

Hub Roadworks Incursions Campaign March 2018



Month three of the incursions campaign focusses on the reporting of vehicle incursions to Highways England. The information is collated and being used by the incursions working group to produce a strategy for reducing the risk of incursions occurring and methods of capturing events for action should they occur. For those who enter data into HE AIRSWEB there is a presentation on the webpage to support the correct use of the system.

<http://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/roadworks-vehicle-incursions-2018.html>

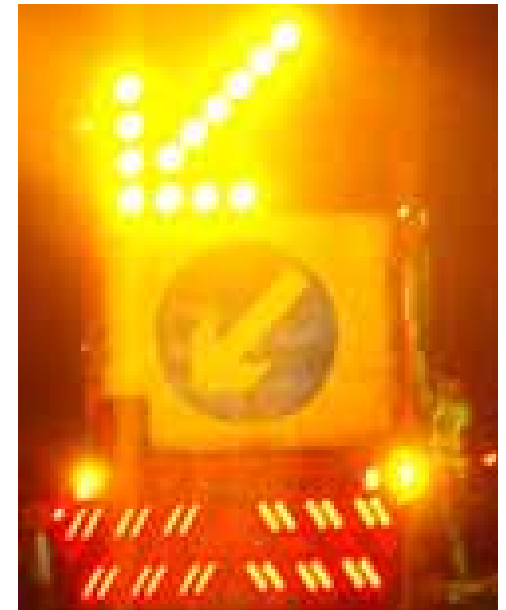
Send your best practice, alerts and news to philip.farrar@highwaysengland.co.uk

Improving IPV conspicuity using led lighting strips

Collisions with IPVs present a risk to road workers and road users. Evidence suggests over 15 IPVs are struck by road user vehicles each year on the SRN. The conspicuity of the rear of the IPV is significantly greater than the relative conspicuity of the lorry mounted crash cushion. The addition of LED illuminated red markings on the very rearmost part of the crash cushion should provide approaching drivers with more information at greater distances, allowing them to identify the IPV and in particular where the rearwards extent of the crash cushion resulting in earlier decisions on the actions required to pass the vehicle safely.

For more information;

http://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/uploads/5/1/2/9/51294565/0381_ipv_conspicuity.pdf



Highways England Safety Alerts

HEi 038 alerts – delivery driver fell whilst exiting vehicle.

This and previous alerts are available through the following link:
www.highwaysafetyhub.com/alerts.html

Construction site camera system scoops safety accolade



An innovative dual camera system which can spot both road workers speeding through construction sites and road users who illegally drive through cones has been hailed a potential life saver. This winning system, the first of its kind, is housed in one vehicle, and is currently being extensively tested across motorways and main A roads managed by Highways England. It is one of the winners at the prestigious Highways England Health, Safety, and Wellbeing awards. The awards, open to Highways England and its supply chain, attracted 115 entries across six categories. The nine winning entries announced ranged from initiatives to improve the mental health and wellbeing of staff to improving the safe loading of lorries.

In the first trials, in the West Midlands, a 50 per cent month-on-month reduction was recorded in road workers driving 10mph above the signed

limit through sites. And in Essex the number of roadworks incursions reduced by more than 80%. The camera system – developed by Carnell Support Services and Kier Highways – was one of two winners in the Health & Safety Innovation category at Highways England's inaugural Health, Safety and Wellbeing awards ceremony.

Jim O'Sullivan, Chief Executive of Highways England said:

It's well known that safety is our first imperative and I am delighted that these awards highlight that. The camera system, for example, will ultimately save lives. This project and the other winners show how innovative ways of thinking will make things safer for those working on and using our strategic road network and these awards also highlight the mental health and wellbeing of staff is as important as feeling safe in the workplace. I look forward to seeing more achievements in years to come.

In addition (to the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Awards) there was a special overall Chairman's Award. This is a discretionary award chosen from the winners of all the categories in the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Awards. The Chairman's Award was awarded to Clancy Group, for their Work Related Safety Programme. Highways England chairman Colin Matthews said: I am delighted that colleagues in Highways

England and partner organisations are finding ways to reduce injuries on our roads. Congratulations to Clancy Group whose success in making the roads safer for their drivers can be widely replicated by others.

The nine winners were:

1: H&S Innovation – two winners
Carnell Support Services and Kier Highways for SAFETYcam

Highways England's Incident Prevention Team - Vehicle Load Security working with the Health & Safety Laboratory (HSL)
An initiative to improve the awareness and understanding around safely securing loads on lorries or for customers transporting large goods. Highways England's Incident Prevention Team developed Police Load Security Training in partnership with the Health & Safety Laboratory (HSL) to help them better understand load security enforcement and how to help educate lorry drivers.

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2: Road User Safety Achievement – two winners

Clancy Group for the Clancy Work Related Road Safety Programme.

Over 12 months, this driving programme saw a 20% reduction in insurance claims, a 20% improvement in driver performance score and a 3.6% reduction in fuel use per vehicle due to safer and more fuel-efficient driving practices. All drivers are proactively engaged in the Fleet Safety Management and Compliance Programme which is run by a dedicated team and supported by the Clancy Group Board of Directors. Highways England Marketing team supported by George & Dragon (Advertising Agency) for the Vehicle Checks campaign.

