



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 21ST JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: ACCIDENT STATISTICS REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the numbers and types of work-related accidents/incidents that occurred during the period of April 2020 – March 2021 (inclusive).

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The following report provides accident statistics for April 2020 – March 2021 (inclusive). Accident statistics are produced for each quarter and presented to the members of the Health and Safety Committee for information. The appendices are graphs illustrating these statistics and include for the previous 2 years for comparison.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee note the contents of the report.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To keep the Committee up to date on any health and issues that may be relevant or may require further consideration.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1. The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013 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

- 'Specified injury' (formerly referred to as a 'major injury'), including a fracture, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes; amputation of an arm, hand, finger, thumb, leg, foot or toe; permanent loss or reduction of sight; crush injuries leading to internal organ damage; serious burns (covering more than 10% of the body, or damaging the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs); scalpings (separation of skin from the head) which require hospital treatment; unconsciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia; and any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space, which leads to hypothermia, heat-induced illness or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
- Accidents which cause an employee to be away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than seven consecutive days (not counting the day of the accident).
- Work-related accidents involving members of the public or people who are not at work (including pupils) if the injured person is taken from the scene of the accident directly to hospital for treatment to that injury.

5.1.1 The term 'non reportable' accident or incident, refers to any accident or incident that is not included in point 5.1 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 Health and Safety Division only if they affect:

- Employees while they are at work.
- Pupils, clients and members of the public who are injured as a result of work activity while 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

5.1.2 Appendix 1 provides details on all of the accidents for the Authority that were reported to the Health and Safety Division between January – March 2021; Appendix 2 provides details for the period October - December 2020; Appendix 3 provides details for the period July to September 2020; Appendix 4 provides details for the period April to June 2020.

These are categorised by accident type and by type of incident, e.g. non-reportable, over seven days' lost time or restricted duties, and 'specified' (formerly referred to as a 'major') injury, and 'near-miss'. For comparison, tables for the periods during 2019 and 2020 are also provided as Appendices 9-12.

5.1.3 Appendix 5 details the RIDDOR-reportable accidents per directorate between January – March 2021 and details those accidents that occurred to members of the public that were reported; Appendix 6 provides details for the period October - December 2020; Appendix 7 provides details for the period July to September 2020; Appendix 8 for the period April to June 2020.

For comparison, tables for the period April 2019 – March 2020 are also provided as Appendices 13-16.

5.1.4 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period January to March 2021, five during the period October - December 2020, none for the period July to September and two during the period April – June 2020 in the Communities Directorate.

5.1.5 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period January to March 2021, none during the period October - December 2020, one for the period July to September and none during the period April – June 2020 in the Social Services and Housing Directorate.

- 5.1.6 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period January to March 2021, one during the period October - December 2020, one for the period July to September and none during the period April – June 2020 in the Education and Corporate Services Directorate.
- 5.1.7 For the purposes of reporting, staff who are working for the Authority via an agency are treated as employees. It should also be noted that when making comparisons with earlier years' reports there has been a change in the management structure within the Authority, with certain service areas now falling under different Directorates.
- 5.1.8 There has been no follow up action from the HSE with regard to any of the above RIDDOR-reportable accidents. There were no common themes or linked accidents in a particular service area.

5.2 Conclusion

- 5.2.1 Near-miss reporting remains low. The corporate Accident/Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy has been reviewed and includes new arrangements for reporting near miss incidents to improve reporting rates.
- 5.2.2 RIDDOR-reportable incidents remain consistently low. This is encouraging and demonstrates the positive benefits of interventions of Health and Safety Officers regarding audits of workplaces and work activities, and the provision of health and safety related training.
- 5.2.3 The updated Accident/Reporting and Investigation Policy will need to be supported by a poster campaign and policy briefing sessions and a team talk for Managers to deliver as part of their team meetings. Work is ongoing to develop a online training video to support this. It is anticipated that increasing managers and employees understanding of the policy and its application will result in a better appreciation of the importance of reporting both accidents and near-misses. The covid-19 pandemic has significantly changed priorities leading to a delay in progressing. Due to staff working from home and social distancing new solutions such as video briefings are currently being considered.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 No assumptions have been made regarding the information contained in this report.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This report is for information only and so an Integrated Impact Assessment is not required

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 All comments from consultees have been included in the report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 All accidents by Type for the Authority between January – March 2021
Appendix 2 All accidents by Type for the Authority between October - December 2020
Appendix 3 All accidents by Type for the Authority between July - September 2020
Appendix 4 All accidents by Type for the Authority between April – June 2020
Appendix 5 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between January – March 2021
Appendix 6 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between October - December 2020
Appendix 7 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between July - September 2020
Appendix 8 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between April – June 2020
Appendix 9 All accidents by Type for the Authority between January – March 2020
Appendix 10 All accidents by Type for the Authority between October – December 2019
Appendix 11 All accidents by Type for the Authority between July - September 2019
Appendix 12 All accidents by Type for the Authority between April - June 2019
Appendix 13 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between January – March 2020
Appendix 14 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between October - December 2019
Appendix 15 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between July– September 2019
Appendix 16 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between April – June 2019