

DSO Review – Injury Cause (USHA Classification)



As part of the DSO Review process, the Department Safety Officer (DSO) will be required to assign an Injury Cause against the incident in the DSO Review section. The options in this Injury Cause field are populated by the classifications provided by the Universities Safety & Health Association (USHA) that they use to look at all accidents and incidents across the higher education sector in the UK. The University is obligated to provide annual statistics to USHA and the entry in this field, completed by DSO's along with other anonymised data, will be used to provide this annual return.

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Injury Cause	Description	Example(s)
Animal	Injured by an animal	Bites, cuts or other injuries caused by any animal.
Another	Another kind of accident	Any incident that does not fit any of the other categories in this list but resulted in an injury.
Assault	Physically assaulted by a person	Any injury caused by physical assault from another individual.
Collapse	Trapped by something collapsing	Any injury resulting from the collapse of a permanent or semi-permanent structure.
Drowned	Drowned or asphyxiated	Any injury resulting from drowning or asphyxia.
Electricity	Contact with electricity or an electrical discharge	Any injury resulting from contact with electricity.
Explosion	Exposed to an explosion	Any injury resulting from an explosion.
Exposure	Exposed to, or in contact with a harmful substance	Any potential or real injury or medical condition resulting from an exposure to a harmful substance e.g. biological agent, chemical etc.
Fall	Slipped, tripped or fell on the same level	Any injury resulting from a slip, trip or fall where the individual fell to the same level that their feet started at e.g. fall whilst standing to the floor level at their feet.
Fire	Exposed to fire	Any injury resulting from exposure to a fire or the effects of a fire e.g. burns or smoke inhalation.
Fixed Object	Hit something fixed or stationery	Any injury resulting in contact by the injured party with a fixed object e.g. building fabric, post, tree etc.
Handling	Handling (including cuts)	Any injury resulting from the handling of materials e.g. cuts, burns etc.

Injury Cause	Description	Example(s)
Height	Fell from a height	Any injury resulting from a slip, trip or fall that includes an elevation change e.g. fall from a ladder, fall into a pit etc.
Impersonal	Near miss	Any incident that did not result in an injury to an individual but had the potential to do so.
Machinery	Contact with moving machinery or material being machined	Any injury resulting from contact with moving machinery or material being machined e.g. fingers trapped in a machine, wood splinters in an eye etc.
Manual Handling	Manual handling (including lifting, carrying)	Any injury resulting from the lifting, carrying or moving of material by an individual e.g. back or shoulder strains etc.
Moving Object	Hit by moving, flying or falling object	Any injury resulting from contact from a moving, flying or falling object e.g. hit by a closing door, hit by a falling brick from scaffolding etc.
Vehicle	Hit by a moving vehicle	Any injury resulting from contact by a moving vehicle.