

# Shared Learning

Key learning following a serious incident



## Creating access from existing highways

**Issued to:** All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors.

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**Location:** A666 Farnworth

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## Overview

To facilitate a railway tunnelling project an access from an existing A road has created to get equipment on to site.

Part of the design for the access required from the adjacent A road required the Armco barrier to be modified.

The work was designed and installed under the remit of the Principal Contractor who engaged a specialist subcontractor to undertake some of the works.

Following a road traffic incident at the access the process for how the access was requested, installed and maintained was investigated by the Police.

## Underlying causes

Evidence indicates that the Armco barrier had not been anchored correctly.

The Principal Contractor did not have an inspection regime in place for the installation of the Armco barrier.

## Key message

- Within the Principal Contractor's own organisation there should be suitable skills, knowledge and understanding of tasks to manage the work safely.
- Engage with the Town Planning Team when you need to create access from an existing highway. They will advise what approvals are required.
- When planning your access, consider all the interfaces i.e. existing traffic flows, pedestrians, site operatives etc. These should be included in your traffic management plan.

Further guidance can be found on the HSE website e.g. [A guide to workplace transport safety](#).

Copies of Shared Learning documents are available on [Safety Central](#)