

## Coastguard

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency are responsible for:

- Developing, promoting and enforcing high standards of marine safety
- Minimising the loss of life amongst seafarers and coastal users
- Responding to Maritime emergencies 24 hours a day
- Minimising the risk of pollution of marine environment from ships where pollution occurs, minimising the impact on UK interests.

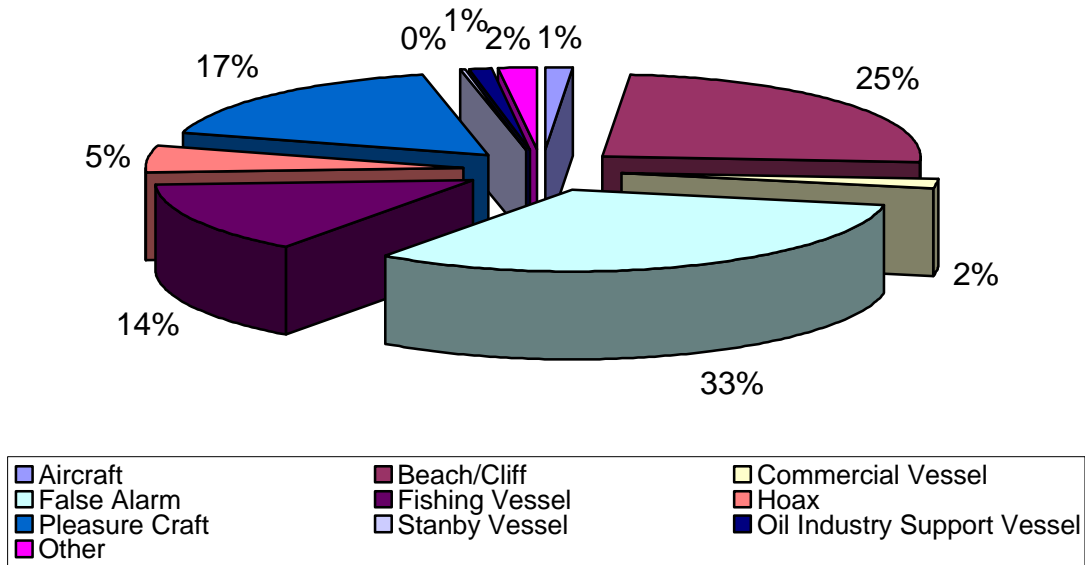
The recorded incidents off the Aberdeenshire coast were supplied for the calendar years 2001, 2002 and 2003 (January to December for each year), broken down into a summary of each incidents, which type of call out it was, e.g. fishing vessel, beach/cliff, hoax, etc. and how many people were involved, including whether they were assisted, rescued or if there were any fatalities in relation to the incident.

### Breakdown of Reported Incidents in Aberdeenshire for 2001-2003

Type of Incident	Number of Incidents	Involved	Assisted	Rescued	Self Help	Deaths
Aircraft	4	14	0	0	14	0
Beach/Cliff	67	79	12	51	1	4
Commercial Vessel	5	27	19	1	7	0
False Alarm	87	17	0	0	0	0
Fishing Vessel	39	87	59	14	12	0
Hoax	14	0	0	0	0	0
Other	5	1	0	1	0	0
Pleasure Craft	47	99	74	15	2	1
Standby Vessel	1	0	0	0	0	0
Oil Industry Support Vessel	3	2	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>6</b>

Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency

## Breakdown of Reported Incidents in Aberdeenshire, by Type



The table and chart above show that the Coastguard deals with more false alarms than any other type of incident in Aberdeenshire. False alarms accounted for **33%** of all incidents dealt with by the Coastguard in Aberdeenshire over the three-year period. If hoaxes are added to the false alarms, they make a combined total **38%** of all the incidents dealt with in Aberdeenshire over the three years.

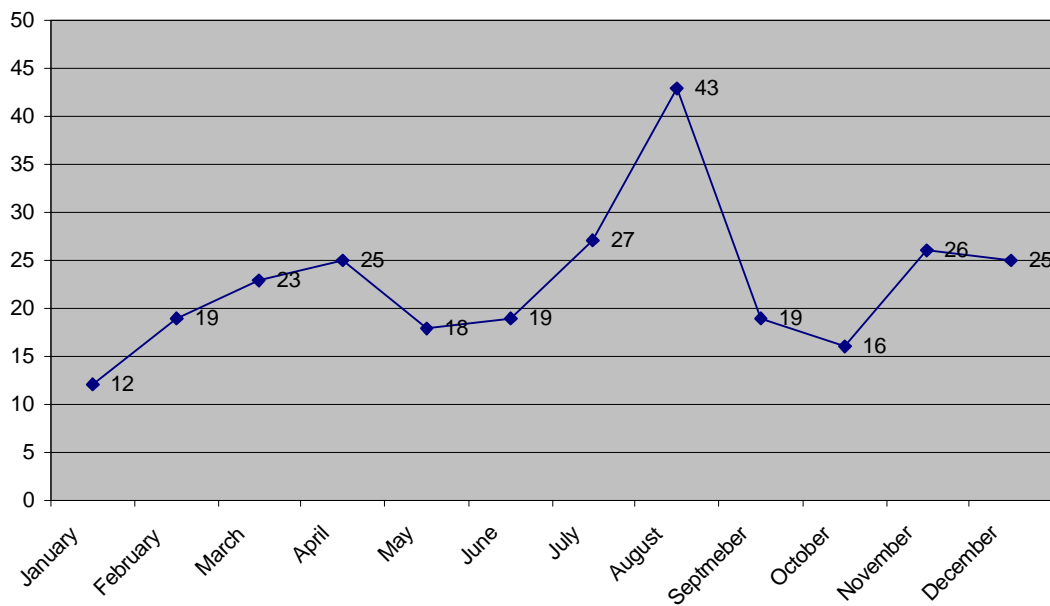
There were **6** fatalities in Aberdeenshire over the three years, the majority of which were as a result of beach/cliff incidents. This figure has decreased by **25.0%** since the previous three-year period.

### Yearly Breakdown of Reported Incidents in Aberdeenshire for 2001-2003

TYPE	2001	2002	2003	TOTAL
Aircraft	3	1	0	4
Beach/Cliff	23	22	22	67
Commercial Vessel	1	3	1	5
False Alarm	27	29	31	87
Fishing Vessel	15	13	11	39
Hoax	4	8	2	14
Pleasure Craft	15	16	16	47
Standby Vessel	1	0	0	1
Oil Industry Support Vessel	2	1	0	3
Other	0	3	2	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>272</b>

Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency

## Yearly Breakdown of Reported Incidents in Aberdeenshire for 2001-2003



Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency

As can be seen above, the highest number of incidents occurred during the summer months, in particular, during the month of August. This may be due to the improved weather conditions and school holidays during these months.

### WHAT DOES THIS TELL US?

- False Alarms and Hoaxes accounted for **38%** of all the incidents that were dealt with in Aberdeenshire over the three-year period.
- There were 6 fatalities, with the majority occurring as a result of beach/cliff incidents. However, the figure of fatalities has decreased by **25.0%** during the three-year period.
- The highest number of incidents occurred during the summer months, in particular, during the month of August.