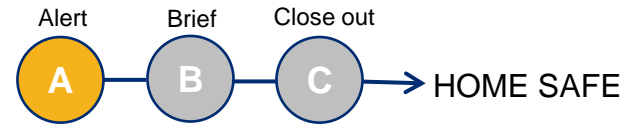


SHE ALERT

Operational Incident



Date of incident	19th February 2025		Directorate	Operations SEPD	
Region	Thames Valley	Location	Slough	Classification	MTI
What happened					
<p>On 19 February 2025 colleagues had responded to a call from the Police involving an illegal three phase service connection to an unlawful cannabis factory.</p> <p>In the process of their work to make the service safe it was decided to remove the service breaches joint from the low voltage main cable.</p> <p>During the course of the work the breaches joint failed and one of our colleagues received burn injuries to their right shin and thigh – although injured, our colleague is ok, they received medical treatment and was allowed home afterwards.</p> <p>Our injured colleague was wearing Class 2 approved FR/AR clothing at the time of the incident; all facts currently indicate that the PPE has done its job, i.e. the injuries were caused by hot fabric sticking to our colleague's skin after the FR/AR material has absorbed heat omitted by the failed breaches joint.</p> <p>The investigation into this incident has commenced and until it is concluded it is important to refrain from guessing the cause(s) of this incident. One immediate and obvious learning point to mention/ reiterate is to always assess underground cable joints to ensure so far as practicable their integrity is not in doubt. If any doubt regarding the integrity of a cable joint is in place, the job should be stopped and an alternative safe plan of work agreed, e.g. on low voltage cables, treat the joint as damaged and/or faulty and follow the requirements set out in Operational Safety Manual section 10.2.</p> <p>Further information with learning will be issued when the investigation has been concluded.</p>					

