

[Report 12/2022: Collision between a train and agricultural equipment at Kisby user worked crossing](#)

Press release

RAIB has today released its report into a collision between a train and agricultural equipment at Kisby user worked crossing, Cambridgeshire, 19 August 2021.



The locomotive and trailer following the accident

[R122022_221017_Kisby](#)

PDF, 7.62 MB, 37 pages

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Summary

At around 09:00 hrs on Thursday 19 August 2021, the 04:10 hrs freight train service from Hams Hall (Birmingham) to Felixstowe collided with agricultural machinery being towed over the railway by a tractor at Kisby user worked crossing, between Whittlesey and March in Cambridgeshire. The train was travelling at about 66 mph (106 km/h) when it struck the machinery. The train driver suffered minor injuries in the accident and the tractor driver was uninjured. The locomotive and one wagon derailed, with both suffering some damage. There was also extensive damage to the infrastructure of the railway.

The accident happened because the tractor driver did not telephone the signaller before crossing the railway to seek permission to cross. This was a consequence of the tractor driver not being briefed about the requirement to call the signaller and his belief that he could cross safely by looking for approaching trains. This probably arose because the authorised user, the person owning land on both sides of the level crossing, was not briefing crossing users in a way which resulted in correct use of the crossing, and railway staff were unaware that this was the case until shortly before the accident. RAIB found that Network Rail was not effectively managing the safe use of Kisby, and some other user worked crossings with telephones, and that this was an underlying factor for the accident.

Recommendations

RAIB has made two recommendations, one addressed to Network Rail and one addressed to the Health and Safety Executive, as a result of its investigation. These seek improvements in the management and assurance processes applied to user worked crossings and an additional means of communicating crossing safety information to agricultural workers. RAIB has also written to several organisations representing farmers asking that they remind their members of the importance of following correct procedures at user worked crossings.

Notes to editors

1. The sole purpose of RAIB investigations is to prevent future accidents and incidents and improve railway safety. RAIB does not establish blame, liability or carry out prosecutions.
2. RAIB operates, as far as possible, in an open and transparent manner. While our investigations are completely independent of the railway industry, we do maintain close liaison with railway companies and if we discover matters that may affect the safety of the railway, we make sure that information about them is circulated to the right people as soon as possible, and certainly long before publication of our final report.
3. For media enquiries, please call 01932 440015.

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£6.4 million boost for employers to support disabled people

- Drive to create more inclusive work environments and equip employers with advice on how people from all backgrounds can thrive at work and grow the economy
- Businesses and disability groups invited to test and shape new service which supports employers to employ more diverse and inclusive workforces

Thousands of businesses across the UK will benefit from a new £6.4 million online service to help employers better support disabled people and those with health conditions in the workplace.

The early test version of the [Support with Employee Health and Disability service](#) provides essential information about supporting and managing employees with disabilities or health conditions at work.

Any employer can access the service, which provides free advice on how to manage staff who may be in or out of work with a disability or long-term health condition in a user-friendly online Q&A format.

The service is aimed at smaller businesses, many of which do not have in-house HR support or access to an occupational health service and will help them to build more diverse and inclusive workforces.

The new service also covers potential changes an employer could make to help them return to and stay in work, supporting a government drive to boost numbers of people in employment and ensuring everyone has the opportunity to benefit from being in work.

Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, Claire Coutinho said:

Since 2017 we have seen one million more disabled people in work, beating our target by five years. Now we want to go even further by giving more employers the tools and information they need to ensure disabled people and those with health conditions can succeed in the workplace.

As the new Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, there is no end to my ambition to build on the success of the Department by making sure disabled people have the same opportunities as everyone else to start, stay and succeed in work.

The site is currently in test mode, with businesses and disability groups invited to have their say through a short online survey, to help shape the future of the service.

The site will be constantly updated and improved over the next three years, informed by feedback given from the survey

The service has been designed to give employers easy access to the advice they need to create the best environments for their staff with disabilities or long-term health issues, so that anyone from any background can start, stay and succeed in work.

Once fully developed, the service will also help employers understand their legal obligations, including how to make adjustments for disabled people and those with health conditions.

