

RAIB publishes its annual report for 2021

May 19, 2022



RAIB has [published its annual report today](#), which looks at the operational and investigative activity undertaken by the Branch from 1 January to 31 December 2021.

Operational activity

Overall, RAIB received 391 notifications. On 29 occasions it sent out inspectors and support staff and carried out 47 preliminary investigations — 16 of which led to the start of full investigations, which will result in a complete report with safety recommendations.

Another eight notifications led to the start of safety digests being created.

Furthermore, RAIB also wrote a letter to the industry and commenced nine industry investigation reviews.

RAIB delivered 31 safety recommendations over the year to 36 different organisations across rail including operators, manufacturers, and other authorities.

- **Report released on runaway road-rail vehicle at Belle Isle Junction**
- **RAIB investigates two incidents affecting passengers**
- **RAIB investigating incident after track worker struck by train**

Safety themes

Looking back over the year, the report from RAIB outlines seven recurring themes: the safety of track workers, the safety of people getting on and off trains, railway operations, management of bad weather, freight wagon maintenance, safety at user-worked crossings and management assurance.

Summaries of learning

Andrew Hall, chief inspector of rail accidents, said: “Our Annual Report details the Branch’s activities in 2021 and highlights the main safety themes that have run through the accidents and incidents we have investigated.

“For all the numbers and conclusions in such reports, it is always worth remembering that accidents are devastating for the people involved and anyone who loses a loved one or friend as a result; learning from them as individual events or as parts of trends is a vital part of improving safety and reducing harm.”

[Read the report here.](#)