



STRUCK BY MOVING VEHICLE - MAINTENANCE OF LIGHTING COLUMN

(Apr 25)

WLD.044

Description of Event

Additional lane 1 traffic management closures required on high-speed motorway for maintaining lighting columns installed on motorway verge to light the grade separated dumbbell interchange bridge.

MCHW 1300

Population at Risk

Inspection and Maintenance Workers, Members of Public

Hazardous Activity and Residual Risk Description

- When designing and installing two lighting columns for the interchange overbridge, vehicle speeds and impact, incursions, work at increased height and exposure time for installing additional traffic management on both main carriageway and on the bridge do not appear to have been considered.
- Lighting maintenance requires traffic management enclosures for access and public protection and in addition, lighting column push/pull tests require lane 1 closure on each carriageway for each column.

Potential consequences of this event

- High speed incursions into the traffic management whilst installing, maintaining or removing traffic management.
- Working at height either from bridge or extra height from motorway carriageway creates a fall from height risk.
- Persons engaging in horseplay, jumping from structure to column.



Single lighting column for bridge sited on main line below

Safety Hub Significant Risks (SR) / Alert Database

- Category – working at heights (SR), 10 fatalities, 17 injuries.
- Sub-category MEWP's, Sub-sub fall from heights – 1 fatality, 5 injuries
- Sub-sub struck by moving vehicle (SR) – 11 fatalities, 9 injuries
- TTM [Incursions](#) (SR) – 22700 since 2017, 406 in Mar 2025

Potential Mitigation Measures



Design

- Consider removal of these lighting columns over the bridge [TA 501](#)
- Carry out risk assessment of maintenance options, see [GG104](#) risk Assessment if lighting is required & [GD304](#) A5.
- Provide off road access areas for MEWP, consider passive columns
- Consider departures from standards and relaxation of lighting levels for the need to illuminate the bridge or to adapt an adjacent column with different spacing.

Construction

- Ensure construction team understand maintenance design choices
- During value engineering or change reviews, ensure appropriate risk assessment involving designer, asset owner & maintainer, including alternative design options for maintenance.

Maintenance / Operations

- Follow asset maintenance manuals
- Ensure MEWP size if required is appropriate to lamp column size.
- Propose alternatives during design and construction process, or to asset owner for when assets come to end of life.

Further Guidance and Reading

- [GG 104](#) – Risk Assessment
- [GD 304](#) – Designing Health and Safety into Maintenance
- [TA 501](#) – Road Lighting Appraisal
- [RtB 26](#) – Safety by Design
- SCSLG Working groups
 - [IPV and Incursions](#)
 - [Safety by Design](#)
 - [Significant Risk Education](#)



This (Whole Life Design) Lessons Learnt safety share is stored on [Highways Safety Hub website](#). Comments or new ideas should be sent through the [website contact](#)

LEAN

Material Reduction

Reduced Plant

Reduced Labour

Reduced Transport

Improved end user benefits

Reduced Activity Duration

Reduced Defects

Reduced Reportable Accidents