



# Safety Alert

## Operations, North West region

### RIDDOR Incident

4 May 2021

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

## Kier Highways

# SHE ALERT

SHE H189 A 2021  
Issued by: Kier Highway SHE  
Department  
Date: 28/04/2021



## Area 13 RIDDOR Incident.



On 25/04/2021 at 00:20 am a 3 person Kier traffic management crew were laying out temporary signs for future traffic management closures around the A595 Blackbeck Roundabout.

The TM crew were using an 18t TM truck with sign frames loaded against the vehicle headboard. The sign frames were secured with a horizontal steel load restraint bar that slots into holes in the vehicle hand rails.

As the vehicle moved forward a branch over hanging the carriageway caught on the top corner of the sign frames causing the load restraint bar to detach, allowing the sign frames to topple over backwards.

One of the operatives was struck by the sign frame and knocked on to the ground. The rear wheel of the TM truck hit his right foot causing lacerations and abrasion injuries to his foot and ankle. The operative was treated by paramedics at the roadside & taken to hospital where he remains.

### Immediate actions taken to prevent reoccurrence:

TM works that night were suspended and an investigation was launched. Safety stand downs arranged for TM operatives.

### Learning points/Initial Findings:

- Load restraint bar used to secure the sign frames on the TM truck had potentially failed.
- The vehicle is a 21-plate truck however further investigation is needed into operation and maintenance of the bars across the TM fleets.
- Smaller TM vehicles with lower load bed height would normally be used on this road but these vehicles were off the road for routine maintenance.
- Area not surveyed prior to work in which the overhanging branches could have been identified as a hazard.