

Health and Safety Quarterly Report Quarter 2 (July – September 2022) Event Reporting and Summary

1. Overview

In the period of July to September 2022 a total of **45** Health and Safety (H&S) events were reported. They fall into the categories of:

- 24 Personal Injury
- 12 Vehicle Collisions
- 1 Property or Equipment
- 7 Near Hits or Causes for Concern
- 1 Exposure or Contamination
- 0 Violence or Aggression

Individual detailed summaries of reporting in the key areas above are outlined in Appendix A.

2. Breakdown of Events

By Activity

Table 1 shows that during Q2, personal injuries and vehicle collisions were the most frequently reported incidents. The majority of personal injuries occurred during training whereas vehicle collisions are spread across the different categories.

	Total	Training	Operational Activities	Routine Activities	Non-Service Related Activities
Total H&S Events Q2	45	15	14	12	4
Personal Injury	24	10	8	5	1
Vehicle Collision	12	2	4	4	2
Property or Equipment Failure	1	0	1	0	0
Near Hit or Cause for Concern	6	2	1	3	0
Exposure or Contamination	1	1	0	0	0
Violence or Aggression	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1: Safety Event Breakdown Q2 2022-2023

By Injury Type

Table 2 identifies two areas to be the main cause of personal injuries; Slips, trips and falls and Others.

Total Personal Injuries	24
Manual Handling	4
Slips, Trips & Falls	5
Hit by Moving Object	1
Hit Stationary Object	3
Burns – Operational	2
Burns – Training	2
Other	7

Table 2: Personal Injury Breakdown Q2 2022-2023

By Vehicle Type

Table 3 highlights that vehicle collisions during this quarter have mostly involved appliances not on blue lights.

Vehicle Collisions	Fire Engines		Cars and Vans		Non-Service related
	On blue lights	Off blue lights	On blue lights	Off blue lights	
Total Collisions	3	6	0	3	0

Table 3: Vehicle Breakdown Q2 2022-2023

Vehicle Mileage Statistics

Vehicle mileage statistics for the year 2021-2022 were provided by the Operational Logistics Fleet Department and have been used to predict vehicle mileage for 2022-23. These are summarised in Table 3A below. It can be seen that there were three white fleet safety events out of approximately 175,894 miles driven, which equates to one event for every 58,631 miles driven.

The nine safety events involving red fleet vehicles were out of approximately 67,202 miles driven, which equates to one event for every 7,467 miles driven.

Fleet	Total Mileage 2021-2022	Predicted Mileage Q2 2022-2023
White Fleet	703,576	175,894
Red Fleet	268,808	67,202
	Totalling 972,384 miles	Totalling 243,096 miles

Table 3A: Vehicle Mileage Statistics Q2 2022-2023

3. Events Requiring Investigation during Quarter 2 (July 2022 – September 2022)

Tier One Investigations

A Tier One standard investigation is required for all safety events and is usually conducted by the on-duty / line manager present at the time of the event. Events that are minor in nature usually remain at this tier.

Tier Two Basic Specialist Investigations

In addition to the standard investigation required for Tier One, a Basic Specialist Investigation (SI) is required for:

- Rare, unusual or unlikely events resulting in either serious injuries or losses, or with the potential to incur such injuries or losses.
- Events involving Breathing Apparatus (BA).
- Near Hits resulting from unusual conditions or with the potential to cause serious injury or loss that are rare or unlikely to reoccur.

One event reported during Q2 required a Tier Two Basic Specialist Investigation:

1519 - 1 relates to a near hit/cause for concern. During an incident, a faulty hose came away from the coupling, causing projectile water flow. BASIC SI.

Tier Two Full Specialist Investigations

A full SI may be assigned immediately or following a Basic SI and is required for:

- Possible or likely events resulting in serious injuries or losses.
- All significant events involving Breathing Apparatus (BA).
- Near Hits resulting from unusual conditions or with the potential to cause serious injury or loss that are possible or likely to reoccur.

No safety events were reported during Q2 that required a full Specialist Investigation.

Tier Three MERP Specialist Investigations

A Tier Three Specialist Investigation is conducted as required by the Major Event Response Protocol (MERP) SPI. These are for the most serious events such as death or potentially life-threatening injury to a member of HWFRS whilst on duty, or a third party either occurring on Service property or as a result of an act or omission by HWFRS.

No safety events during Q2 required a Tier Three Specialist Investigation.

RIDDOR Events for Quarter 2 (July 2022 – September 2022)

During Q2, two RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) reports were submitted to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as a dangerous occurrence/over 7 day injury.

1519 - 1 relates to a near hit/cause for concern. During an incident, a faulty hose came away from the coupling, causing projectile and snaking hose. BASIC SI. RIDDOR-Dangerous Occurrence.

1539 – 1 relates to a personal injury. On entering an appliance a firefighter pulled muscles in their arm. RIDDOR- Working days lost.

