



Safety Alert

Gas Utility Strike

5 December 2019

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

Fusion



SAFETY ALERT

Gas Utility Strike



At approximately 11:30 on the 27th November, a Planer at Welsh Road East clipped an uncharted 20mm gas pipe pressure release valve (PRV), for a medium pressure gas main, located approximately 225mm below ground level; it is believed that the Planer knocked the cap off.

Work was immediately stopped, exclusion zone set up and SGN called to attend the scene as a matter of urgency.

The service was completely uncharted and had been previously tarmacked over by an unknown party. The only services that were known about in the area were a BT cable at 750mm and Gas main at 800mm and these had exclusion zones set up to avoid them.

Extensive trial holes on Welsh Road East also gave no indication that the pressure valve was there. SGN inspector arrived within the hour and then the Gas team arrived another 30 minutes later to uncover the service fully and to repair the damage/make safe.



Initial findings show that all relevant processes and procedures were followed however, an investigation will be conducted to determine if our processes are robust enough and if we could have done more to prevent this.

There were no injuries as a result of this incident.