

STOP Think! Moment – A565 NLKC

Damage to 11kV power cable using road pins

OSBORNE



What Happened?

A section of footway had been previously excavated as part of the scheme to widen a carriageway. This involved the installation of new kerbs further into the footway. The subcontractor's engineer was marking out the line of new kerbs using road pins installed using a lump hammer.

During this process, one of the pins pierced an underground 11kV power cable causing it to flash. The engineer was caught in the flash and received minor burns to his hand, face and torso. His clothes and PPE were also burned. He went to hospital immediately to be checked. He returned to site later that day and was fit to work the following day.



Impacts

- Minor burns to the engineer's hand, face and torso. This could have been significantly worse.
- Damage to the cable with some short term power loss to local businesses.



The investigation is currently on-going, however the following points apply with immediate effect...

- ✓ The use of metal road pins creates a significant risk.
They are not to be used on Osborne projects. This BAN is with IMMEDIATE effect.
- ✓ **Flame and arc flash resistant clothing MUST be worn when breaking ground.**

If you need assistance sourcing an alternative to metal road pins, please contact a member of the SHE team.

Finally if you are unsure, **always STOP Think!**, and discuss with your line manager and/or the SHE team.



STOP Think!

Metal road pins are **BANNED** on all Osborne projects with immediate effect