



Description of Event

Workers inside inspection chamber that has no safe means of access and no measure to prevent unauthorised entry into confined chamber.

Population at Risk

Construction Workers

Hazardous Activity and Residual Risk Description

- Access to chamber is via an unstable steep slope of made ground with an assessed risk of likely of serious harm.
- Unauthorised entry into chamber designated as a confined space with an assessed risk of major harm.
- Working adjacent to loose material without adequate means of retention with an assessed risk of almost certain of minor harm.

Potential consequences of this event

- Slips, trips, falls resulting in reportable injury.
- Loss of consciousness resulting in death.
- Struck by moving material resulting in minor impact and crushing injuries.

Safety Hub [Alert Database](#)

- Filtering by the text “confined space” in subject description has 1 alert with injury.



Photo of uncontained mounded fill beside a manhole which is deemed a confined space.



Photo of site worker in confined space without the correct precautions.

Potential Mitigation Measures

Design

- Design for external inspection and cleaning.
- Design a safe means of access to inspection chamber.
- Design of inspection chamber’s top biscuit to include preinstalled access cover.
- Provide a digital geospatial means to control access to chamber.
- Invert levels to be no greater than 1.2m below finished ground levels.

Construction

- Put in place suitable control to prevent unauthorised access to inspection chamber.
- Ensure safe means of access and barriers to work site is provided.
- Ensure site hazards are eliminated, including loose material, before starting work.
- Adopt digital technologies to inform workers of existing site hazards.
- Provide warning signage around existing site hazards.

Maintenance / Operations

- Consider external inspections and cleaning techniques.
- Maintenance records to include safe means of access.
- Identify all residual hazards associated and include within RAMS.

Further Guidance and Reading

- [RtB 14 – Slip; trip; fall](#)
- [RtB 26 – Safety by Design](#)



Please send ideas for Whole Life Design safety shares to wellbeing@nationalhighways.co.uk

LEAN

Alternative
Materials

Alternative
Plant

Reduced
Labour

Improved
end user
benefits

Reduced
Activity
Duration

Reduced
Reportable
Accidents