

CHAMBER COVERS



METHOD OF WORK

Ensure a Risk Assessment is carried out and control measures put in place.

Note: Persons engaged in works must be accredited in "Safety Underground", and ensure works are completed in accordance with client specifications.

1. All works must be completed in compliance with the Safety at Street Works Code of Practice (NRSWA Red Book).
2. Sites must be set up in a manner that permits safe passage of pedestrians and vehicles.
3. Switch on Gas Monitor and adhere to Gas Testing / Monitoring procedures throughout the duration of the task. If gas is detected, stop work immediately and contact your supervisor / line manager and make the area safe.
4. Gate Guards / Barriers and necessary signage must be erected around the work area to provide ample working space and safe storage of chamber covers. Do not attempt to open a chamber cover without guards in place.
5. Remove chamber cover using correct lifting key and techniques, where required mechanical / hydraulic lifters should be used. Under no circumstances should anything other than correct lifting keys be used. Roller bars must be used where possible to allow covers to move freely over surfaces.
6. If chamber covers are stuck, do not strike with hammers or similar objects to free them, always use the correct equipment.
7. Once cover is removed, they must be placed in a safe location within the guarded area to avoid tripping hazard.
8. Do not leave chambers open and unattended unless deemed necessary to complete works. All edges of the chamber must be closed off using interlocked gate guards/barriers.
9. Where it is necessary to close a footpath, seek confirmation that permission has been granted from the local authority to do so.
10. Prior to replacing covers, check frame is free from debris or items likely to prevent the cover sitting flush when replaced.
11. When replacing cover, make sure it aligns with frame, adopt good manual handling techniques and replace with care.
12. Courtesy boards must be displayed on all work sites and include an emergency contact number.
13. Damaged or defective chamber covers must be reported to the client.



HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

- Live Traffic
- Pedestrians
- Manual Handling
- Slips, Trips, Falls



PLANT, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS

- Gate Guards, Barriers, Signs, Cones
- Gas Monitor
- Lifting Keys (Various)
*No: 5 Lifting Key, T-Shape Manhole Key
2A D Pit lifter, etc.*
- Hydraulic / Mechanical Lifter (where required)
- Roller Bar



EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

- Ensure you are familiar with the point of work emergency arrangements.
- All work vehicle to carry First Aid Kit and Fire Extinguisher.
- Gas leaks must be reported to the relevant network operator.



ENVIRONMENTAL

- Switch engines off when not in use.
- Keep noise to minimum levels where possible.
- Always remove waste and excess materials from site



PPE REQUIREMENTS

PPE items shown below must be available and worn during this task.



COSHH

Refer to COSHH Assessments for further information
