

Claims against Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS)

Date : 8th May 2024

Agenda Item : 06

Originating Officer : Mark Clement

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Ethics and Integrity Panel with an understanding of the current picture with regard to Claims against CFRS. This will provide a baseline on which further reports can be built, if required by the Panel.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the members of the panel to note the report,

3 Issues for consideration

- 4.1 Since 2010 there have been a total of 23 claims against the Service. These can be broken down into

Personal Accident	4
Public Liability	2
Employers Liability	17

- 4.2 These have occurred over a number of years averaging approx. 1.7 per year.
- 4.3 Of those 23 claims just over 50% (12) were successful with payouts ranging from £160 to £83k. The total amount of money paid out is £270k.
- 4.4 Currently there are 3 open cases with a reserve of £65k which are being dealt with through our solicitors and Zurich Insurance. Each of the 3 claims is challengeable and the Service is taking this forward.

- 4.5 CFRS is a learning organisation. In each case where an accident or adverse safety event occurs a Manager is assigned to carry out a thorough investigation and any lessons learnt are incorporated into business as usual
- 4.6 The Service also benefits from a national system of learning where points of note are shared between all services across the country.
- 4.7 Finally the health and safety committee meet on a quarterly basis with the rep bodies and others to discuss incidents that have occurred over the preceding three months. In each case if learning is identified it is cascaded throughout the Service.

- 5.0 Conclusion
- 5.1 There have been a small number of claims made against the Service over the preceding 10 years. Approx half have been successful and a total of £270k has been paid out over that period
- 5.2 More detail about each claim is available in an anonymised format to the Panel if they require it.

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