

Figure 1

The chart above shows the *role* of those involved in accidents, for this period (July – September 2017) alongside a comparison for the same quarter from the previous year and a year to date total. The total number of reported accidents for the quarter is lower than the previous year’s quarter. Full-time Fire Fighter inc. Control shows an increase in reported accidents, whereas On-call level and Non-operational particularly show a significant reduction. Note: two of these reported accidents were sustained by individuals not employed by HFRS, one being a firefighter from another Service competing at the UKRO extrication challenge and the other a member of the public using the fitness equipment at Clough Road fire station as part of the rehabilitation programme in partnership with the Stroke Association. Encouragingly, the total figure for the quarter (28) is below the five year rolling average (30); (see **Figure 3 below**).

Accidents Categorised by Activity

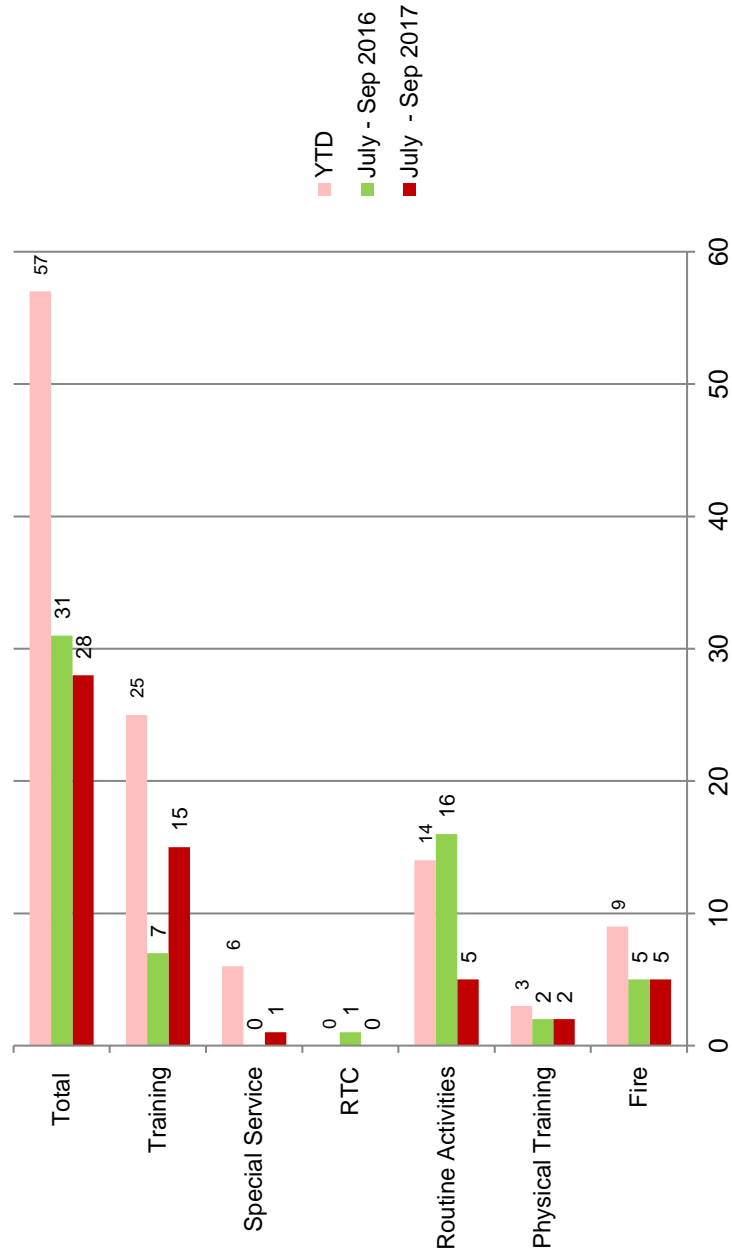


Figure 2

The chart above relates to the activities undertaken at the time of the recorded accident.