4. Comparison between Quarters and Trend Analysis

Comparison of Events Reported Showing Differences Q2 2021-22 & Q2 2022-23

Table 4 below compares the number of events reported in Q2 2021-22 and Q2 2022-23 for the different categories. For events over the last 12 months, two of the categories experienced a decrease, while four reported an increase.

Overall, event reporting as a whole increased by five over the period, with 45 reports in Q2 2022-23 compared to 40 in Q2 2021-22. The increase was driven by a large increase in personal injuries.

Event Type	Q2 2021-22	Q2 2022-23	Increase/Decrease
Personal Injuries	14	24	+10
Vehicle Collisions	11	12	+1
Property or equipment	0	1	+1
Violence & Aggression	5	0	-5
Near Hits	8	7	-1
Exposure / contamination	2	1	-1
Overall	40	45	+5

Table 4: Quarterly Events Reported Q2 2021-22 and Q2 2022-23

Trend Analysis

In summary compared with the previous year, there was an increase in the number of events reported during Q2 (+5).

The main increase was personal injuries (+10). The main decrease was violence/aggression (-5).

All events that occurred during the quarter were investigated at a minimum of Tier One local level investigation to identify preventative control measures and help to reduce the likelihood of similar occurrences.

12 Month Trend Analysis

Table 5 below breaks down the latest four quarters by reported accident type. Q2 figures show an increase in the number of events reported.

Personnel injuries have had quite an increase versus the previous quarter driving the overall increase of events reported. Near hits have nearly halved.

	Q3 21/22	Q4 21/22	Q1 22/23	Q2 22/23
Total H&S Events	30	40	37	45
Personal Injury	8	10	11	24
Vehicle Collision	12	17	12	12
Property or Equipment Failure	2	3	1	1
Near Hit or Cause for Concern	6	6	11	7
Exposure or contamination	0	3	0	1
Violence or Aggression	2	1	2	0

Table 5: 12 Month Trend Analysis Q3 2021 – 2022 to Q2 2022 – 2023

Brief Description of all Safety Events

A1. Personal Injury

Of the **45** H&S events reported, **24** relate to the category of Personal Injury. These are described in Table A1 below:

Sub-Categories	Break-down of Injuries in Each Sub-Category
5 events were during routine activities	1521 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter hit their head whilst getting changed in the kit room and sustained a cut to the head.
	1538 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A mechanic was soldering wires together on a fire appliance in the workshop. Placed the soldering iron on the step of the vehicle whilst completing the job. Accidentally placed hand on top of soldering iron and burnt from the tip of the little finger down to the palm.
	1539 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter getting onto fire appliance whilst in appliance bay using the handrails and injured their left forearm/elbow. RIDDOR . 16 Working days lost
	1557 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Whilst checking radios in rear of crew cab on spare appliance, a firefighter caught the top of their head on the overhead locker (locker is faulty). Personal first aid given including compression.
8 events were during operational activities	1515 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Firefighter bent down to check thermal imaging and felt a stabbing pain in their right hamstring
	1516 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter was struck on the knee with a charged hose.
	1517 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter suffered heat exhaustion and nausea during an incident due to not eating.
	1518 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Whilst attending a straw fire a firefighter suffered skin reddening and a small blister to their arm.
	1522 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter rolled their ankle while walking on uneven ground.
	1525 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Firefighter felt a pain in their lower back whilst at a fire call cumulative from 2 days at wildfire incidents. Remained on duty.
	1528 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Whilst dismounting the appliance a firefighter stood on a traffic cone and fell backwards hurting their elbow and leg.
10 events were during operational training	1540 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Firefighter strained their right fore-arm whilst at an incident.
	1524 - 1 relates to a personal injury. During training a firefighter suffered a minor burn to the shoulder.
	1537 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Firefighter caught their thumb whilst carrying out equipment in the fire house. Minor injury with no time off work.
	1542 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A firefighter was carrying out a ladder drill and felt a pull on the lower abdomen. Remained on duty.
	1546 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Recruits during combination drills, a recruit had pain in left knee due to tripping on some lay flat delivery hose.
	1548 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Whilst in BA training a firefighter caught left lower leg on a low-level light.
	1549 - 1 relates to a personal injury. During a BA exercise when, a Fire fighter tripped and fell, causing them to be left winded. Remained on duty.
1552 - 1 relates to a personal injury. During training for BA in a live fire environment, a firefighter knelt down and felt heat – caused by kneeling on hot metal. Remained on duty.	

	1554 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Following a day of training/drills, a firefighter felt pain to their right bicep. No single event, cumulative throughout the course. Remained on duty.
	1555 - 1 relates to a personal injury. During training a Fire fighter cut thumb on sharp object, first aid carried out immediately and taken to hospital as a precaution. 4 duty days lost.
	1560 - 1 relates to a personal injury. Firefighter sprained their thumb but no further action required.
1 event was classed as other	1547 - 1 relates to a personal injury. A contractor jarred their back whilst walking through the appliance double door on station.
	1556 - 1 relates to violence/aggression. A pupil at school incident fainted. Received thorough medical assessment from paramedic who was also in attendance at the event.
	Totalling 24 personal injuries
	36 Calendar Days / 20 Working days lost.

