

CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 11TH AUGUST 2010

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ACCIDENT STATISTICS REPORT 2009 - 2010

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives of the numbers and types of work related accidents/incidents that occurred during the year April 2009 - March 2010.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 require accidents which arise as a result of, or in connection with, work to be categorised as follows and reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE):
- Fatal Accidents
 - Major injury accidents, which include fracture of the skull, spine or pelvis, fracture of any bone in arm/wrist, leg/ankle, amputation of a limb, finger, thumb or toe, loss of sight of any eye or admission to hospital for more than twenty-four hours.
 - Accidents which result in more than three consecutive days' absence
- 2.2 In addition, if either of the following types of accident occur they too are reportable to the Enforcing Authority:
- Actual physical violence which results in any of the above
 - An accident to a person not employed by the Authority, who is taken directly to hospital following an accident which occurs as a direct result of, in connection with, or arises out of the work activity.
- 2.3 The term 'non reportable' accident or incident, refers to any accident or incident that is not included in 2.1 or 2.2 and therefore is not reportable to the Health and Safety Executive. Most of these accidents result in minor injuries. Accidents in this classification are reported to the Corporate Health and Safety Unit only if they affect:
- Employees whilst they are at work
 - Pupils, clients and members of the public who are injured as a result of work activity whilst they are on Council premises or using the facilities
 - Any persons who are injured as a result of any work activity carried out by or on behalf of the Authority.

3. ACCIDENT STATISTICS

3.1 Appendix 1 – All Accidents to Staff across the Authority

Appendix 1 provides graphs detailing the accidents that occurred to staff only during the period, first across the Authority and then by Directorate.

Pie chart A and bar chart C detail the number of accidents broken down to:

- Non-reportable accidents
- Over 3 days' absence Injuries
- Major Injuries

The charts show that non-reportable accidents account for 84.3% of the accidents suffered by CCBC employees, Over 3 day accidents for 14.5% and Major Injuries for just 1.2%.

Charts B provides details of all accidents by the cause as recorded in the accident system. Each accident is placed in one of the following categories:

- Contact with electricity or an electrical discharge
- Contact with moving machinery or material being machined
- Drowned or Asphyxiated
- Exposed to a fire
- Exposed to an explosion
- Exposed to or in contact with a harmful substance
- Fall from height - Please indicate height in the description
- Hit by a moving vehicle
- Hit by a moving, flying or falling object
- Hit something fixed or stationary
- Infection
- Injured by an animal
- Injured while handling, lifting or carrying
- Lung Disease
- Other - Health Condition
- Other - Pupil Injury
- Other - Type of accident
- Physically assaulted by a person
- Skin Disease
- Slipped, tripped or fell on the same level
- Sporting Injury - Not work related
- Trapped by something collapsing
- No Information recorded

Analysis shows that the cause of the highest number of accidents were:

1. Slipped, tripped or fell on the same level – 25.5% of all accidents to staff
2. Injured whilst handling, lifting or carrying – 20.7% of all accidents to staff
3. Physically assaulted by a person – 16.6% of all accidents to staff

No accidents were recorded in the following categories:

- Drowned or Asphyxiated
- Exposed to a fire
- Exposed to an explosion
- Infection
- Lung Disease
- Skin Disease
- Trapped by something collapsing

Analysis has been undertaken and has been broken down by Directorate. The highest numbers of accidents were recorded in the Social Services Directorate, however, with the exception of Chief Executives/Corporate Services Directorate (an intrinsically low risk area) the accident numbers across the Directorates are very similar with a difference of only 19 accidents between the Environment Directorate and the Social Services Directorate on 121 and 140 accidents respectively, with Education and Leisure falling between the two on 137.

3.2 **Appendix 2 – Reportable Accidents to Staff**

Appendix 2, Part A, details the HSE reportable accidents to staff broken down by the cause of the accident. The cause of the highest number of reportable accidents to staff was 'slipped, tripped or fell on the same level' accounting for 30.7% of all accidents to staff. This is the same cause as for the greatest number of 'all accidents' as detailed in appendix 1.

Part B breaks this information down by Directorate.

3.3 **Appendix 3 – Members of the Public**

Appendix 3 details the reportable accidents to members of the public broken down by cause. Of the 45 recorded accidents 43 occurred in the Education and Leisure Directorate and 2 in the Environment Directorate. The most accidents to members of the public occurred as a result of sporting activities (31%). It should be noted that the statistics for members of the public include school pupils (19000 across the Authority).

3.4 **Appendix 4 – Trend Analysis**

Appendix 4 shows the accident trends over the past 5 years. Numbers have been taken from the previous annual statistics.

There was a notable rise in accidents reported in 2007/08. This corresponds with the launch of a new accident and incident reporting and investigation policy, new reporting form and the provision of policy briefing training sessions to managers and is therefore probably due, not to an increase in accidents occurring, but an increased awareness of the need to report them to Health and Safety. It also coincides with the introduction of the electronic iCass accident recording system, meaning that records kept from this point are likely to be more accurate than they were previously.

Total accidents reported have consistently dropped from this peak over the last two years, however the number of reportable accidents has remained relatively steady (a difference of 15 accidents across the Authority between 2008/09 and 2009/10). This trend suggests that the number of accidents actually occurring is decreasing; particularly as the accident and incident reporting and investigation policy was revised and re-launched again in 2009 meaning you might expect (as in 2007/08) a rise in accidents reported due to increased awareness. It is possible that increased awareness is responsible for the slight increase in reportable accidents – as managers' awareness of their legal responsibilities is raised.

4. **RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 The Committee are asked to note and discuss the content of this report.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1	All Accidents to Staff across the Authority
Appendix 2	Reportable Accidents to Staff
Appendix 3	Members of the Public
Appendix 4	Trend Analysis