Over the next three years, the government will invest £1.3 billion in employment support for disabled people and people with health conditions. This money will go towards building up existing provision, including expanding employment support, to grow the economy and help people with the cost of living.

Further Information

- The new online service is a direct response to the government's 2019 consultation, 'Health is everyone's business', in which employers asked for joined-up advice on supporting health in the workplace that is easier to find and act upon.
- The Support with Employee Health and Disability service is available online here – [Support with employee health and disability – GOV.UK \(dwp.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/support-with-employee-health-and-disability)
- The website is the first public version of the service and is part of an almost £6.5 million (£6.428 million) programme of work to help employers support and manage employees with disabilities or health conditions.
- The latest figures show the number of disabled people in employment has increased by 1.3 million since 2017, delivering on a government goal to see one million more in work by 2027.
- The 10-year employment goal was a government manifesto commitment originally set in 2017 to break down barriers for disabled people and those with health conditions and to build more diverse and inclusive workforces.

Media enquiries for this press release – 0115 965 8781

Follow DWP on:

[Chancellor statement on the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan](#)

Press release

The Chancellor will make a statement today, bringing forward measures from the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan that will support fiscal sustainability.



The Chancellor will make a statement later today, bringing forward measures from the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan that will support fiscal sustainability.

He will also make a statement in the House of Commons this afternoon.

This follows the Prime Minister's statement on Friday, and further conversations between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor over the weekend, to ensure sustainable public finances underpin economic growth.

The Chancellor will then deliver the full Medium-Term Fiscal Plan to be published alongside a forecast from the independent Office for Budget Responsibility on 31 October.

The Chancellor met with the Governor of the Bank of England and the Head of the Debt Management Office last night to brief them on these plans.

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[The UK showcases British offshore wind and hydrogen expertise with two themed pavilions at Energy Taiwan 2022](#)

The British Office Taipei, together with the British Chamber of Commerce in Taipei and 22 British renewable energy businesses, will be showcasing the UK's offshore/floating wind and hydrogen/hydrogen mobility expertise at the 'UK Offshore Wind Pavilion' and 'UK-Taiwan Hydrogen Pavilion' at Energy Taiwan in Taipei Nangang Exhibition Centre Hall I on 19-21 October.

This is the second time that the UK participates with themed pavilions at the Energy Taiwan exhibition, demonstrating the UK's commitment to support

Taiwan's 2050 net zero goals with strong renewable energy development.

UK Offshore Wind Pavilion

The UK is the world leader in offshore wind, and has the highest total pipeline of offshore wind globally, reaching up to 86 GW to date. Taiwan is now the UK's largest offshore wind market in Asia Pacific region with over 36 UK offshore wind companies setting up offices in Taiwan, many of these offices serving as the regional Asia-Pacific hub.

Twelve UK companies will be exhibiting to showcase UK supply chain expertise on offshore and floating windfarm planning & construction, engineering consultancy services, subsea equipment rental, O&M services, floating wind technology, and temporary power & temperature solutions for offshore and floating wind farms. The UK's credit agency, UK Export Finance that provided more than five hundred million pounds in credit guarantees to three offshore wind farms in Taiwan will also be exhibiting at the pavilion this year.

John Dennis, Representative at the British Office Taipei will be opening the UK pavilion welcoming the industry practitioners to visit the Pavilion.

The official opening of the UK Offshore Wind Pavilion at Energy Taiwan 2022:

Date: Wednesday, 19 October 2022

Time: 11:00 – 11:35

Venue: Booth K616c, Taipei Nangang Exhibition Centre Hall I

UK-Taiwan Hydrogen Pavilion

The British Office Taipei in partnership with Scottish Development International, Taiwan Institute of Economic Research and Taiwan Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Partnership, bring ten pioneering UK companies from across the hydrogen value chain to demonstrate the UK's expertise on hydrogen compression solutions, hydrogen production, refuelling, storage, hydrogen fuel systems, and engineering and environmental consultancy.

Low carbon hydrogen play a critical role in energy transition to net zero. The UK Government has published a hydrogen strategy in 2021 to sets out the approach to developing a thriving low carbon hydrogen sector in the UK to meet its ambition for 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030.