The Vehicle Checks campaign identified the second largest cause of serious accidents can be attributed to drivers not carrying out basic vehicle checks in advance of long or significant journeys. Customer insight demonstrated a 15% increase in consumer awareness to performing vehicle checks.

3. Project of the Year (supply chain only) – one winner

Balfour Beatty Skanska Joint Venture for the M25 J30/A13 Corridor Relieving Congestion Scheme. A targeted approach by the joint venture to improve health safety and well-being has resulted in a workplace where everyone can take responsibility for their own and their colleagues'

health, safety and wellbeing. The team's efforts are also reflected in the schemes excellent all round safety statistics with a zero Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) when the project finished.

4: Graduate/Apprentice of the Year – two winners

Amelia Kirwan – Highways England's Commercial Vehicle Incident Prevention Team. Amelia Kirwan joined Highways England in November 2016 as a Project Manager Apprentice. Amelia was recognised for her approach to work and her passion to learn and expand her knowledge. She is seen as a real asset for the team and recently was successful with her application for a temporary role in the team. Jessica Dunn – AECOM - Proactive approach to promoting good mental health.

Jessica, who is a graduate engineer in AECOM's Strategic Highways team in Chesterfield, has undertaken various initiatives to tackle mental health stigmas and support at a local and national level for AECOM. These include working with colleagues to include wellbeing into weekly safety stand downs, liaising with local authorities and charities to provide line manager training and Lunch & Learn sessions in the local office, and campaigning for mental health first aiders to be provided in every office.

5: H&S Wellbeing Initiative – one winner

Graham Construction Ltd - CONNECT. CONNECT, a programme to drive employee wellbeing, has significantly reduced staff turnover and increased employee engagement against all performance measures. This was achieved through initiatives such as in areas including personal diagnostics, personal coaching and mindfulness training. During 2018-19 Graham will invest over £1m during 2018/19 to roll the programme out to all employees.

6: H&S Performance – one winner Mway Comms.

Following the death of a subcontractor in July 2015, Mway Comms put in place an action plan to improve the culture and support within the company. For two years Mway Comms implemented a progressive health and safety (H&S) Improvement programme that involved a new H&S system, an in-house H&S advisor and a commitment from managers, supervisors and operatives to comply with policies and procedures. In 2017 Mway Comms had zero RIDDOR's, (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) making its Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) zero.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-safety-wellbeing-awards-2017#content>

Time to Talk Day 1st February 2018 at the A14

Mental health problems affect one in four of us, yet people are still afraid to talk about it. For people experiencing poor mental health not being able to share their problems can be one of the worst parts of the illness increasing feelings of isolation. Encouraging people to talk helps break down stereotypes, improves relationships, aids recovery and takes the stigma out of something that affects every single one of us. Time to Talk Day encourages everyone to talk about mental health, and this national campaign was supported at the A14 across all Sections of the project. All staff and supply chain were invited to attend “tea and cakes” sessions and spend 20 minutes of their busy day just meeting some new people working on the project and talking with each other about whatever they wanted to. Advisory leaflets and other health information was made available at these sessions covering topics such as anxiety, depression, sleeping problems and stress. This supports the positive start made at the A14 to ensure that mental health signposting is embedded in “business as usual” for all teams. This project has 40 trained mental health ambassadors and 49 trained mental health first aiders, this includes a mixture of staff, supply chain and client representatives showing a great collaborative effort to address this important issue.

Driver's Hours: Changes to fines for commercial drivers

From 5th March 2018 rules will change so that commercial drivers who drive tired will be fined for every time they have done it in the last 28 days.

Drivers already have to follow rules on how many hours they can drive and the breaks they need to take. The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) can fine drivers up to £300 if they're caught breaking the rules. They can also be prosecuted or have their vehicle immobilised.

At the moment DVSA can only fine drivers for:

- Offences committed that day, and
- Ongoing offences, like manipulating tachograph records, which record drivers' hours.

From 5th March, DVSA traffic examiners will start issuing on-the-spot fines for any driver's hours offences committed in the last 28 days.

In a single roadside check, DVSA traffic examiners will issue fines for up to five drivers' hour's offences. It means drivers could be fined up to £1,500 in a single check if they have consistently broken the rules. The rules will also apply to drivers who do not live in Great Britain. However, they will have to pay any fines immediately, before being allowed to continue their journey. DVSA will immobilise their vehicle until the fine is paid. As well as giving fines for recent offences, DVSA traffic examiners have started issuing fines to deal with drivers who do not properly rest. Commercial drivers must take a 45 hour rest break every fortnight. Since 1st November 2017, DVSA has started to fine drivers up to £300 if they spend their full weekly rest break in their vehicle in places where it causes a problem, for example,

if a lorry driver spends their full break in the cab of their lorry parked in a layby.

Spending the weekly rest break in the cab can:

- Contribute to drivers not properly resting, and
- Expose drivers to poor living conditions

About 40% of sleep related accidents involve commercial drivers.

