

Protection of Above Ground Services

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Distribution:	eight ₂ O and Contractors - TW Health & Safety Hub	

Crash Deck protecting Biogas pipe Hogsmill STW



What Happened?

- A section of shuttering was being lifted when an ancillary item detached from the shutter.
- The team had planned for the probable eventuality and erected a rash deck to protect pipe work and the process.

What Happened?

- Road plates were being moved for temporary storage on site.
- When both plates came in contact (metal on metal) the top road plate slid down the small bank towards three cables which had been previously excavated by the site team.
- The road plate damaged the outer core of one of the data cables.
- All three were placed above ground and marked with yellow electrical tape.

Data Cable Damaged Highworth STW



What can we do to prevent this from happening again?

- Planning in advance to eliminate the risk of hitting an above cable / service or injuring an operative;
- All lifting operations should be properly planned and briefed to all involved;
- Ensure suitable laydown areas are considered for the storage of materials on site;
- Ensure that additional controls are put in place for the protection of above ground services;
- Site management to set expectations and reinforce the importance of everyone being aware of their surroundings and the potential hazards they face;
- Review all services to understand the potential impact SHE and operational impact of a service strike;
- Mitigation and recovery plans should be detailed in the RAMS or CPP.

