



# Safety Alert

## Road Traffic Incident

04 June 2021

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

## Kier Highways

**\*The Safety Alert mentions POWRA, which means Point of Work Risk Assessment**

**Please be aware: The attached alert includes a photo that some colleagues may find distressing**

# SHE ALERT

SHE H197 A 2021 Road Traffic Incident  
Issued by: Kier Highways SHE Department  
Date: 03/06/2021



## Road Traffic Incident

On Saturday afternoon, 29<sup>th</sup> May, one of our operatives was struck by a member of the public's car within the shuttle lane which was under stop and go traffic control. The operative had entered the live lane to sweep up material that had been spread onto the road by a previous vehicle passing through the shuttle lane.

Traffic had been stopped but the driver of the first car, an 85-year-old deaf man, became confused by the actions of another driver and set off again. Despite shouts for him to stop, he accelerated to a speed in excess of the reduced speed limit and struck our operative.

Despite our operative suffering significant head and torso injuries, we are pleased to confirm that none were life-threatening, and he is at home with his family recovering.

This incident serves as a reminder that we must always strive to make our works safer.

## General Actions to prevent recurrence:

- Review the hierarchy of control – if possible, eliminate the risk with a road closure.
- If live lane working cannot be avoided, ensure task specific controls are in place to minimise the risk of traffic incursion.
- Only enter a running lane under appropriate traffic control (all stop, full closure, rolling roadblock etc) and ensure safety zones are in place around the works area to create a sterile working area.
- Ensure changes to planned work activities are risk assessed, agreed by management and recorded via a POWRA (including changes required to the safe system of working) before the work takes place.
- Always consider abnormal situations that may arise when developing risk assessments and safe systems of working.
- Rebrief all operatives involved on changes to planned works.



## Action Required from all contracts:

**Please share this safety alert with your site teams and use the following prompts to discuss the incident.**

- How do you ensure that the scope of works, the limit of your risk assessment and safe system of work requirements have been adequately communicated and understood by all?
- How do you ensure you work in accordance with training and safe systems of work at all times?
- What emergency / abnormal events might arise during your work?
- How do you deal with these situations?
- What work equipment do you need / is available to help you deal with these situations?
- How do you reach a clear and common understanding with others regarding the sequence of operations to adopt when things change on site?
- How do you safely stop work if anything has changed?
- How significant does a change need to be to prompt a safety stop to re-plan the works?
- What do you do if in doubt about anything you are being asked to do?

**Remember – Nothing is so urgent or important that we cannot take the time to do it safely!**

**Neil Wilson**

Head of Safety, Health, Environment & Assurance