

**Health and Safety Quarterly Report
Quarter 3 (October – December 2022) Event Reporting and Summary**

1. Overview

In the period of October to December 2022 a total of **42** Health and Safety (H&S) events were reported. They fall into the categories of:

- 18 Personal Injury
- 16 Vehicle Collisions
- 2 Property or Equipment
- 6 Near Hits or Causes for Concern
- 0 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 Q3, personal injuries and vehicle collisions were the most frequently reported incidents. The majority of personal injuries occurred during training whereas vehicle collisions were during routine work.

	Total	Training	Operational Activities	Routine Activities	Non-Service-Related Activities
Total H&S Events Q3	42	13	3	19	7
Personal Injury	18	9	0	7	2
Vehicle Collision	16	1	3	8	4
Property or Equipment Failure	2	1	0	1	0
Near Hit or Cause for Concern	6	2	0	3	1
Exposure or Contamination	0	0	0	0	0
Violence or Aggression	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1: Safety Event Breakdown Q3 2022-2023

By Injury Type

Table 2 identifies one area to be the main cause of personal injuries; Others (impact on joints/muscles and fainting).

Total Personal Injuries	18
Manual Handling	2
Slips, Trips & Falls	1
Hit by Moving Object	1
Hit Stationary Object	4
Burns – Operational	0
Burns – Training	0
Other	10

Table 2: Personal Injury Breakdown Q3 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	9	0	2	2

Table 3: Vehicle Breakdown Q3 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 two white fleet safety events out of approximately 175,894 miles driven, which equates to one event for every 87,947 miles driven.

The twelve safety events involving red fleet vehicles were out of approximately 67,202 miles driven, which equates to one event for every 5,600 miles driven.

Fleet	Total Mileage 2021-2022	Predicted Mileage Q3 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 Q3 2022-2023

3. Events Requiring Investigation during Quarter 3 (October – December 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.

Two events reported during Q3 required a Tier Two Basic Specialist Investigation:

1585 - 1 relates to a BA mask while a Fire-Fighter was undertaking a BA Health check. BASIC SI.

1594 - 1 relates to a Fire-fighter having a potential seizure whilst on duty. 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 Q3 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 Q3 required a Tier Three Specialist Investigation.

RIDDOR Events for Quarter 3 (October – December 2022)

During Q3, no RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) reports were submitted to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as a dangerous occurrence/over a seven day injury.

4. Comparison between Quarters and Trend Analysis

Comparison of Events Reported Showing Differences Q3 2021-22 & Q3 2022-23

Table 4 below compares the number of events reported in Q3 2021-22 and Q3 2022-23 for the different categories. For events over the last 12 months, two of the categories experienced an increase, while one reported an decrease.

Overall, event reporting as a whole increased by twelve over the period, with 42 reports in Q3 2022-23 compared to 30 in Q3 2021-22. The increase was driven by a large increase in personal injuries.

Event Type	Q3 2021-22	Q3 2022-23	Increase/Decrease
Personal Injuries	8	18	+10
Vehicle Collisions	12	16	+4
Property or equipment	2	3	+1
Violence & Aggression	2	0	-2
Near Hits	6	5	-1
Exposure / contamination	0	0	0
Overall	30	42	+12

Table 4: Quarterly Events Reported Q3 2021-22 and Q3 2022-23

Trend Analysis

In summary compared with the previous year, there was an increase in the number of events reported during Q3 (+12).

The main increase was personal injuries (+10). The main decrease was violence/aggression (-2) resulting in no violent events.

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. Q3 figures show a slight decrease in the number of events reported.

Personal injuries have decreased versus the previous quarter but an increase in vehicle collisions has offset some of this.

	Q4 21/22	Q1 22/23	Q2 22/23	Q3 22/23
Total H&S Events	40	37	45	42
Personal Injury	10	11	24	18
Vehicle Collision	17	12	12	16
Property or Equipment Failure	3	1	1	3
Near Hit or Cause for Concern	6	11	7	5
Exposure or contamination	3	0	1	0
Violence or Aggression	1	2	0	0

Table 5: 12 Month Trend Analysis Q4 2021 – 2022 to Q3 2022 – 2023

Brief Description of all Safety Events

A1. Personal Injury

Of the **42** H&S events reported, **18** relate to the category of Personal Injury. These are described in Table A1 below:

