

## Safety Alert Vehicle stopping in a live lane

20 March 2023

### Background information

- On 28 February 2023, a low loader driver arrived at the scheme meeting point for a surfacing scheme on the A21 at Flimwell junction. The meeting point was a layby on the A21 carriageway.
- At the time of this driver's arrival, the layby was closed off with traffic management cones, and no operatives were present on site. The driver then:
  - Stopped the vehicle in the live carriageway, blocking the A21 southbound
  - Exited the vehicle into the live carriageway
  - Failed to wear the correct 5-point PPE
  - Moved the traffic management cones to allow access for the vehicle to the layby
  - Put himself and customers at unnecessary risk

#### Upon investigation it was found that:

- The written and agreed site arrival time was 20:30, however the driver arrived at 19:10.
- The driver's rules instructed that contact with the site supervisor was to be made 10 – 15 minutes prior to arrival to the meet point. The driver failed to contact the site supervisor.
- Without any approval, the driver stopped the vehicle in a live carriageway, blocking the road, and then exited the vehicle.
- The vehicle was stopped on a live carriageway without any impact protection.
- The driver moved traffic management without any training or authority to do so.



#### Following the incident:

- The Principal Contractor (PC) re-inducted their subcontractor hauliers on high speed traffic management entry/egress procedures.
- Refresher training on high speed traffic management entry will now be delivered every 6 months to all drivers working on behalf of the PC.
- Departure and arrival times for vehicles to be reviewed prior to scheme commencing.
- All meeting points will be reviewed during planning to ensure they are suitable and sufficient for the scheme requirements.

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If you have any queries about this safety alert information announcement or any other safety announcement then please contact [HealthSafety&Wellbeingteam@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:HealthSafety&Wellbeingteam@nationalhighways.co.uk)

**home safe  
and well**