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FOI REFERENCE: FOI 23/24 - 170

DATE RECEIVED: 02/12/2023

TITLE / CATEGORY: Incident Statistics - Electric vehicles

REQUEST

- 1. How many fires have your Service attended which involved electric or Hybrid vehicles powered by lithium-ion batteries between the following dates 1/1/21 1/11/23?
- 2. Of these fires attended in how many of these was the cause recorded as a fault on the lithium-ion battery?
- 3. Of the fires attended how many involved the lithium battery cells?
- 4. Have your Service developed specific operational procedures for dealing with fires involving lithium-ion batteries?
- 5. Have your service purchased any specific equipment/extinguishing/PPE agents to deal with fires involving lithium-ion batteries?
- 6. Does your Service provide specific training to operational crews who may be called to fires involving lithium-ion batteries?
- 7. Where lithium-ion batteries are involved in RTA's persons trapped, do you adopt any specific measures to isolate the potential battery ignition risk?
- 8. Have your Service initiated any specific information gathering exercise on fires attended involving lithium ion batteries?

RESPONSE

- 1. 8.
- 2. 0
- 3. Battery type not mentioned.
- 4. The service has developed an Operational Information Note in line with National Operational Guidance.
- 5. Currently the Service has not purchased any specific equipment.

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RESPONSE CONT.

- 6. TWFRS delivers specific training to crews in multiple ways, the subject matter is covered in compulsory annual RTC training to crews. The service has also facilitated online training with Paul Christianson from Newcastle University (Prof of Pure & Applied Electrochem), this was delivered online to Operational Crews.
- 7. Isolation of Battery Powered vehicles is covered in annual RTC training, Circuit breakers and isolation methods are covered during this presentation. Along with training Operational Crews have access to the crash recovery systems via their Mobile Data terminals on appliances. This gives specific information on vehicles and highlights isolation methods on individual vehicles. Crews will follow this information to isolate a vehicle, as well as immediate measures including removing the key from the vicinity of the vehicle and chocking of the wheels.
- 8. The service are following the advice of the NFCC lead on Lithium Ion Batteries and so far have maintained a watching brief on exercises.



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