn ymateb yn gyfartal i'r ddau ac yn ateb yn eich dewis iaith heb oedi.

**CODI YMWYBYDDIAETH - LLEIHAU PERYGL**

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,  
Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX.

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We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English - we will respond equally to both and will reply in your language of choice without delay.

**RAISING AWARENESS - REDUCING RISK**



### Balcony Fires 1st August 2020 - 31st July 2021

Cause of fire	Oct-2020	Mar-2021	Apr-2021	Total
Careless handling - due to careless disposal	1	1		2
Faulty leads to equipment or appliance			1	1
Grand Total	1	1	1	3

With regard to the second question, we are unable to identify if balconies contributed to the external spread of the fire from the data held in our Incident Recording System.

If you have any queries regarding your Freedom of Information request, please contact us at [Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk) quoting the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are dissatisfied with the way that your information request has been handled, you can request an internal review by emailing [Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk)

We would like to thank you for your patience at this time.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office-Wales,  
2nd Floor,  
Churchill House,  
Churchill Way,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 2HH.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours Faithfully  
**Joanne Goodhind**  
Information Governance and Compliance  
[Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk)

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### **UPDATE COVID-19: Information Requests**

We are kindly asking that any data protection correspondence come to Information Governance & Compliance via email, as due to Government advice many of our support staff are working flexibly and we may not be in receipt of physical post as normal. SWFRS anticipates that it may take us longer than 20 working days to complete Freedom of Information Requests and Subject Access Requests. The Information Commissioner recognises that there might be delays as our services and resources may be being utilised in slightly different ways, under the current unprecedented circumstances. At current, we are no longer accepting physical postal cheques, however we can accept BACs payments for items that carry a fee (such as IRS Reports and Interviews, where appropriate following standard procedure and charges).

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