



# Safety Alert

## Protecting The Public

## Managing Site Access

18 August 2020

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

**Skanska**

## Protecting The Public Managing Site Access



Incident  
notification



Alert



Information



Toolbox talk



A ten-year-old child died recently after suffering serious injuries acquired from an accident in a works site, (not a Skanska site).

Emergency Services were called to the site circa 10pm and the child died shortly after arriving at hospital. The work site contained excavations and associated material piles, (addressing flooding problems).

Reported comments included references to:

- Gaps in the construction site fence
- Parts of the fence being torn down and replaced
- Covid 19 affecting checks being made on the fence

With school summer holidays combining with less international holiday travel due to the Covid pandemic, it may increase the risk over the next few months of children accessing work sites.

A reminder then, that all construction sites require:

- Measures to manage access across defined boundaries, and
- Steps to exclude unauthorised people

When physically defining site boundaries with fencing, regular inspections of such fencing must be undertaken together with any associated maintenance.

Part of the boundary planning aspect should have considered whether the site will attract children, (as a place to play), and we must do everything that we can to keep them out of the site:

- Secure sites adequately when finishing work for the day
- Barrier off or cover over excavations and pits
- Isolate and immobilise vehicles and plant and if possible, lock them in a compound
- Store building materials so that they cannot topple or roll over
- Remove access ladders from excavations and scaffolds
- Lock away hazardous substances
- Inspect and maintain perimeter lighting and/or CCTV if applicable

For further information please see [HSE - Protecting The Public](#)



### Distribution:

☐ EMT/SMT

☒ All OUs/EFs (via Environment Manager or EF lead)

☐ Originating OU only

### Action required:

☒ Brief

☐ Display

☒ Information only