

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Creating the Safest Community



Wild fires in the Tyne and Wear region of July 2022

Data, Intelligence and Safety

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1 Request

I am writing to request data under the Freedom of Information Act regarding information on wildfires that occurred in July of 2022 in this FRS district. Specifically, I am interested in obtaining the following information for the period of July 2022:

1. Location (coordinates) and timing (date and time of day) of the wildfires.
2. Fire size – ideally fire perimeters.
3. Number of resources deployed.
4. Fuel type burned (if available).
5. Impact (e.g. buildings/houses affected, personal injuries, infrastructure, fire service equipment, traffic delays, any evacuations, etc)
6. If/when a major incident was declared.

If you have any queries or require clarification of this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

2 Introduction

Our definition of a wildfire is any uncontrolled vegetation fire where a decision or action is needed about its suppression. A wildfire will meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Involves a geographical area of at least one hectare (10,000 square metres)
- Has a sustained flame length of more than 1.5 metres
- Requires a committed resource of at least four fire and rescue service appliances/resources
- Requires resources to be committed for at least six hours
- Presents a serious threat to life, environment, property and infrastructure

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.

This was a search of the IRS questions that mention the size/area of the fire at 5,000 square metres or more.

All agricultural property types were removed from the results – e.g. standing crops, straw/stubble, etc.

The date range was from 1st to 31st July 2022.

3 Results

There was 4 wild fire incidents that occurred in July 2022.

All of the requested fields have been attached in the spreadsheet except for the following as nothing has been recorded:

- Impact
- If/when a major incident was declared

The data table below shows the details of each incident as requested.

Incident number	Date Only	Time of call	Time of call to time of last appliance leaving the incident (minutes)	Easting	Northing	Source of Ignition	Estimated fire size	Number of appliances deployed
50019530	09/07/2022	18:03:50	80	440794	551981	Not known	Over 10,000	2
50020643	16/07/2022	16:14:56	93	433953	556500	Not known	Over 10,000	3
50020804	17/07/2022	16:39:58	84	435707	559118	Not known	5,001 - 10,000	3
50021049	18/07/2022	17:03:33	169	420197	563992	Not known	Over 10,000	8