

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPONSOR: Amelia Morgan

Q1 HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to report Scottish Canals' Q1 Health & Safety performance to the Board.

Priority

Routine.

Background

Scottish Canals' health and safety performance is monitored through the collation of data from various sources including KPI reporting; Strategic H&S Action Plan, accident and incident reporting; and Local Health, Safety and Wellbeing Action Plans.

Key Issues

Incidents and accidents (further details at Appendix 1).

Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
					Q1
RIDDOR	4	5	1	2 (2 ¹)	0
RIDDOR AFR ²	0.802	0.954	0.178	0.389	0.385
Lost Time Injury	4	3	1	0	0
Near Misses	300	408	308	165	75 (4 ³)
Active Monitoring	NR	NR	204	182	34

Notable Incidents

■ Fatality (June) –

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¹ Covid-19 RIDDOR reports recorded in brackets

² RIDDOR Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) based on 12-month rolling period
(AFR = Number of RIDDOR reportable injuries in the period / total hours worked during year) X 100000.

³ Covid-19 related near misses

- Significant incident (June) – the failure of the Monklands feed resulted in low water levels on the Forth & Clyde Canal. Heras fencing was temporarily installed to reduce the fall from height risk at several locks along the canal.

Water Safety

A working group with representatives from Scottish Canals, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Police Scotland, North Lanarkshire Council and Kilsyth Community Council has been formed to review water safety arrangements at Townhead Reservoir following the fatality in June. In response, some new information signage has been developed advising visitors of the unseen hazards and what to do in an emergency. Scottish Canals have also shared links to their #CanalCareful hub with communication leads from the other agencies.

Covid-19 restrictions, staycations, school holidays and the warm weather have resulted in a notable increase in water-based activities across our network, in particular stand-up paddle boarding and swimming. This increased activity is presenting challenges and anxieties for our operational teams supporting transits and navigation on the canal especially when considered against the backdrop of the recent tragic drownings at various inland waters across Scotland.

In response, Scottish Canals has been invited to a Ministerial meeting with water safety partners on 11 August 2021 to discuss respective roles in water rescue and water safety, and the preventative strategies that can be put in place to improve water safety – for example, the roles of education, awareness raising, signage and public rescue equipment. An update will be provided to the Executive Management Team following the meeting.

UN Climate Change Conference

Ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Police Scotland have carried out a site assessment to consider the risk of protest activity at the Kelpies given the site's iconic structures, its proximity to the M9 and Scotland's energy capital at Grangemouth, and the multiple access points (by road, footpath and water) to the site.

Police Scotland have confirmed that, although there is no intelligence at this time to suggest that the Kelpies will be a target of protest activity, there is high likelihood of activity which would result in low impact to members of the public or businesses. We have therefore been advised to:

- Work closely with Falkirk Council to ensure that site staff are aware and alert to the potential for protest activity, showing due diligence to hostile reconnaissance and persons approaching the area appearing to be in possession of climbing equipment and banners.
- Introduce routine monitoring of CCTV in the run-up to and throughout the conference.
- Identify designated protest sites.

Police Scotland have offered to deliver a presentation on protest activity as part of wider staff training or awareness so Scottish Canals will be working closely with Falkirk Council and the Falkirk Community Trust to ensure the site team are prepared for any potential protest activity.

Strategic H&S Action Plan

A revised H&S Action Plan has been developed and is cognisant of the corporate risk for visitor safety. This will be presented to the Executive Management Team in August. Therefore, there is no update provided at the Appendices at present.

Local Health, Safety & Wellbeing Action Plans (LHSWAPs)

LHSWAPs for 2021/22 have been issued to all Directorates to allow for the local monitoring of KPIs, compliance, actions and minimum safety learning standards (MSLS). A summary of performance is provided at Appendix 2.

It should be noted that the completion of MSLS is on a downward trend, so the Chairs of the Local H&S Groups were asked to encourage all staff to complete any outstanding training before the end of August 2021. Similarly, to review KPI performance, compliance and the status of outstanding actions.

Corporate Implications

- Strategic Priorities: There has been limited progress with the Strategic H&S Action Plan due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19.
- Risk: Health and safety risks have continued to be managed during Q1.
- Legal: No issues.
- Financial: No issues.
- Human Resources: No issues.
- Fair Work First: No issues.
- Communication: No issues.
- Community & Third Sector: No issues.
- Commercial: No issues.
- Asset: No issues.

Conclusions and Recommendations

This report illustrates that health and safety performance has been maintained during Q1. The Board is asked to note progress.

