

Introduction

This Supply Chain Safety Leadership Group was formed to give focus to improving safety performance across the Highways England road network through collaborative working across the supply chain where common risks exist and provide a unified voice of the sector.

The Supply Chain Safety Leadership Group's vision is to create a very clear shift in safety performance to ensure everyone who works with us and everyone who travels on the network gets home safe and well.

To find out more about the activity the Group is undertaking please go to the [Highways England Safety Hub](#) where we are working in collaboration to improve to achieve the vision.

Safety Moment

Utilities Strikes – Are we lucky?

A stark reminder as we strive to eliminate utilities strikes.

The Group reflected on an historic utilities strike incident that took place over 5 years ago due to a cable fault on a link box.



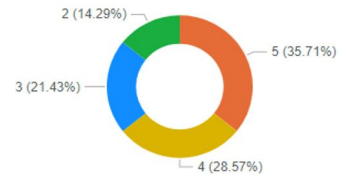
At the time of the incident there were several link box failures in London. Some of which made the press as some people described them as a bomb going off.

The incident provided a useful reminder as to the potential level of energy and possible burns from Arc flash of anyone within the proximity of an electrical utility strike.

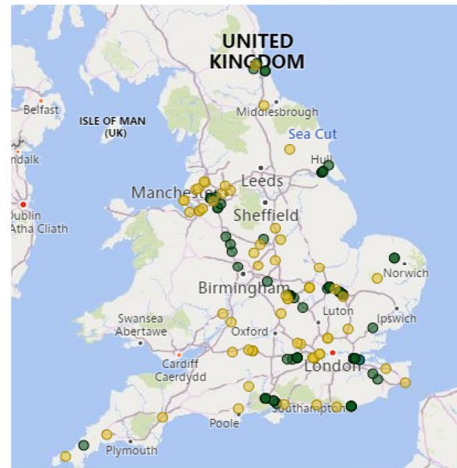
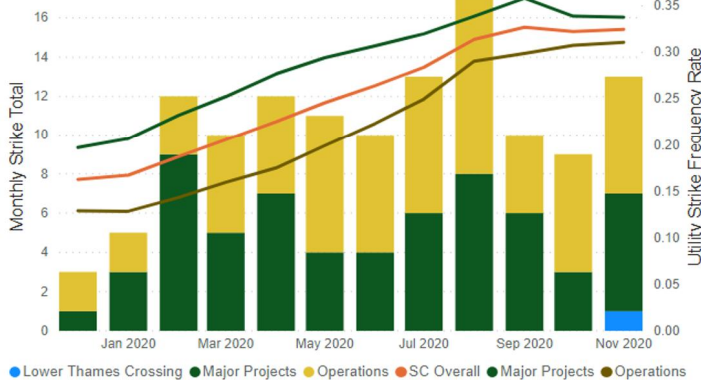
Directorate	Infrastructure Asset	Near Miss	Undesired Circumstance	Total
Lower Thames Crossing	1		0	1
Major Projects	62	9	1	72
Operations	62	2	1	65
Supply Chain	125	11	2	138

Directorate	12m Rate	Other Cables/Pipelines	Electricity	Water	Gas	CCTV	Total
Lower Thames Crossing	0.54	0	0	0	1	0	1
Major Projects	0.34	22	22	10	3	4	62
Operations	0.31	25	28	5	1	3	62
Supply Chain	0.32	47	50	15	5	7	125

In Month Strikes



Utility Strikes Reported per Month and Frequency Rates



As come to the end of 2020, the Group reflected on the utility strike performance which is not improving and ask you all to reflect on the potential impact of those incidents and point you towards our common standards which we ask you all to implement into 2021. *Let's make our own luck and adopt common standards to eliminate utilities strikes!*

<https://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/utility-strike-avoidance-group.html>

Safety starts at home – Behaviour is key




How often do we hear the words “best of intentions” and wanting to “get the job done” following a safety incident. Dean Sporn shared a story from home to highlight a message for the Group on challenging “behaviours”.

Looking into 2021, the Group is going to focus its attentions to learning from near miss reporting and leading indicators as if we can challenge those behaviours that lead to incidents earlier, we can prevent them from happening.



Trends and Priorities

Key Stats

-  3 month rolling performance for MP has worsened.
-  3 month rolling performance for Ops has improved.
-  Utility strike performance continues to trend in the wrong direction.

Road User Stats – Winter Weather has an impact

Currently the data is reporting 80% of normal traffic volumes with 50% of number of incidents. However, an unusually high number of fatalities have been reported. Weather is a factor – this is a challenging time of year.

Action for Suppliers – The December Highways Safety Hub briefing has useful hints and tips to for Working and driving safely over the winter period.

https://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/uploads/5/1/2/9/51294565/hub_newsletter_december_2020.pdf

Incident Investigation - Have you adopted the common standard?

Only 52% of investigations completed on time on AIRSweb

It was highlighted to the group that there is a poor performance across supply chain for reporting incidents on time. This led to some interesting observations by the Groups members and a request for more data to understand the issues next month.

Action for Suppliers – Adopt the common standard for incident investigation and check within our own organisations the status of embedment of these standards.

https://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/uploads/5/1/2/9/51294565/common_intent_-_incident_investigation.pdf

Highlights

The Safety Hub is Raising the Bar!

