

SAFETY MATTERS SEPTEMBER 2016

Welcome to the September edition of the Safety Matters newsletter.

H&S Services team news -

Many of you will be aware that Moira Simpson, Director of H&S Services will be retiring at the end of October. Moira has led the H&S Services team for over 11 years and has overseen significant changes and improvements in H&S management at the University. Moira and her husband are planning to retire to the East Coast of Scotland, spending time hill walking, cycling, and possibly taking up golf. Also leaving the team in October will be Gretta Roberts. Gretta has been the Biological & Scientific Safety Advisor since 2009. She has been influential in her work with the science Schools, and her experience, energy and high standards will be missed. She is moving to a new role as Science Safety Advisor at Swansea University where apparently her office has a sea view.

Recruitment to fill both these posts is currently underway and updates will be circulated in due course.

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RECENT ACCIDENT & INCIDENTS

In the last quarter we had 58 incidents reported, including:

10 slips, trips and falls

2 injuries caused by manual handling

10 sport related injuries

5 incidents requiring first aid treatment

5 non-work related illnesses

2 contact with hot surfaces

1 incident involving verbal assault

7 road traffic or cycle related incidents

6 reported near miss incidents

10 other types of incidents

The overall number of incidents is slightly down on previous quarters, but this is probably as a result of our campuses being rather quiet at this time of year,

Reporting of near miss incidents has increased over the last couple of months. Reporting these incidents means that we can investigate and learn from them, with an aim at preventing a repeat event which could cause an injury or damage. So thank you to those of you who reported these events and please keep them coming.

Similarly there has been an increase in awareness and reporting of road traffic and cycling related incidents on campus again knowing that these have occurred helps us to pin point areas of campus which the University can then investigate and plan to improve.

REWARDING FIRST AIDERS

In most of or buildings, Services and Schools we have people who volunteer to train and act as first aiders. As you can see from the accident and incident statistics our first aiders respond to a number of workincidents and non-work related illnesses each month. They provide a valuable service to the staff and students at the University and we would like to encourage areas to use the Celebrating Success system to reward first aiders for their contribution details of the Celebrating Success system can be found at:

http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/humanresources/Workingat
Reading/RewardandBenefits/humres-rewardingstaff.aspx. If you would like to nominate a first aider please contact your School/Service nominators or alternatively email us at safety@reading.ac.uk and we can pass on the nomination to the relevant people.

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