



Freedom of Information Request:

Date Responded: 25th February 2026

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information.

1. Incidents at sites linked to cannabis cultivation

For each calendar year from 2015 to the most recent complete year available, please provide the number of incidents attended by your service where the property or site was confirmed or suspected to be associated with cannabis cultivation.

These incidents may involve, but are not limited to, fires, electrical faults, rescues, or other emergency responses at sites where cannabis cultivation was identified or suspected.

If providing data for the full period from 2015 would exceed the cost limit under Section 12 of the Act, please instead provide the figures for the most recent five calendar years.

Numeric totals only are requested (and in whatever format is easiest for you); no personal or incident-level detail is required.

2. Policies, procedures, or operational guidance

Please confirm whether your service holds any written policies, procedures, operational guidance, or risk assessment documentation relating to attending fires or other emergencies at sites used, or suspected to be used, for cannabis cultivation.

If so, I would be grateful if you could:

- Provide a web link to the relevant material, or
- Attach copies of the documents to your response (in whatever format is easiest for you), or
- Confirm if the material is exempt from disclosure and specify the relevant exemption(s).

This request is part of wider research that we are undertaking into cannabis farming in the UK, in order to understand both its development over recent years and its links to other issues such as exploitation, violence, modern slavery, and fire and safety risks. Our report on findings from the research will be published later in 2026.

Response:

The following information is taken from the 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.

A search was made of the free text comments in Section 10 of IRS incident reports for mentions of cannabis and/or cannabis farms.

With regard to the second part of your request, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service do not have any specific policies, procedures or operational guidance relating to cannabis cultivation incidents

Exemptions applied: None

Link to data/ download: [TWFRS-Freedom-of-Information-Request-Cannabis-Cultivation-Details.pdf](#)