New Raising the Bar documents and updates have been published;

- RtB 27 – Incursions

New Common Intent Documents Released



Richard Stuart has sponsored the Safe Working with Plant working group for the SCSLG and the group have now released the Common Intent document.

Check it out on the [Highways Safety Hub website](#).



Glennan Blackmore has sponsored the Mental Health and Wellbeing working group for the SCSLG and the group have now released the Common Intent document. Glennan wrote a few words to support this release;

"Thank you for all of your contributions to the group. Not only your contributions but also the way in which you have all engaged as a team. This has been fantastic, with everyone contributing, giving people space to have their say, being brave enough to challenge and building on the great ideas of one another, all culminating in delivering a great result. I am so proud to have been able to work with you and I look forward to the next steps in the New Year to make the intent a reality."

Check it out on the [Highways Safety Hub website](#).

Launching our plan for 2021

Focus for 2021



Refresh through introduction
of **new members**



Keep the **Safety Hub** on
a pacy trajectory



Measuring performance
through new SCSLG Dashboard



Raise our profile through
improved communication



Understand adoption through
audit and assurance



Focus on **visible and
robust leadership**



Continue to implement new
Common Standards



Eliminate key risks
through **Innovation**

Back to Work 2021 – Stop and Think!

The Group discussed plans for a safe start to 2021 and decided to put together a Safety Alert for the supply chain which can be found [here](#).



**highways
england**

INFORMATION

**Safety Alert
Safe Return to Work**

4 January 2021

home
safe
and well

Membership

Special Recognition – Thank you to James Haluch

Our first Chairman of the Supply Chain Safety Leadership (SCSLG), James Haluch, has decided to step down after 2 years of hard work and dedication to the cause of improving safety within the Highways England's supply chain.

The video below captures his thoughts as to why we set up the SCSLG back in January 2019.



In July 2020, James launched the IPV and Incursions Common Intent document with this [article](#) which is a testament to the hard work he has put into the group and his passion for improving safety within the industry.

In his own words;

“It has been quite a journey for the SCSLG over the last two years and I have thoroughly welcomed the opportunity to play my part in raising the bar across the supply chain. I wish you and the SCSLG well going forward and I can assure you that I will continue with the same passion and drive chairing the IPV/ Incursions group into 2021.”

The Group would like to thank James for his outstanding contribution and wish him well for his future endeavours.

Adopting Common Standards

Overview – As a supplier community we have agreed to adopt a *common standard* to improve safety performance, following the principles of prevention and robustly applying the Hierarchy of Control, from the earliest stages of projects in development, and throughout construction, operation and maintenance, is at the heart of the refreshed approach that we are expecting all suppliers to follow.

The Common Standards - Our approach to defining expectations for methods to be used to improve safety performance across the supply chain includes:

- Common Intent - documents that set expectations of what we “must” all do. These provide clear direction and guiding principles in relation to application of the hierarchy of control that we expect to be considered in the processes and procedures followed by every organisation.
- Raising the bar – documents that provide “interpretation” on how to implement common intent across the whole asset lifecycle, including design, construction, operations and maintenance.

Common Intent and Raising the Bar Documents can all be found on the [Highways Safety Hub](#).

Status

	SCSLG Member Lead	Common Intent Drafted	Common Intent Released	Raising the Bar Released
60MPH through roadworks	Non Member – Laura Baker (HE)	September 2020	Target November 2020	N/A
Passport Scheme	Teresa Moss (HE)	November 2020	Target December 2020	RtB 23 – Inductions - Target December 2020
Utilities Strike Avoidance	Lesley Waud (Atkins)	April 2020	May 2020 Link to Safety Hub	RtB 9 – Released October 2020 Link to Safety Hub



IPV Strikes & TM Incursions	James Haluch (Amey)	May 2020	June 2020 Link to Safety Hub	RtB 27 – Released October 2020 Link to Safety Hub
				New RtB 37 – IPV Usage – Target January 2021
				New RtB 38 – Mobile Carriageway Closure, Animated Flowchart decision tool & Automated TM vehicles – Q2 2021
Incident Investigation	Lesley Waud (Atkins)	June 2020	July 2020 Link to Safety Hub	N/A
Mental Health	Glennan Blackmore (Skanska)	September 2020	December 2020 Link to Safety Hub	New RtB 34 – Mental Health - Target December 2020
People & Plant Interface	Richard Stuart (Costain)	September 2020	December 2020 Link to Safety Hub	New RtB 35 – Loading and Unloading Vehicles – Target December 2020
				RtB 1 – Plant Standards – Target January 2021
				RtB 3 – PPI – Target Q2 2021
Safety by Design	John Dixon (Jacobs)	June 2020	August 2020 Link to Safety Hub	RtB 26 - Target November 2020
Lost Loads	Non Member – Chris English (Balfour Beatty)	June 2020	August 2020 Link to Safety Hub	New RtB 36 – Lost Loads - Target December 2020
Supervision	Nick Holt (WJ)	Target January 2021	Target March 2021	RtB 29 – Supervision - Target April 2021
Ground Investigation	Richard Wilson (Highways England)	TBC	TBC	TBC

New Working Groups being considered

- Live Lane Working / Carriageway Crossing
- Excavations