

# STOPThink! Hypodermic Needle Attack



## What happened?

A stabbing incident has occurred at Hedge End in the Wessex outer route, involving a member of the public and a Network Rail Mobile Operations Manager (MOM). The MOM was called out to a possible lineside intruder / trespass incident and as they approached a makeshift tent or tarpaulin a member of the public came out and stabbed the MOM repeatedly with a hypodermic needle.

## Impacts

The MOM has attended hospital for assessment and to undergo testing.

Remember needle stick injuries could cause infection from blood born viruses such as Hepatitis and HIV or contact with dangerous substances such as medicines, drugs or chemicals.

## Immediate action

- If any staff or contractors see or are called out to a similar incident, approach with caution and stay well back. If in any doubt, please phone the appropriate Control Centre and report as an emergency requesting the attendance of the BTP
- Alternatively in an emergency situation, call 999
- DO NOT APPROACH and never put yourself or others in danger

## Octavius staff and our suppliers must confirm that they have:

- Communicated this alert to our employees and our supply chain partners
- Avoid lone working where possible or where lone working occurs, they have robust procedures and checks in place for these individuals. This is especially important when work is being undertaken at night
- Ensure that all worksites are protected including securing gates and doors when not in use and ensuring fence lines remain intact. Report damage to locks, gates and fence lines etc. immediately to the relevant asset owners for repair.

