highways england

INFORMATION

Safety Alert

Safe Return to Work

4 January 2021

Background information

We saw some encouraging safety performance across our supply chain in 2020, despite the complications of Covid-19. As we enter into 2021 and many sites start back up, it's essential that we STOP AND THINK about the things that we rely on to keep us safe and well. We have provided some prompts here to help with this.

Many accidents occur as a result of a simple lapse in concentration; please take time to remind yourself of the main risks and controls needed. This may mean revisiting risk assessments, method statements, work instructions, and checking understanding with colleagues.

Spells away from the working environment can result in the body becoming less conditioned for the typical working day. Ensure that when returning to work, you consider the strain on your body, whether working in the office or out on sites.

Vehicles and site equipment will have had a break too! Check that they are free of defects before using them.

The Supply Chain Safety Leadership Group and the Safety Hub have published various Common Intent documents and Raising the Bar documents to aid in raising the standards of safety for our industry this year and can be found here.

Lets make 2021 an even better year for our industry and make sure everyone gets Home Safe and Well.

Lessons Learnt

- Ask yourselves these questions
- Fit for Work – Are you fit for work both mentally and physically?
- COVID 19 – Follow all guidance
- Vehicle Checks – Check both your personal and any work vehicles for defects before use
- Review the ergonomics of your workstation
- Ensure that all PPE is in good clean working order, and worn correctly including lacing up your boots!
- Receive a briefing before staring work on site
- Report all unsafe events and conditions
- Stop work if anything changes
- Take regular breaks and take in hot food and drinks as necessary

If you have any queries about this safety alert information announcement or any other safety announcement then please contact **Mark.Byard@highwaysengland.co.uk**

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home safe and well