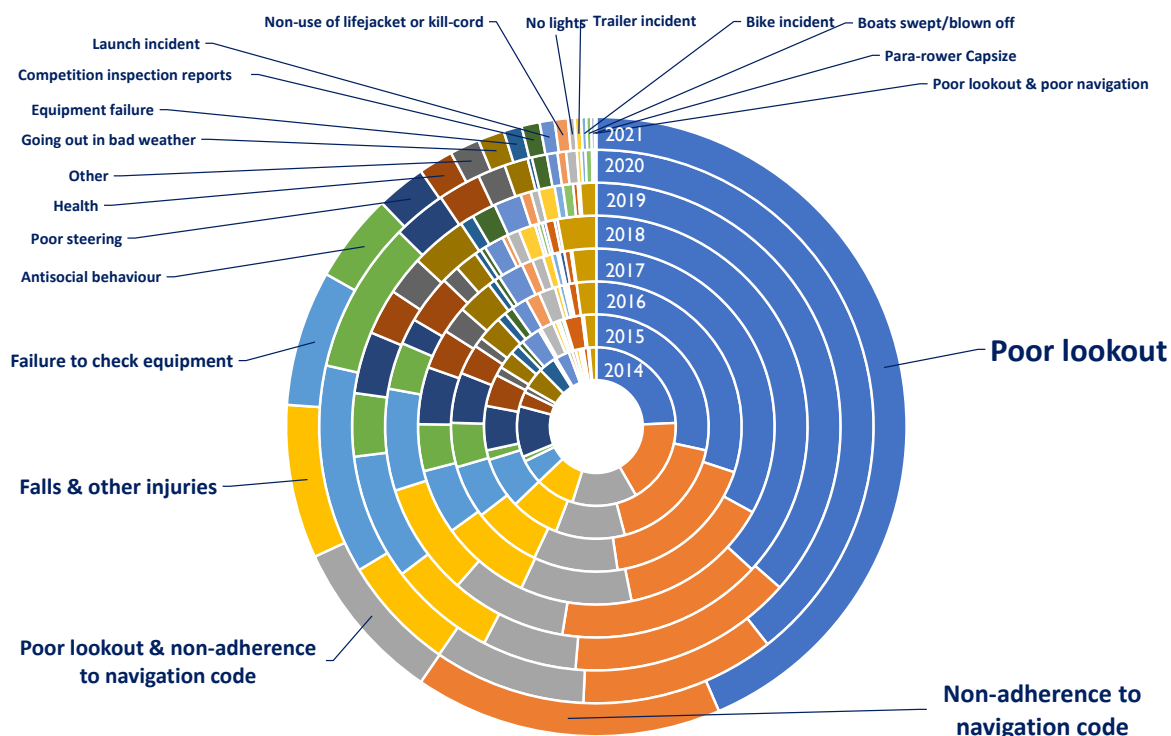


## Safety Alert - Keep a good lookout

Every year we analyse the reported incidents from the previous year and every year the biggest cause of significant incidents (i.e. incidents other than simple capsizes) is not keeping a good lookout. The proportion of incidents due to this cause increases year on year and in 2021 it accounted for 505 (44%) of the 1160 significant incidents. Poor lookout and not adhering to the navigational code accounted for a further 99 (9%) incidents.



Please take extra care to keep a good lookout in all directions, particularly ahead. If you cannot see where you are going then ask another member of the crew to help. Listen for shouted warnings but do not rely on them. Last year rowers collided with other rowing boats, powered craft, trees, bushes & reeds, submerged objects, moored boats, unpowered craft, buoys, the bank, bridges, barrages, weeds, floating debris, pontoons, posts, swans, geese, dogs, and fishing lines. Some also ran aground.

You can find a full report on the Incident Analysis [here](#).

**Take a look ahead at least every 5 strokes and avoid collisions.**

Stephen Worley  
Honorary Rowing Safety Adviser  
[safety@britishrowing.org](mailto:safety@britishrowing.org)

January 2022

[This Safety Alert is a safety guidance document. Please read our safety message and disclaimer.](#)