

Safety Alert

Reversing Incident M4 SMP

11 November 2019

Background information

On the 8th October 2019 at the M4 SMP scheme, during a concrete delivery an operative was struck from behind by a reversing concrete vehicle.

The driver entered site, visited the testing area to deposit a concrete sample and then returned to his cab leaving the vehicles concrete chute extended.

The driver then proceeded to the piling area swung right and then began reversing towards the pile location.

During this manoeuvre a concreting operative was standing beside the pile casing with his back to the vehicle and was struck on the rear of his safety helmet by the vehicles chute.

The operative was shook up but not injured.



Lessons learnt/actions

Lessons learned are to be shared once the investigation has concluded, however the following recommended points should be reviewed at all locations where People, Plant Interface is a risk:-

➤ People, vehicle and plant interface must be planned and controlled through the use of a suitable hierarchy of control:

- 1) **Eliminate** - Where reasonably practicable the need to reverse must be planned out of the work and access gates to work locations installed.
- 2) **Minimise** - When reversing cannot be avoided it should only take place in designated reversing areas, with pedestrians physically segregated and the use of reversing aids.
- 3) **Mitigate** - Where all the above are not possible, reversing must only take place under the control of a competent, Plant Vehicle Marshall.