M66 Traffic Management Reversing Incident

Description:
On the night of Friday 31st March operatives were installing traffic management to enable resurfacing to lane 3. One member of the traffic management crew was placing out a taper for the safety zone when the tape they were using became tangled.

The traffic management operative moved away from the live traffic to untangle the tape when a reversing traffic management vehicle hit them at low speed (less than 10mph). The traffic management operative suffered swelling to their left knee and abrasions to their back, left hip and right cheek.

Investigation Findings:
The investigation identified the following:-

- The safe system of work for installing cones was not being followed and did not fully cover the sequence of installation of the safety zone line.
- Reversing operations were carried out without a banksman.
- An audible reversing alarm was ignored while the reversing beacon on the traffic management vehicle was obscured.
- Suitable vehicle marshal training was not provided which was contrary to the safe system of work.
- The reversing camera was obscured by the traffic management vehicle bodywork leaving just 50% visibility.

Learning:
- The Servicer Provider has made alterations to vehicle checklists to ensure reversing cameras are operational and provide 100% visibility.
- A review of all risk assessments and method statements has been undertaken to include the additional controls identified following the investigation.
- The Service Provider is introducing a supply chain maturity improvement matrix and have issued toolbox talks, reinforcing plant and people interface requirements.
- A full competency review of employees conducting risk assessments was carried out and additional training provided for risk assessment and dynamic risk assessment review.

Further Information:
For further information please contact the National Health & Safety Division via: NH&ST@highwaysengland.co.uk