

 Members/Trades Unions Joint Consultation & Safety Panel - 5th December 2012		Agenda Item No. <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em;">5</div>
Title	Accident Report (Accidents from 1 August 2012 – 31 October 2012)	
For further information about this report please contact	Alan Richardson – Health & Safety Adviser, WDC, Riverside House, Leamington Spa, tel: 456734	
Wards of the District directly affected	N/A	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	4 th September 2012	
Background Papers	Warwick District Council Accident Reports	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No
Equality & Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken	No
N/A	

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	21/11/12	Bill Hunt
Head of Service	20/11/12	Richard Hall
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Monitoring Officer		
Finance		Jenny Clayton (no comments)
Portfolio Holder(s)		Michael Coker (no comments)
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Insert details of any consultation undertaken or proposed to be undertaken with regard to this report.		
Final Decision?		Yes/No
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This document summarises applicable employee lost working time accidents that were reported between the start of August 2012 – end of October 2012 with a table below showing comparative accident data tracked over this same period. It also gives an update on actions taken following a previously reported incident.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the contents of this report be noted.

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To summarise applicable incidents for the period above, in a format that will hopefully be useful to members and staff and will allow comparative accident data to be tracked over time.

(LOST WORKING TIME ACCIDENTS FROM START OF AUG 12 – END OF OCT 12)

TYPE OF ACCIDENT – WDC EMPLOYEE	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS
SLIP, TRIP & FALL	1

NUMBER OF WDC EMPLOYEE LOST TIME ACCIDENTS
1

SLIP, TRIP & FALL

Staff Member of Neighbourhood Services on 6th September 2012.

At the start of their morning shift, a Civil Enforcement Officer (CEO) was walking down a path that runs between Jubilee House and Kenilworth Library and leads to Square West car park behind.

The injured person described how he was walking down the path, he moved over to the right side of the path to make way for a person on a mobility scooter. As he did this, it is alleged that his right foot came into contact with a small imperfection in the pavement where the pavement meets blocked paved edge. The person then heard a click under the arch of his foot, felt pain in that area and his right hip. The depth of imperfection was approximately half the width of twenty pence piece (around 1cm) and a few centimetres wide.

Immediately after the incident, the CEO said that he could not walk due to the pain he experienced and rested by sitting on the low wall nearby. He attempted to carry on working in the Jubilee House office that day but went home and applied ice and took anti-inflammatory and pain killing medication. The CEO visited his GP next day and then underwent an x-ray, which upon receiving results did not show any fractures. The person was then absent from work as a result of the incident until he returned on the 13th September.

However, in separate incident whilst working a late shift at St Peters Car Park on 20th September he was merely walking through the car park and his foot clicked again

and he experienced pain as he did in the first incident and was then absent again for a further 5 shifts. The employee has since returned to work with no further related absences.

Actions – Accident investigated by Area Manager and H&S Adviser.

H&S Adviser investigated the accident and met with the injured employee at Jubilee House, where he identified where he twisted his ankle walking down the path that leads to the car park between Jubilee House and the Library.

Upon investigating, this imperfection was found not be one that you would not normally indentify in an inspection as needing repair. The CEO said he was wearing WDC issued footwear with good grip with ankle support, the weather was dry and good visibility. There were no witnesses to the incident apart from the person on the mobility scooter but this person has not been identified.

H&S Adviser has contacted WCC and advised them of the incident and the current condition of the pavement for their consideration.

H&S Adviser agrees with these actions

(Update)
SLIP, TRIP & FALLS

Staff member of Civic & Committee Services at Town Hall – 24th July 2012

The employee was at a Planning Committee meeting in the Council Chambers taking minutes. The employee was sitting on a chair that he had been using on and off since approximately 5 pm. At around 8 pm there was a break in the meeting and he got up from the chair for around 10 minutes.

At the time of the incident at approximately 8.30pm, the employee was taking down further minutes when the chair dropped suddenly by approximately 2 inches. The employee looked down to see what was happening, as did a person who was sat next to them. The employee commented to the person sat next to them that they thought their chair was about to collapse, and then moved to get up off it. At that point, the chair did collapse and the employee fell to the floor on top of the chair.

Update on Actions

All the chairs of that type were removed from the Council chambers, as a number had showed similar faults to the chair in question. The supplier was consulted and structural tests carried out on the chairs. The tests indicated inconsistency of supporting welds on some of the chairs which gradually led to failure. The manufacturer has confirmed that in future they will inspect the welds more closely to visually check for inconsistent welds and have notified the supplier of these results.

Having been made aware of these test results, the H&S Adviser has contacted the Head of Cultural Services together with the Council's Insurance Officer, so that the Council can pursue recovery of costs if appropriate.

The chair safety inspection program for all individual Council chairs referred to in September's report is nearing completion. Full details of the inspection results will be supplied to the H&S Adviser by the chair specialist, showing each chair marked with its own reference number, date of inspection, condition and whether repair or replacement is required. H&S Adviser agrees with these actions.

4. **ALTERNATIVE OPTION CONSIDERED**

4.1 Not Applicable.

5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

5.1 Remedial works to be undertaken within existing resources.

6. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

6.1 Not Applicable.

7. **BACKGROUND**

7.1 Not Applicable.