



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

Tel: 01443232000

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

Our ref: IG001109

Dyddiad/Date: 11th October 2021

RE: Request for Information held by SWFRS

Your request ref: IG001109 has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked us: **(Our responses are highlighted below in red)**

I am a reporter at BBC News working on a TV piece about the cladding crisis. I am contacting all of the UK's fire and rescue services to ask for figures regarding the number of buildings with waking watch and / or a simultaneous evacuation policy? This is for a piece I am working on for BBC TV, radio and online.

The LFB recently publicised their figures. 1006 buildings have suspended their Stay Put policy in the capital due to safety failings.

<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/2021-news/september/fire-commissioner-calls-for-urgent-action-on-unsafe-buildings-as-number-in-london-passes-1k/>

I am looking for comparable figures for South Wales.

Other fire services have broken the numbers down into:

Simultaneous evacuation strategy

Buildings over 18m **44**
Buildings under 18m **6**
Total **50**

Waking Watch

Buildings 18m **34**
Buildings under 18m **6**
Total **40**

Pencadlys Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru,

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,

Telephone 01443 232000 • Fax 01443 232180
www.southwales-fire.gov.uk

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

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- **Following our response, you asked us the following:**

Can I clarify that some of the waking watch figures will be included in the simultaneous evacuation numbers? (i.e some properties with simultaneous evacuation also have waking watch?)

- **Our response:**

Yes, a waking watch is a temporary way of achieving simultaneous evacuation. Another way of achieving this is by installing a temporary fire alarm system.

If you have any queries regarding your Freedom of Information request, please contact us at 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

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
Information Governance and Compliance
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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