



## **CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

**SUBJECT: ACCIDENT STATISTICS REPORT FOR APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2022**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR 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 - September 2022 (inclusive).

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The following report provides accident statistics for April - September 2022 (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 each quarter period 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**

- 5.1.1 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):

- All deaths to workers and non-workers, except for suicides,
- 'Specified injury' - including a fracture, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes; amputations; any injury likely to lead to permanent loss or reduction of sight; any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs; serious burns

(including scalding) covering more than 10% of the body, or causing significant damage to eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs); scalpings (separation of skin from the head) requiring hospital treatment; loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia; and any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or 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) as a result of their injury.
- 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.
- Dangerous occurrences are specified near-miss events that do not cause injury or ill health but had potential to do so as defined in RIDDOR, such as failure of collapse of lifting equipment or accidental release of a hazardous substance.
- Work-related causes of ill health – defined as
  - (a) Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, where the person's work involves regular use of percussive or vibrating tools;
  - (b) cramp in the hand or forearm, where the person's work involves prolonged periods of repetitive movement of the fingers, hand or arm;
  - (c) occupational dermatitis, where the person's work involves significant or regular exposure to a known skin sensitizer or irritant;
  - (d) Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome, where the person's work involves regular use of percussive or vibrating tools, or the holding of materials which are subject to percussive processes, or processes causing vibration;
  - (e) occupational asthma, where the person's work involves significant or regular exposure to a known respiratory sensitizer; or
  - (f) tendonitis or tenosynovitis in the hand or forearm, where the person's work is physically demanding and involves frequent, repetitive movements,

5.1.2 The term 'minor injury' refers to any accident or incident causing injury that is not included in point 5.1.1 and therefore is not reportable to the Health and Safety Executive. Accidents in this classification need only be reported to the Health and Safety Division 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

5.1.3 The term 'near miss' refers to any significant work-related incident reported that caused no injury but had potential to cause at least one person to be injured or put at risk of ill-health as a consequence of the incident, but not meeting the legal definition in RIDDOR of a 'dangerous occurrence.'

5.1.4 Appendix 1 provides details on all of the accidents for the Authority that were recorded by the Health and Safety Division between July - September 2022.

Appendix 2 provides details of the same for the period April - June 2022.

Appendix 3 provides details for the period January – March 2022

Appendix 4 provides details for the period October to December 2021

These are categorised by accident or incident type, i.e. reasons as set out in points 5.1.1, 5.1.2 and 5.1.3.

5.1.5 For comparison, tables for the same quarter periods during 2020 and 2021 are provided as Appendices 9 to 14.

5.1.6 Appendix 5 shows the RIDDOR-reportable accidents per directorate between July - September 2022 and the injury causation.

Appendix 6 provides for the period April – June 2022  
Appendix 7 provides for the period January to March 2022  
Appendix 8 provides for the period October to December 2021

- 5.1.7 For comparison, tables for the same periods during 2020 and 2021 are provided as Appendices 15 to 20.
- 5.1.8 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period July to September 2022, and three during the period April to June 2022 in the Communities Directorate.
- 5.1.9 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period July to September 2022 and none during the period April to June 2022 in the Social Services and Housing Directorate.
- 5.1.10 There was one RIDDOR-reportable accident in the period July to September 2022 and four during the period April to June 2022 in the Education and Corporate Services Directorate.
- 5.1.11 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.
- 5.1.12 Seven RIDDOR-reportable incidents reported related to injuries causing more than 7 consecutive days incapacitation. One related to a school pupil taken directly to hospital for medical treatment due to injury sustained from falling from a faulty trike during supervised play.
- 5.1.13 There have been some follow up enquiries but no further action from the HSE with regards to some of these RIDDOR-reportable accidents.
- 5.1.14 There are no common themes or linked accidents in a particular service area.
- 5.1.15 There have been no RIDDOR-reportable diseases or dangerous occurrences throughout this period.
- 5.1.16 Five near-miss incidents were recorded during the period:-
- A row of crowd barriers at the start/finish line of the Caerphilly 10k race blew over by a gust of wind, but after the large crowds had left that area.
  - A small but significant electrical fire broke out in the cabling between the battery and engine of a Highways' powered pedestrian roller after use to compact finish a newly laid footpath.
  - A large tree limb broke away from one of the large beech trees near the lake of Cwmcarn Forest Drive across the road that leads down to the toilet block.
  - The blade of a disc cutter used by Highways came off and went across the road.
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- A school's directly appointed contractor reported receiving an electric shock while working on electrical sockets within a Science lab classroom that was undergoing works by another main contractor for works arranged through Property Services. They reported isolating power beforehand but someone else switched the power back on.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

- 5.2.1 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.
- 5.2.2 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.

## **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 July - September 2022  
Appendix 2 All accidents by Type for the Authority between April – June 2022  
Appendix 3 All accidents by Type for the Authority between January – March 2022  
Appendix 4 All accidents by Type for the Authority between October - December 2021  
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- Appendix 5 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between July - September 2022  
Appendix 6 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between April – June 2022  
Appendix 7 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between January – March 2022  
Appendix 8 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between October - December 2021  
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- Appendix 9 All accidents by Type for the Authority between July - September 2021  
Appendix 10 All accidents by Type for the Authority between April – June 2021  
Appendix 11 All accidents by Type for the Authority between January – March 2021  
Appendix 12 All accidents by Type for the Authority between October - December 2020  
Appendix 13 All accidents by Type for the Authority between July - September 2020  
Appendix 14 All accidents by Type for the Authority between April – June 2020  
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- Appendix 15 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between July - September 2021  
Appendix 16 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between April – June 2021  
Appendix 17 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between January – March 2021  
Appendix 18 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between October - December 2020  
Appendix 19 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between July– September 2020  
Appendix 20 RIDDOR reportable accidents by Type and Directorate between April – June 2020