

Safety Alert

Lincoln Eastern Bypass

Run Away Plant

Runaway plant and vehicles is a significant risk on all construction sites. A recent incident has identified potential issues with the securing of trailers after uncoupling from the tow vehicle. Please communicate this information to all personnel and ensure remedial action is taken.

On Friday 17th August, a supplier working on behalf of Galliford Try Traffic Management was required to deliver a set of temporary traffic lights to site with a towable trailer. These were then delivered to site where they were signed for by the receptionist. The trailer had been disconnected from the vehicle but the driver had not chocked the wheels although the trailer had no parking brake and had been left on a slope.

Shortly after leaving site the trailer rolled down the slope and collided with a parked 4x4 jeep. Fortunately the event occurred in an area not frequented by pedestrians therefore no injuries



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Key learning point

When trailers are uncoupled and parked, always ensure the trailer is fully secure with the hand brake fully applied if applicable* and wheel chocks fitted under the wheels to prevent any uncontrolled movement.

*Please note trailers under 750kg are not legally required to have braking system but still need to be secured

Further points to ensure when towing and parking a trailer please ensure these are adhered to.

1. If you are the driver of a vehicle, and are required to tow any trailers or equipment, it is your responsibility as the driver to ensure:
 - a) You have been authorised to do so.
 - b) That you have the correct categories identified on your driving licence. If in any doubt, check with your Supervisor.
2. It is a requirement under the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations and also part of our BMS, that a daily and weekly inspection of trailers is undertaken. (Or similar for our suppliers/subcontractors).
3. All defects must be reported to your immediate supervisor or line manager immediately to allow remedial repair works to be undertaken.
 4. Never tow a trailer if there are any known or identified defects that will affect the safety or integrity of the trailer or it does not meet the requirements of statutory highway regulations or legal compliance.

Stephen Burns

Health & Safety

Lincoln Eastern Bypass

Actions Required:

1. Please ensure all personnel are fully briefed and informed on the requirements of towing trailers.
2. Ensure daily and weekly trailer inspection forms are being completed.

