

REDUCING THE RISK OF ERRANT DRIVERS



On the 8th and 9th of February, Kier Highways in partnership with HW Martin Traffic Management (TM) trialed a new and innovative method for road closures.

In addition to the traditional method of cones at the closure point, reinforced plastic barriers with reflective markings and red lights were used. From a motorists' perspective this gives a clear message that there is no access to this section of the carriageway and vastly reduces driver temptation to navigate between the cones, resulting in a significantly safer work site.

Furthermore, in an aid to improve enforcement, we captured any such instances. In a further attempt to deter motorists, a trailer mounted CCTV system with signage was deployed behind the barrier with a wireless link to the TM supervisor's laptop. The system proved its value on the first night, preventing and capturing a driver running over the cones attempting to access the closure who changed their mind once they realised CCTV was in use.

The system was complemented by body worn cameras on the TM operatives. These can be used to collect evidence from the operatives' perspective especially while installing TM. The next phase will be to work with the Police to see how enforcement

and prosecution can be realised to protect the workforce in London.

Following this trial, the system will now be adopted on Kier's upcoming works on Deptford Bridge - a hotspot on the network for these types of infringements. Kier are looking to implement this system of work furthermore on our schemes and block closure works.



The trials were visited by Kevin Bishop from TfL who was full of praise for the new strategy.

"I was very impressed with TM and operatives' professionalism, and would be grateful if you could pass this on to them. Clear tapers, clean cones, properly lit and well signed. The new barriers for road closures were a definite improvement and will most definitely add to the safety of the workforce, highly visible and a physical deterrent.

The CCTV camera mast, again a good idea. I would be interested to hear the ops opinions on the vest mounted cameras.

I was really pleased and impressed by the safety on the sites I visited."