

14/11/2018

**For the attention of:**

All personnel

**Summary**

An incident occurred outside of VolkerRail recently which is relevant to our personnel to take note.

A member of Highways England staff was involved in a minor car accident. The staff member was wearing their Highways lanyard and pass and upon impact of the accident, the car airbag was deployed. The force of the airbag caused the lanyard and pass to be pushed into her chest, causing her lung to collapse and requiring hospital treatment.



Had the person, not been wearing their lanyard and pass at the time, they would have most likely walked away relatively unscathed.

This is not the first report of its kind.

**Actions / Key Messages**

- It is advised that staff remove their lanyards and staff passes when leaving the office for both safety and security reasons.
- More notably, please remember to remove your lanyard whilst driving.
- Where possible, use breakaway lanyards that will unclip themselves if caught or stuck.



**Attitude** Risks are not always obvious so adopt a positive attitude to safety in identifying potential sources of harm.

**Influence** Bring this alert to the attention of colleagues, friends and family that may wear lanyards / passes.

**Management** We will continue to monitor other industries to identify new and previously unrealised risks to our employees / sub-contractors and bring these to the attention of all where relevant.