



Contractor vehicles and MEWP involved in significant Near Miss



Views from both directions of the 30mph road

Re-Issued to correct error of road speed limit from 60mph to 30mph.

On 1st February 2021 an overhead line team from a contractor working on behalf of SPEN in Shocklach Cheshire, were found by representatives of Cheshire West & Chester Council to be working with no traffic management in place on a bend on a road with a 30mph speed limit. One (live) lane was completely occupied by the contractor's vehicles with the boom of the MEWP extending into the remaining live lane.

The contracting company was immediately stood down from the entire SPEN network pending further investigations.

This incident bore many worrying similarities to a 2016 incident involving a SPEN line team.



Image from 2016 incident

Recommendations and action points

- Ensure work is planned properly and Setting To Work considerations are understood by everybody.
- Ensure Traffic Management requirements are considered and applied, and there are suitably NRSWA qualified staff on site if required.
- Carry out a risk assessment before starting work utilising the SLAM technique, if conditions or circumstances change then stop work, assess, and manage the risks:

Stop – Look – Assess – Manage