

EVENT LEARNING

Safety & Sustainable Development

023

Incident Date / time: October 22nd 2015 / 13.20hrs
Location: Auldgirth, Dumfries and Galloway
Works Taking Place / Incident Type: Remedial work to site / Machinery / equipment use
Issued By: Safety & Sustainable Development Team
Project Name / Number: Renewals Collaborative Delivery Programme / 143680
For the attention of: All Scotland and North East

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

A 9 tonne dumper, with a skip two thirds full with damp spoil, tipped over at the side of an access road. The driver lost control after encountering some potholes and veered onto the soft verge before tipping down a small embankment at the edge of a field. There was minor damage to the landowner's fence and a small oil spill from the dumper. The operative escaped unharmed however there was potential for serious injury.

Mitigating factors:

- Dumper fitted with a roll bar
- Operative wearing a seatbelt
- Safety conversations : operative previously engaged with construction manager around use of seatbelts on **all** types of plant
- Good working relationship and contact arrangements with the landowner enabled:
 - livestock to be moved promptly
 - rapid response for spill containment and removal of contaminated soil
 - fence line reinstatement

Potentially harmful factors:

- Lack of speed signage and monitoring on access road
- Risks for damage or injury involving livestock or other users of access road not assessed

Consider the following around access arrangements and 3rd party involvement :

- What does effective traffic management involve when using public and/or privately owned roads?
- What risks are considered when access lies adjacent to fields with livestock?
- Where would you find emergency contact details for landowners?
- Are you confident that every plant operator on your sites know how to access and use a spill kit?

