

Operations Lantern canopy falling from a Column onto vehicle

February 2018

Incident Description

A Philips Iridium2 HID Large lantern canopy weighing 6kg parted from the rest of the lantern from a height of 12 metres and damaged a vehicle window screen. Fortunately no-one was injured.

This occurred on the A45/A509 roundabout in area 7 just south of Wellingborough. The speed limit on the roundabout is 40mph.

The rest of the lantern was recovered allowing investigation. It was discovered that the canopy clip 'spring' was weak permitting excessive play. Further investigations are planned to identify if this is an isolated or wider problem, and, whether the spring was weakened as a result of falling to ground.

An initial visual inspection using binoculars at ground level failed to identify any other obvious problems of the same lantern type installed at other locations.



Actions

All sections of the network where this type of luminaire are installed should be scouted to identify units at risk of separation failure.

Where a failure or failures are identified on a section of the network, a risk based approach should consider which of the following actions is required:

- Re-secure and ensure the clasp is secure.
- Secure the canopy with either heavy duty cable ties or tespa bands or similar.

Note: no action is not a justifiable option.

A static binocular assisted ground level observation will usually be sufficient for identifying unsecured units.

Use maintenance records to identify who last secured the failed unit and check all the other similar units they handled.

A Toolbox talk is required on how to correctly secure the unit and check it is done right, and, how to spot that if it has been done incorrectly.



Further Information: For more information about this incident please contact Haydn Yeo, Area 7 Street Lighting Asset Manager on 07740 512 955 or email haydn.yeo@highwaysengland.co.uk