



COVID-19: Safety critical instruction: HSE RIDDOR reportable

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Introduction

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) would like to advise all UK Fire and Rescue Services of the recently published HSE RIDDOR reporting requirements in relation to COVID-19 pandemic.

You must only make a report under RIDDOR (The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) when:

- an unintended incident at work has led to someone's possible or actual exposure to coronavirus. This must be reported as a dangerous occurrence.
- or
- a worker has been diagnosed as having COVID 19 and there is reasonable evidence that it was caused by exposure at work. This must be reported as a case of disease.

Dangerous occurrences

If something happens at work which results in (or could result in) the release or escape of coronavirus you must report this as a dangerous occurrence. An example of a dangerous occurrence would be a lab worker accidentally smashing a glass vial containing coronavirus, leading to people being exposed.

Read about RIDDOR [regulation 7, Schedule 2 – Section 10 on legislation.gov.uk](#)

Cases of disease: exposure to a biological agents

If there is reasonable evidence that someone diagnosed with COVID-19 was likely exposed because of their work you must report this as an exposure to a biological agent using the case of disease report. An example of a work-related exposure to coronavirus would be a health care professional who is diagnosed with COVID-19 after treating patients with COVID-19.

Read about RIDDOR [regulation 9 \(b\) on legislation.gov.uk](#)

For further information, please refer to HSE webpage - <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/riddor-reporting-coronavirus.htm#>