Injuries sustained during RTC and Routine Activities have decreased and those during Fire and Physical Training remain the same. Injuries sustained during Training and Special Service activities have both increased. Ten of the injuries sustained during training activities were during or following water rescue training courses at Tees Barrage.

Average Number of Q2 Accidents for the past Five Years

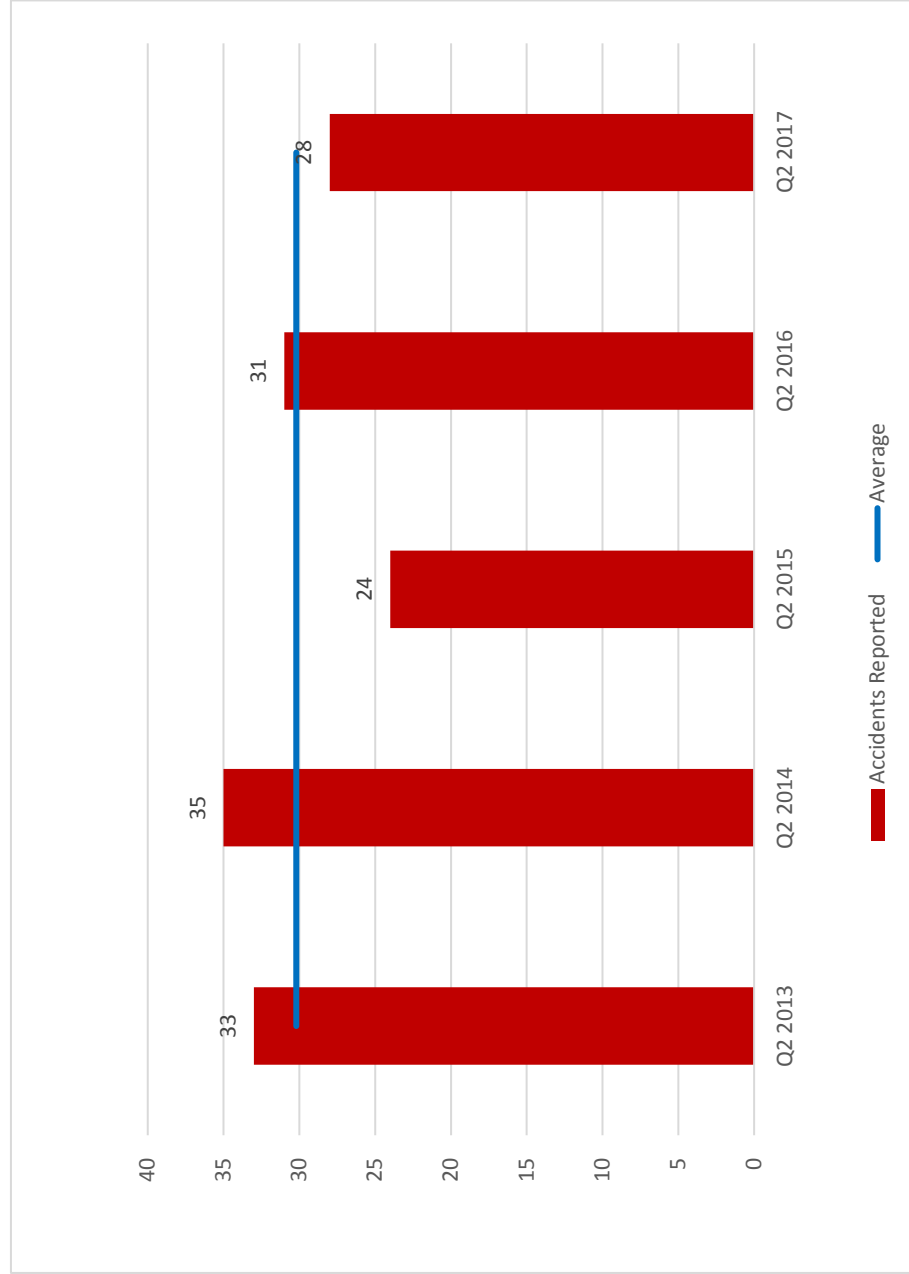


Figure 3

Reported accidents for the quarter (28) remain lower than the comparator five year rolling average benchmark figure (30). This indicates consistent positive improvement.