Sub-Categories	Break-down of Injuries in Each Sub-Category
9 events were during operational training	1566- 1 relates to possible injury to a Firefighter while undertaking Rope Rescue Training
	1568 – 1 relates to an injury to a Firefighter when undertaking water Training at Cardiff
	1572 – 1 relates to Firefighter sustaining an injury to the ankle while training
	1576- 1 relates to a crush injury to Firefighters hand when using Holmatro cutters during training.
	1579 - 1 relates to a personal injury sustained to a Fire-fighter whilst doing operational water rescue training externally
	1580 - 1 relates to a personal injury sustained to a Firefighter whilst doing operational training
	1588 – 1 relates to an injury whilst a person was water training.
	1593 – 1 relates to a Firefighter receiving a back injury while water rescue training externally
	1596 – 1 relates to a person fainting during an internal training course
7 events were during routine activities	1562 – 1 relates to personal injury to the face whilst carrying out non-operational duties
	1567 – 1 relates to a slips/trip and falls injury to an employee when walking through the appliance bays. Caused by poor housekeeping.
	1571 – 1 relates to personal injury due to manual handling
	1577 - 1 relates to an injury to a Firefighter whilst working on the alp
	1584 - 1 relates to a personal injury sustained to a Firefighter whilst doing normal routines.
	1589 – 1 relates to an injury while a Firefighter was doing normal routines
2 events were classed as other	1595 – 1 relates to an injury to an employee whilst gaining entry to station 31
	1600 – 1 relates to an injury occurring to a Cadet during activities on station
	Totalling 18 personal injuries
	9 Calendar Days / 5 Working days lost.

Table A1: Personal Injuries Reported during Q3 2022 – 2023

A2. Vehicle Collisions

Of the **42** H&S events, **16** 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
8 events were during routine activities	1563 – 1 relates to damage to a fire service vehicle when trying to avoid on-coming traffic
	1564 – 1 relates to damage to the appliance bay doors when reversing a fire appliance
	1570 – 1 relates to a low speed collision with another vehicle.
	1573- 1 relates to a low speed collision of service vehicle into the drill tower, no injuries
	1574- 1 relates to a low speed collision with road furniture while travelling to a work-related meeting
	1591 – 1 relates to vehicle accident while driven at low speed
	1597 – 1 relates to a minor collision with a fire appliance and a car.
	1599 – 1 relates to a collision between a fire appliance and private vehicle.
3 events were during operational activities	1569 – 1 relates to a collision with a low-level wall while travelling at low speed.
	1582 - 1 relates to an accident to a service vehicle while responding to an incident
	1592 – 1 relates to a vehicle accident whilst driving to an incident
1 event was during training	1590 – 1 relates to a collision between an appliance and a bus
4 events were classed as other	1575 - 1 relates to a collision to a fire service vehicle whilst stationary
	1581- 1 relates to an accident to a service vehicle and game bird in the road
	1583 – 1 relates to an accident to a service vehicle whilst returning from an incident
	1586 – 1 relates to an accident where a delivery driver reversed into a barrier on site.
	Totalling 16 vehicle collisions

Table A2: Vehicle Collisions Reported during Q3 2022 – 2023

A3. Property or Equipment Damage

Of the **42** H&S events, 3 relate 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
2 events wer during Routine Work	1561 – 1 relates to an incident of PPE (helmet) being damaged by an appliance
	1601- 1 relates to a small fire on fire appliance. Fire was brakes related
1 event was during Operational Training	1587 - 1 relates to damage to a fire appliance. Whilst driving out of the station, the bay door caught the ladder resulting in damage to the bay doors.
	Totalling 3 property or equipment damage

Table A3: Property or equipment damage during Q3 2022 – 2023

A4. Near Hits or Causes for Concern

Of the **42** H&S events, **5** 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 Routine Work	1598 - 1 relates to a piece of equipment being removed from an appliance without Station personnel's knowledge
	1602 - 1 relates to a near miss when a Firefighter was turning in for a fire call
2 events were during Operational Training	1578 - 1 relates to a near miss when training with operational equipment
	1585 - 1 relates to a Breathing Apparatus mask failure while a Firefighter was undertaking a BA Health check
1 event is classed as other	1565 - 1 relates to an occasion when office equipment had the potential to start a fire due to stuck paper.
Totalling 5 near hits or causes for concern	

Table A4: Near Hits or Causes for Concern Reported during Q3 2022/23

A5. Violence or Aggression

Of the **42** H&S events, none relate to the category of Violence or Aggression.

A6. Exposure or Contamination

Of the **42** H&S events, **0** 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 was one report of skin reddening during Q3. 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.

31 potential exposure/contamination events/incidents were recorded during Q3, 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.