

Dear Colleague,

We are collecting information about the number of staff employed by fire and rescue services. Below is the information we would like to obtain from you under the Freedom of Information Act.

Specifically, we would like to know how many (a) wholetime firefighter, (b) retained firefighter, (c) fire control room, (d) support staff and (e) total staff there were employed in your Fire and Rescue Service, measured by headcount, on 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024.

We also request the (f) number of wholetime firefighters employed by your fire and rescue service as of 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024 (headcount) that also work a retained contract, and therefore could be described as “wholetime-retained”. To clarify, we only request the number of wholetime firefighters with an additional retained contract – we are not asking whether it is with your own or another fire and rescue service.

We would appreciate a table for the respective years detailing the data in the following format:

1) How many people were employed by the fire and rescue service (headcount) in the following roles on 31 March 2023:

	Headcount
Wholetime	238
Retained	361
Control	26
Support	139
<b>Total</b>	764
Wholetime-retained	52

2) How many people were employed by the fire and rescue service (headcount) in the following roles on 31 March 2024:

	Headcount
Wholetime	239
Retained	357
Control	26
Support	142
<b>Total</b>	764
Wholetime-retained	49

Please note this is the same criteria used for reporting to governments.

We would prefer to receive this information in electronic form by e-mail and preferably as tables in Word or Excel format. If you have any queries regarding this request, please e-mail

Please acknowledge receipt as we would very like this information within the statutory 20 working days period.