Table A1: Personal Injuries Reported during Q2 2022 – 2023

A2. Vehicle Collisions

Of the **45** H&S events, **12** relate to the category of Vehicle Collisions, which are further described in Table A2 below. Events highlighted in grey are attributed to the FRS driver. If these collisions occurred whilst responding to an operational incident the category of response has been provided in bold. Driver training have sent out a Bulletin item for crews to familiarise themselves with the 'Banks person' CTR technical knowledge package and requesting that when contact is made with tree branches, crews should contact the local highways team to get the hazard removed.

Sub-Categories	Breakdown of Vehicle Collisions in Each Sub-Category
4 events were during routine activities	1523 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. The appliance caught a kerb and hit a sign whilst reversing.
	1529 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Damage to an appliance whilst manoeuvring at slow speed.
	1535 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Appliance was parked in a car park. Firefighter entering the vehicle didn't have control of the handle and the door swung into a parked car.
	1536 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Service vehicle was reversing following stopping reversing the vehicle continued to roll back into the metal sheet panelling between the roller shutter doors creasing the panel, no damage done to vehicle
4 events were during operational activities	1520 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Appliance clipped an unknown object and caused minor damage to the nearside of the appliance.
	1527 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Appliance hit another vehicle whilst manoeuvring in a car park. PROMPT RESPONSE
	1550 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Returning from an incident appliance was in stationary traffic waiting to turn right, and was impacted by another vehicle to the front nearside of the appliance.
	1553 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Appliance driving through gateway turned to the right and rear nearside locker hit gate post.
2 events were during training activities	1534 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. During ALP initial course, boom of ALP came into contact with Station canopy due to incorrect use of a lever.
	1544 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Whilst carrying out an ALP assessment, parked close to a wall, the jack legs came into contact with the wall.
2 events were classed as others	1541 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Family member accidentally reversed into the service vehicle.
	1545 - 1 relates to a vehicle accident. Whilst leaving appliance bay, the roller shutter door did not open fully. The ladder clipped the bottom of the bay door.

	Totalling 12 vehicle collisions
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Table A2: Vehicle Collisions Reported during Q2 2022 – 2023

A3. Property or Equipment Damage

Of the **45** H&S events, **1** relates to the category of Damage to Property or Equipment. These are further described in Table A3 below.

Sub-Categories	Breakdown of Property or Equipment Damage in Each Sub-Category
1 event was during operational activities	1526 - 1 relates to property/equipment failure. A BA mask failed a general check.
Totalling 1 property or equipment damage	

Table A3: Property or equipment damage during Q2 2022 – 2023

A4. Near Hits or Causes for Concern

Of the **45** H&S events, **7** relate to the category of Near Hits or Causes for Concern - these are further described in Table A4 below.

Sub-Categories	Breakdown of Near Hits or Causes for Concern in Each Sub-Category
2 events were during training activities	1530 - 1 relates to a near hit. Crews were performing an RTC drill, when a piece of equipment failed and therefore ejected lots of parts.
	1551 - 1 relates to a near hit. FF on return to the BA board felt nauseous and was unable to continue their wear.
1 event was during operational activities	1519 - 1 relates to a near hit. Hose came away from its coupling resulting in a projectile and snaking hose. RIDDOR. BASIC SI.
3 events were during routine activities	1531 - 1 relates to a near hit. Appliance bay doors hit the rollers and dislodged a magnet which almost fell on a firefighter.
	1532 - 1 relates to a near hit. Pump bay doors failed and swung open causing damage to the appliance.
	1543 - 1 relates to a near hit. The ground monitor was incorrectly stowed in the locker, thus could of easily fell forward out of the locker when it was opened.
	1559 - 1 relates to a near hit. A Firefighter tripped over a small day locker that had been left open.
Totalling 7 near hits or causes for concern	

Table A4: Near Hits or Causes for Concern Reported during Q2 2022/23

A5. Violence or Aggression

Of the **45** H&S events, none relate to the category of Violence or Aggression.

A6. Exposure or Contamination

Of the 45 H&S events, 1 relates to the category of Exposure or Contamination.

An exposure event will be investigated where a harmful substance has entered the body through a route e.g. by inhalation, ingestion, absorption, by injection or when the body is irradiated. Where there is uncertainty as to whether any exposure has taken place, or this is negligible, then this would be recorded as a potential exposure and an investigation would not normally be instigated, unless related symptoms develop.

A contamination event occurs where a substance has adhered to or is deposited on people, equipment or the environment, creating a risk of exposure and possible injury or harm.

There were three reports of skin reddening during Q2. Skin reddening is recorded following training or incidents where immediately following exposure to high temperatures there is some skin discolouration which may be a result of this exposure. These occurrences are recorded and if they continue past 24 hours these are reported as a Personal Injury Safety Event.

24 potential exposure/contamination incidents were recorded during Q2, involving firefighters. Potential exposure/contaminations are where personnel have been exposed (during training or incidents) to hazardous environments but where appropriate control measures were implemented. For example, when entering open water during training.