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Date: 5 August 2021

Appendix 1: Q1 Data

1. Scottish Canals – Q1 Incidents

LHSWAP	RIDDOR Covid-19	Fatality (non-RIDDOR)	Major Injury	Significant Incident	First Aid	No treatment	Damage	Near Miss	Near Miss (Covid-19)	Grand Total
Caledonian					1	3	2	45	2	53
Crinan								1		1
Engineering					1		1	8	1	11
Estates								2		2
Lowlands		2		1	2	2	1	14	1	23
Revenue & Regeneration								2		2
TFW					4	1		3		8
Grand Total	0	2	0	1	8	6	4	75	4	100

2. Scottish Canals – Q1 Monitoring

LHSWAP	Safety Tour	Site Visit	Contractor	Other	Grand Total
Caledonian		3			3
Corporate Services					0
Crinan		8			8
Revenue & Regeneration			1		1
Engineering		1	1		2
Estates					0
Lowlands	1	1			2
Glasgow				1	1 ⁴
TFW		1		3	4 ⁵
Grand Total	1	14	2	4	21

⁴ All inspections at Applecross Street carried out by PROTEC

⁵ Includes 3 inspections carried out by PROTEC

Appendix 2 – LHSWAP Performance Q1

a. Summary

Summary of Local Health Safety Wellbeing, Action Plans

		Section 1 KPI Performance Setting and maintaining targets for Site Visits and Behavioural Safety Activity Recording and processing near misses and incidents	Section 2 Compliance Review of the impact of SC governance documents within area Assigning responsibility and maintaining compliance	Section 3 Actions Recording and tracking corrective actions specific to area e.g. site visit, investigation, other improvement Tracking safety initiatives specific to area
Caledonian	41	85.7%	89.6%	94.7%
Crinan	23	67.9%	80.2%	88.0%
Engineering	47	96.4%	80.2%	97.5%
Estates	9	92.9%	89.1%	92.5%
Finance & Business Services	23	67.9%	80.2%	100.0%
Lowlands	47	71.4%	80.2%	95.0%
People, Governance & Safety	23	71.4%	80.2%	90.6%
Revenue & Regeneration	35	75.0%	80.2%	92.1%
The Falkirk Wheel	72	75.0%	80.2%	93.8%

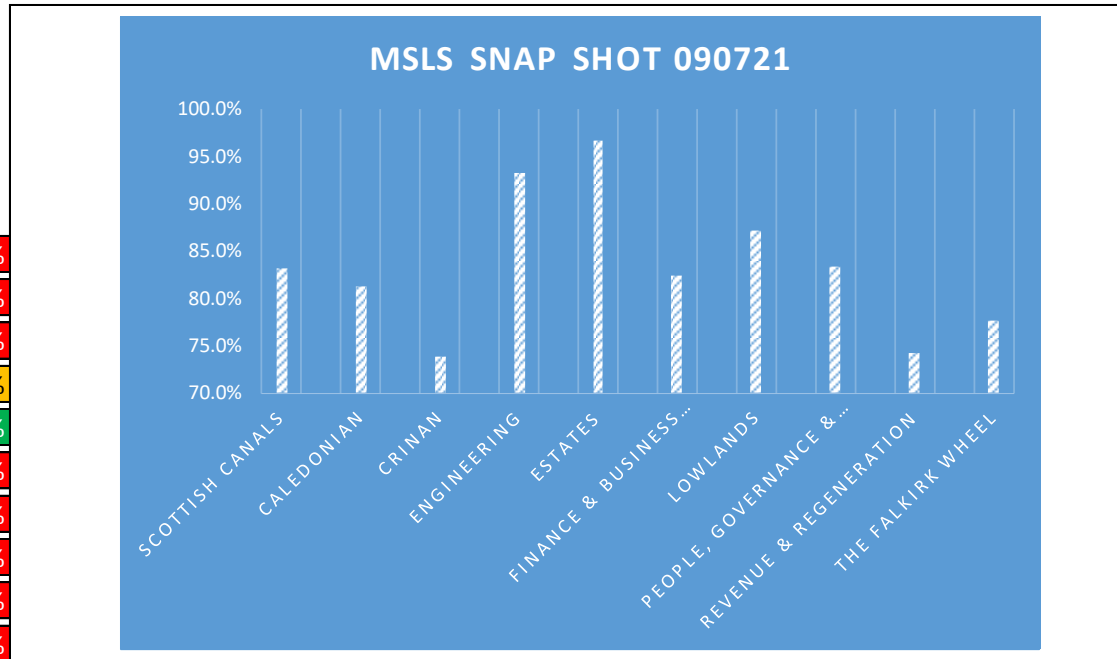
320

< 60% = Red, 60% - 85% = Amber, >85% = Green

b. Minimum Safety Learning Performance (MSLS)

Snapshot of monitored MSLS Requirements

Scottish Canals	↓	83.1%
Caledonian	↓	81.2%
Crinan	↓	73.9%
Engineering	↓	93.3%
Estates	↔	96.7%
Finance & Business Services	↓	82.4%
Lowlands	↓	87.1%
People, Governance & Safety	↑	83.4%
Revenue & Regeneration	↓	74.2%
The Falkirk Wheel	↓	77.7%



< 90% = Red, 90% to 95% = Amber, >95% = Green

c. Summary of LHSWAP Actions

Summary of LHSWAP Actions

	Actions Raised	Actions Closed	Actions Red	Actions Amber	Actions Green
Caledonian	174	135	1	33	6
Crinan	23	10	0	11	2
Engineering	51	43	0	5	3
Estates	10	4	0	3	3
Finance & Business Services	3	3	0	0	0
Lowlands	40	24	0	8	8
People, Governance & Safety	69	39	0	26	4
Revenue & Regeneration	38	21	0	12	5
The Falkirk Wheel	65	47	0	16	2