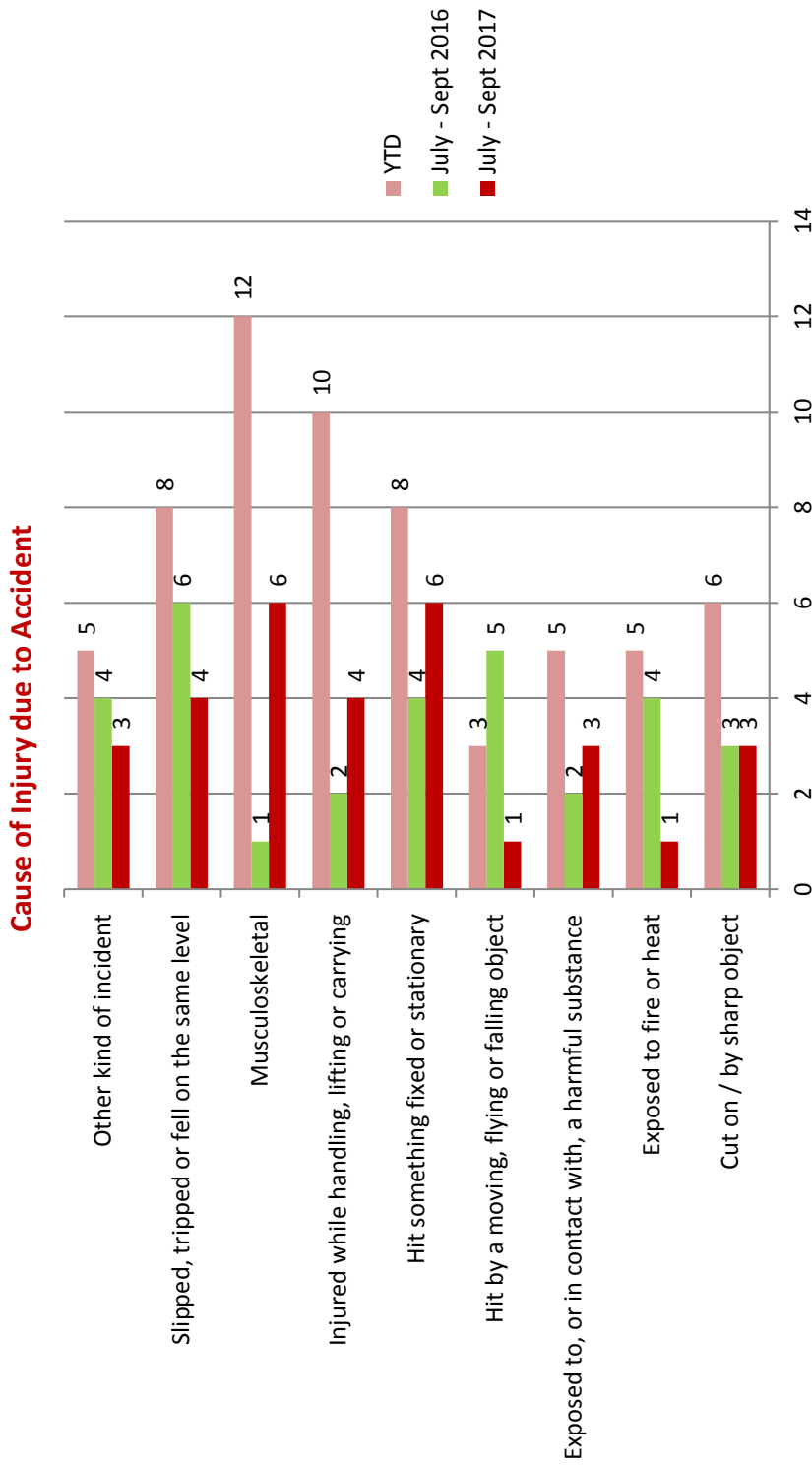


Figure 4

The chart above shows the cause of accidents for this quarter compared against the same period from the previous year and the year to date total. The most common causes of injuries being “hit something fixed or stationary” and “musculoskeletal” (6 each).

NOTE: The accumulative total of 40 is because injured persons can record multiple causes on the initial reporting form.

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)

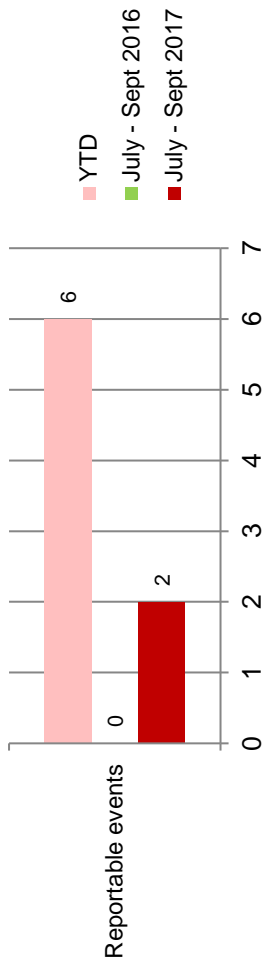


Figure 5

There have been 2 RIDDOR reports this quarter compared to zero in the same quarter last year. Both of these work-related injuries resulted in a sickness period of over 7 days and were sustained during separate operational water rescue training courses. Interestingly, they both occurred before entering the water course. One was a knee injury whilst bending down to retrieve equipment and the other a cut from the safety knife integral to the PPE required. They were reported to the Health and Safety Executive within the timescales of the legislative requirements and investigated accordingly. Pleasingly the number of reports of this kind remain low, however, this area is constantly monitored.

Near Miss Reporting

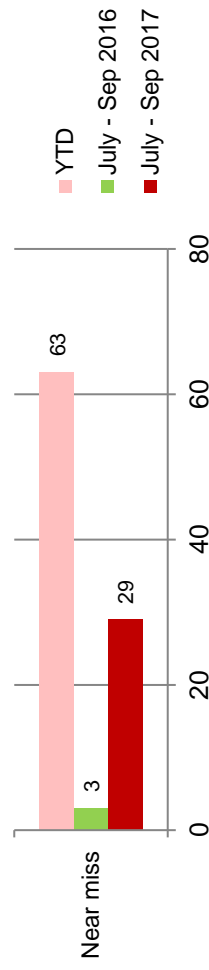


Figure 6

Near miss reports are almost ten times higher in comparison to the same quarter last year and are again higher than the number of accidents for the second consecutive quarter. The continued drive to promote near miss reporting through station visits and bespoke Managing Safely refresher courses is clearly proving to have a beneficial effect in improving organisational safety culture.

Forward Look

Key current areas being addressed are:

- Occupational cancer risks; in relation to exposure to contaminants and potential carcinogens. Work is in partnership/consultation with the FBU/National working group and the official research report commissioned by the NFCC is pending.
- Operational learning linked to reinvigoration of our Operational Assurance processes and implementation of the recommendations arising from the accident investigation into the incident involving a gas explosion at 421 Beverley Road on 10th March 2017.
- The Blue Light Pledge linked to positive mental health and wellbeing.
- ‘Sticky’ blood; following the research conducted by the University of Edinburgh, work is ongoing to reduce the increased risks to Fire Fighters arising from elevated core body temperatures.
- Behavioural safety training to address and improve cultural factors.