

# Safety Alert

A serious incident has taken place



## Foxton near miss

Scope: **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors**

Ref: NRX20-01

Date: 20/02/2020

Location: Foxton, Anglia Route

Contact: Ian Bradler, Director, Route Health Safety Quality & Environment



## Overview

At 11:01am on 14th February 2020 a Network Rail track worker from Tottenham Delivery Unit had a near miss with a train. The person was part of a track team working on a reported defect on the Down line at Foxton.

9S25, a GTR service from Cambridge to Brighton was travelling on the Up line through Foxton station. The driver saw a track worker in the four foot of the Up line who was not moving to a position of safety. Another train was approaching on the Down line. The rest of the track team had safely moved to the Down cess.

The train was travelling between 70mph and 80mph toward the worksite. The track worker reacted to the approaching train when it was six seconds away and reached a place of safety with just three seconds to spare. This event constitutes a significant near miss.

This event is currently under investigation and once this has been concluded we will share our findings with you. Until then please look at the talking points below and discuss if you are taking these steps for safety.

## Talking Points

- If all other options have been explored and unassisted lookout warning must be used, how do you test the Safe System of Work?
- How do you make sure you have a designated position of safety?
- How do you monitor sites to make sure people are following the Safe System of Work that has been applied?
- What should a Person in Charge (PIC) do if people want to move to a place other than the specified position of safety?
- How should the PIC agree what will happen and how people will remain protected?

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