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), driving whilst tired may be responsible for one in five of all accidents and up to a quarter of all serious and fatal crashes.

The HSE states that managing the risks to employees who drive at work requires more than compliance with road traffic legislation.

The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 requires employees to take appropriate steps to ensure the health and safety of their employees and others who may be affected by their activities when at work. This includes the time when they are driving or riding at work, whether this is in a company or hired vehicle, or in the employee's own vehicle.

There will always be risks associated with driving. Although these cannot be completely controlled, an employer has a responsibility to take all reasonable steps to manage these risks and do everything reasonably practicable to protect people from harm in the same way as they would at workplace,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/drivers-hours-changes-to-fines-for-commercial-drivers>

British Safety Council launches mental health training courses

The British Safety Council has launched a range of training courses, designed to help bosses support staff who are experiencing mental health issues.

The courses come as evidence grows that more people are experiencing mental health problems due to work.

According to the Thriving At Work report, which was published in October, poor mental health costs the UK economy between £74 and £99 billion a year and 300,000 people with long-term mental health problems lose their jobs each year. And a recent report by Business in the Community claimed 60% of employees have experienced a mental health problem due to work and around a third (31%) have been formally diagnosed with a mental health issue.

Thinking and talking

The range of courses start with a 45-minute sessions, entitled “Start the Conversation”, which aims to get employees thinking about mental health and talking about it. The three-hour “Manage the Conversation” workshop gives line managers the skills and confidence to be able to talk to someone who wants to share about their mental wellbeing. And the council is also now offering a two-day Mental Health First Aid course, which

has been developed by Mental Health First Aid England, which teaches people how to identify and help someone who may be experiencing a mental health issue.

Much-needed tools

“Acting on the recommendations of the Stevenson-Farmer review of mental health and using our extensive training expertise, we have developed much needed tools to help people start and manage these difficult conversations about mental health,” said British Safety Council chief executive, Mike Robinson.

“These practical courses will support the development of a positive mental health culture in any organisation, regardless of its size and budget. By learning how to start and engage in open conversations about mental health we could help to save someone’s life one day.”

Earlier this week, SHP reported that responding to student mental health problems is now an “inevitable part” of the job for many university academics.

A report by the charity Student Minds warned many academics are unsure of their boundaries and are “struggling” to respond effectively to students’ mental health issues.

<https://www.britsafe.org/training-and-learning/find-the-right-course-for-you/mental-health-training-programmes/>

Winter Toolkit’

Skanska's Winter Safety Toolkit offers advice on how to keep safe and well during extreme weather conditions. As temperatures plummet and parts of the country are hit by severe weather warnings, it’s important that we all take extra care to keep safe, warm and well.

Skanska's Director of Health, Safety and Wellbeing, Dylan Roberts commented: “Through our commitment to create an Injury-Free Environment (IFE) we have developed a strong culture of care and concern and looking out for one another. This is especially important when we are faced with extreme weather conditions. Whether you’re working outdoors or travelling to and from an office, our winter safety toolkit highlights some of the challenges that severe weather can bring and offers some useful advice and information. If you do need to travel over this period, please allow extra time for your journey and keep up-to-date with the latest travel advice.”

Each winter, there is a surge in the number of accidents, so it’s vital that we know the risks and stay safe. Skanska have produced a series of posters and toolbox talks offering tips and advice for staying safe this winter. Topics include:

- Clock the Time Change
- Winter driving and braking distances
- The dangers of ice
- Stay safe on site

The toolkit can be found here

<http://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/skanska-winter-working.html>

New rights for flexible workers under major government reforms

Millions of flexible workers will receive new rights under major government reforms as the UK becomes one of the first countries to address the challenges of the changing world of work in the modern economy.

The government's 'Good Work Plan' comes in response to the independent Taylor review, published last year, which investigated what impact modern working practices are having on the world of work. The review found that the strength of the UK's labour market is built on flexibility, but that a clearer focus is needed on quality of work as well as the quantity of jobs.

The reforms are vital parts of the industrial strategy, the government's long-term plan to build a Britain fit for the future by helping businesses create better, higher-paying jobs in every part of the UK.

Following the Prime Minister's pledge to not just protect but build on worker's rights, the government on 7th February 2018 set out proposals to ensure workers know their rights and receive the benefits and protections they are entitled to, and that action is taken against employers who breach worker's rights.

In some cases, the planned reforms go further than the reviews proposals, including:

- Enforcing vulnerable workers' holiday and sick pay for the first time
- A list of day-one rights including holiday and sick pay entitlements and a new right to a payslip for all workers, including casual and zero-hour workers; and
- A right for all workers, not just zero-hour and agency, to request a more stable contract, providing more financial security for those on flexible contracts.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/millions-to-benefit-from-enhanced-rights-as-government-responds-to-taylor-review-of-modern-working-practices>

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Road safety engineering professional certificate

The IHE are shortly to launch a new Professional Certificate and Diploma in Road Safety Engineering.

The first course will be run as a pilot training course and will be held in Birmingham later this year.

Anyone interested in attending the course should email richard.hayes@theihe.org