

Collision between two freight trains at Loversall Carr Junction, Doncaster, July 2022

On publication of RAIB's report concerning a collision between two freight trains at Loversall Carr Junction, Doncaster, on 5 July 2022, Andrew Hall, Chief Inspector of Rail Accidents said:

“Fatigue in the rail freight industry is a known risk. The nature of freight train driving, often undertaken at night, means that careful fatigue risk management is crucial for maintaining safety.

“Unfortunately, this accident occurred because the driver experienced a loss of awareness of the driving task while probably fatigued. The assessment processes in place did not identify that the working pattern of the driver placed them at greater risk of suffering fatigue.

“Previous RAIB investigations into fatigue-related incidents have led to the development of good practice and guidance for managing fatigue within the rail industry. If we are to avoid such incidents in future, it is particularly important that freight operators access the guidance available to them and use it to effectively manage the risk of fatigue.”