

# Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

*Creating the Safest Community*



## Lithium Battery Fires 1/1/2017 to 10/9/2023

### Data, Intelligence and Safety

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Data and Information Audit	
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**1 Request**

As a freedom of information request, please provide data regarding the number of lithium battery related fires you have recorded. Specifically, please provide:

- Annual totals for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and so far in 2023
- Those annual totals split by the type of lithium device involved (such as e-bike, e-cigarette, e-scooter).
- Those annual totals split by the number of related injuries or fatalities

**2 Reply**

- 2.1 The following information is taken from Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) Incident Recording System (IRS). An IRS incident record is completed by the Officer in Charge for every incident attended.
- 2.2 This was a search of the text in the comments section of the IRS reports for mention of E-Bikes, E-Scooters, E-Cigarettes, Vapes, Lithium Batteries, charging, charger, etc., and where the incident category was 'Fire'.

### 3 Data

3.1 From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 there have been a total of 33 incidents recorded in the IRS involving lithium batteries. It has been specified where it was stated in the comments that the fire was caused by a battery on charge and what type of vehicle, item or tool it belonged to.

Property type and circumstances	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Battery in pile of shredded re-cycling	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Battery in refuse lorry	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Childs E-Motorbike	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
E-Bike	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
E-Bike battery on charge	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	4
E-Bike charger	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
E-Cigarette	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
E-Cigarette Charger	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Electric Drill lithium batteries	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Electric skateboard on charge	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
E-Scooter battery on charge	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
E-Scooter on charge	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Forklift lithium battery	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Golf Buggy battery on charge	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hover Board	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hover Board on charge	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Lithium Battery on Charge	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Mobility Scooter	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Moped battery charger	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Portable Battery Pack on charge	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Segway on charge	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Vape charger	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>33</b>

3.2 Fires involving Lithium batteries by year only.

Year	Total
2017	1
2018	7
2019	5
2020	5
2021	4
2022	7
2023 to date	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

- 3.3 Lithium battery fires involving injuries. The injury types ranged from first aid given at scene, person went to hospital with slight injury and person went to hospital with serious injury.

All were single injuries per incident apart from one in 2020 at which two people were injured. Therefore the total of 3 for that year is the number of people injured (at 2 incidents).

There have been no fatalities at these type of fires.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Injuries</b>
2017	0
2018	4
2019	0
2020	3
2021	0
2022	0
2023 to date	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>