# Safety Advice

## Improvised Explosive Device found on track

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| Issued to: | **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and accredited contractors** |
| Ref: | NRA22-07 |
| Date of issue: | 15/09/2022 |
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## Overview

During a site walkout in Newton Le Willows, an Improvised Explosive Device (IED or homemade bomb) was seen in the 4 foot by the site team.  Whilst moving to a point of safety, another similar IED was found in the 6 foot.

Staff evacuated the immediate area and made an emergency call.

The Rail Incident Officer (RIO), British Transport Police (BTP) and Army Bomb Squad attended to assess the devices and they were deemed unviable, in that they would not denotate and were no danger to staff, surrounding homes or the rail infrastructure.

The Army Bomb disposal team removed the devices and confirmed the materials inside were flammable, with evidence of spirits and debris so were likely intended to be incendiary type devices. The devices were removed to a designated safe site.

The IED's consisted of two plastic bottles containing liquid and metal shards or razor blades and a wick sticking out from the bottle top. The perpetrators,  intended target and motivation remain unknown with a BTP investigation underway.

## Immediate action required

- Be vigilant - If you see something that doesn't look right follow the HOT Protocol:
    - **H**idden – Has a deliberate attempt been made to hide the item?
    - **O**bviously suspicious – Does the item have obviously suspicious characteristics?
    - **T**ypical – Is the item typical of what you would expect to find in this type of location?
- If something doesn't look right report it to control immediately.

- Download the Network Rail "Be Aware" App from the Network Rail App catalogue. It provides guidance on what to do if you see a suspicious item, witness unusual activity and tells you how to report what you have seen amongst other useful information.
- Ensure you have completed the mandatory Counter Terrorism and Security on the Railway training

For more information visit the Network Rail security hub
If something doesn't look right, report it to 999 or BTP on 61016.

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