

Potentially hazardous signal gantry access ladder

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

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Location: National

Contact: [Simon Constable](#), HoRSHE Scotland



Overview

Following one of the safety stand down briefs held in response to the [death of our colleague at Bearsden](#), S&T colleagues close called the signal shown in the photo.

The ladder is used to access a gantry that work is then performed from, however the palisade fencing is very close to the ladder.

There is a risk that even with a harness and fall arrest equipment on if a member of staff was to fall they could be seriously injured on the fence.

Discussion Points

Please discuss the following with your team:

- Are you aware of other locations where a fall from a ladder onto fixed equipment could have significant consequences?
- If you identified a ladder that was unsafe to use what would your first response be?
- How could access to the signal be planned to be undertaken safely pending alteration to the fencing?
- How would you report hazards such as this to get them actioned quickly?
- How could 'taking 5' prior to commencing a task help to identify hazards similar to this?

Copies of Safety Bulletins are available on [Safety Central](#)