

Safety Advice



everyone
home safe
every day

Incorrect use of lights at a level crossing

Issued to: **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and accredited contractors**

Ref: NRA21-17

Date of issue: 01/12/2021

Location: Anglia route, Eastern region

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Overview

Anglia Route learned that level crossing barrier attendants working for an agency were using mobile phones to display green or red aspects to approaching trains or on track plant in an engineering possession. This was instead of the approved hand lamps.

The barrier attendants had been advised by their Sentinel sponsor that this was an acceptable means of warning approaching trains or plant.

Anglia Route conducted tests using mobile phones and an Electric Railway Signalling Handlamp (Bardic lamp) to see whether mobile phones were an acceptable alternative to a Bardic lamp for this safety task.

The tests clearly demonstrated that mobile phones are not an acceptable alternative. A Bardic lamp is the correct form of safety equipment that must be provided by the Sentinel sponsor to be used by level crossing barrier attendants.

Immediate action required

- Staff undertaking safety critical duties **MUST** have the correct safety equipment with them.
- Sentinel sponsors must provide **ALL** the appropriate safety equipment for their staff to perform their role.

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