



SUMMARY OF INCIDENT

An approved supplier was undertaking poling activities to replace an existing pole in the highway. The works vehicles were positioned on the footway to undertake the work activities, with inadequate provision being in place to provide clear direction to pedestrians to ensure segregation from the working area and allow safe passage around the site.

The site was attended by a Local Authority Street Works Inspector, who identified failings with the site set up and immediately issued an HRI defect against the works.

A PEU and MEWP were positioned on the footway, the pole was being dressed alongside the PEU and there was an open excavation with no adequate protection in place.

Operatives completing the works positioned "Footpath Closed" signage at each end of the works; advanced warning signage was found to be inadequate or suitably weighted, and no barrier system utilised to segregate the working area.



OTHER FACTORS

A Street Works Permit was in place, permit conditions were not being adhered to and they had not been checked by the team prior to works commencing.

A pre-site survey had been conducted, but did not adequately consider traffic management requirements e.g. signing, lighting and guarding (SLG).



LEARNING POINTS

- It is a legal requirement to ensure your works are adequately Sign, Lighted and Guarded under the New Roads and Street Works Act
- Always ensure pedestrians have suitable, sufficient and safe means to negotiate our works
- Always ensure you adopt the correct working methods in line with your training, skills, experience, and knowledge
- Risk assess your activities, identify all associated hazards, implement appropriate control measures and record via the on-site / point of work Risk Assessment App
- When completing a pre-site survey, always take account of the working area required to undertake the work activity, associated plant and vehicles along with traffic management requirements (SLG)
- When conducting poling works, always ensure an exclusion zone is in place to prevent unauthorised or accidental access to the working area
- Managers and Supervisors must ensure all those being put to work under their responsibility are competent to undertake the task
- If unsure, **Stop Work and Ask!**

NOTHING THAT
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