



Rail Accident Investigation Branch

A quick guide to notifying accidents and incidents on UK railways

Schedule 1 - Notify Immediately by telephone and follow up on form RAIBN1		Schedule 2 - Notify in 3 working days in writing on Form RAIBN1 or equivalent		Schedule 3 - Notify in bulk monthly in writing on Form RAIBN2 or equivalent.
1(1) Deaths to passengers, members of the public, or staff, caused in accidents or incidents involving moving trains.	Except: Deaths as a result of suicide, trespass, assault, natural causes, any deaths as a result of an accident not involving moving trains. If in doubt notify.	2(1) Collisions with objects other than animals or items placed by vandals on railway or tram tracks which would not otherwise have required reporting under any of the headings in Schedule 1.		3(1) Failures of Equipment at Level Crossings which affect the level of railway safety at the crossing, that are not notified under Schedule 1(9).
1(1) Serious injuries to 2 or more passengers, members of the public, or staff, caused in accidents or incidents involving moving trains.	Except: serious injuries as a result of attempted suicide, trespass, assault or any serious injury as a consequence of an accident not involving moving trains. If in doubt notify.	2(2) Serious injuries to one person on trains, trams, stations or other railway property if the event leading to the injury was connected with the operation of trains.	Except: serious injuries as a result of attempted suicide, trespass, assault or any serious injury as a consequence of an accident not involving moving trains. If in doubt notify.	3(2) Broken rails or rails where pieces have broken off and buckled rails where the route has to be closed or a speed restriction put in place. Note: Precautionary weather related speed restrictions need not be notified.
1(2) Level Crossing accidents involving death or serious injury to a person except suicide and trespass as above.		2(3) Incidents where road vehicles foul running lines or damage track.		3(3) Failures of structures on the railway such as cuttings, bridges, embankments and stations where under slightly different conditions there may have been a death, two or more serious injuries or 2m euros worth of damage to rolling stock, infrastructure or environment.
1(3)(between rolling stock), 1(5)(buffer stops) Collisions between trains or trams on running lines, or with buffer stops or other automatic stop devices, other than in a siding, which cause damage to the vehicles involved.		2(4) Unintended divisions of any trains or trams while in service or being prepared for service.		3(4) Signalling failures which reduce the level of railway safety by affecting the ability of the system to detect or protect trains that are not notified under Schedule 1(9).
1(4) Derailments on lines open to traffic or which block running lines open to traffic.		2(5) Failures of axles, wheels or tyres.		3(5) Signals Passed at Danger unless the incident is notified under Schedule 1(9).
1(6) Release of, or fires involving dangerous goods (including radioactive material) requiring an area to be evacuated.		2(5) Train fires, severe electrical arcing or fusing.		3(6) Collisions between trams and road vehicles which are not notified under Schedule 1(1).
1(7) Accidents or incidents leading to the closure of a route for more than 6 hours. NB: Incidents do not include weather related matters.		2(6) Failures of ropes on cable hauled railways whose total length is greater than 1km.		
1(8) Accidents causing in excess of 2m euros worth of damage to trains, infrastructure or environment. NB: this includes rolling stock which is written off, major track or structure damage or significant pollution incidents.		RAIB Contact Details:		
1(9) Accidents or incidents which could have lead to deaths or serious injuries or 2m euros worth of damage to trains, infrastructure or environment, but did not do so. If in doubt notify.		Telephone:	01332 253333	
		Fax:	01332 253338	
		E-mail:	notify@raib.gov.uk	
		Address:	Rail Accident Investigation Branch, The Wharf, Stores Road, Derby, DE21 4BA	

As much of the following information as is available should be provided for events listed in Schedule 1 immediately by telephone and then followed up in writing using RAIB N1. For events listed in Schedule 2 as much of the following information as is available should be provided in writing using form RAIB N1, by post e-mail or fax. For events in Schedule 3 only time, date, location and type of incident are required in writing on from RAIB N2.

- The geographical position of the accident or incident and the nearest point of access to that position;
- The date and time of the accident or incident;
- The point of departure and intended destination of any rolling stock involved;
- Brief details of the accident or incident and the sequence of events leading to it;
- In the case of an accident, the number of crew and passengers seriously or fatally injured;
- An estimate of the number of passengers on board any rolling stock involved at the time of the accident or incident;
- The extent of damage caused to any railway, railway property or the environment;
- The weather conditions at the time of the accident or incident;
- The type and an estimate of the quantity of any dangerous goods on board the rolling stock involved at the time of the accident or incident;
- The number of crew on board the rolling stock involved at the time of the accident or incident;
- The name of the railway industry body whose property is involved in the accident or incident;
- The names and roles of the staff involved;
- The vehicle numbers and type of any rolling stock involved;
- Details of any emergency service attending the site of the accident or incident; and
- Contact details of the person in command or control of the accident or incident site.