Venue: Booth K0508, Taipei Nangang Exhibition Centre Hall I

More Information:

1. Detailed information of the 12 UK companies at [UK Offshore Wind Pavilion](#) at Energy Taiwan.
2. Detailed information of the 10 UK companies at [UK-Taiwan Hydrogen Pavilion](#) at Energy Taiwan.

Defence demonstrates significant progress made for women in the Armed Forces

Today marks the year anniversary of the recommendations made by Rt. Hon. Sarah Atherton MP in her report '[Protecting Those Who Protect Us: Women in the Armed Forces from Recruitment to Civilian Life](#)'. A year on, Defence have taken on these recommendations and introduced an extensive programme of work alongside the work that was already being undertaken to tackle unacceptable sexual behaviour, improve the experience for women in the Armed Forces and build trust in the Service justice System.

Most recently Defence has launched three new measures that provide clearer direction to prevent and address incidents. These are the [Zero Tolerance to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse \(SEA\) Policy \(JSP 769\)](#), the [Zero Tolerance to Unacceptable Sexual Behaviour: A Victim/Survivor Focused Approach Policy \(2022DIN01-073\)](#) and the [Tackling Sexual Offending in Defence Strategy](#). These policies will ensure that Defence continues tackle unacceptable sexual behaviour and is a place where people are proud to work and have faith in their justice system.

In parallel to the recently published policies, a significant programme of work has been delivered across Defence and were set out in the [Government's Response](#) to Sarah Atherton's Inquiry. This includes training developments, transformation of the Service Complaints system, the stand-up of the Defence Serious Crime Unit HQ, delivery of improvements to uniform and equipment and the Servicewomen's Health Improvement Sprint.

Recruitment

Defence has set a Level of Ambition to achieve a 30% inflow of women to the Armed Forces by 2030. It is recognised that 30% is a very challenging level of ambition, and one which has not yet been achieved by many of our NATO partners. In meeting this ambition, a Whole Force approach has been developed including tailored recruiting activities, women-focussed marketing campaigns and making greater use of Servicewomen as recruiters. Defence, however, recognises that recruitment alone is not enough and recognise that a greater focus on retention, behaviour and inclusion continues to be vital.

Women's Health

As part of the commitment to improving the health and wellbeing for women in the Armed Forces, The Servicewomen's Health Improvement Focus Team (SHIFT) was established to deliver the six-month Women's Health Sprint, bringing together military and civilian skills and experiences to deliver key women's

health policies and initiatives. This includes menstruation disposal bags and a urinary support device, which are currently under procurement. Furthermore, a series of blogs on women's health has been published by the SHIFT, with the aim of normalising the discussion of women's health topics. These have received thousands of views and positive comments from Servicewomen, who feel like their voices are finally being heard and acted upon, and by others who welcome the opportunity to better understand and support their Servicewomen colleagues.

Diversity & Inclusion

A thorough training needs analysis was undertaken and a common standard introduced. Active Bystander Training continues to be an important part of the training offering, with the course being streamed 135,000 times, and we introduced a new Holistic Allies Training package in March 22.

April 22 saw the implementation of Climate assessments across Defence and work continues to upskill our diversity and inclusion Advisers and Practitioners to better support our people

Uniform and Equipment

As part of the pledge to improve the uniform and equipment offerings for women in the Armed Forces the Services have all made amendments to uniform and clothing that address women's sizing, body shape and body changes. This includes the development of the [Narrow Scalable Tactical Vest \(STV\)](#). Wider revisions to uniform and clothing for each of the Services is in progress and rollout will commence in Summer 2022 and complete in 2023.

Service families

In recognition of the requirement to support a modern and diverse workforce, the [UK Armed Forces Families Strategy](#) was launched in January 22. As part of the support to service families there are currently six pilot locations running the [Wraparound Childcare \(WAC\) scheme](#), with full rollout in September 22, with almost 2000 Service children benefitting from before and after school free childcare.

Service Complaint & Service Justice Reform

In June this year we published the [Service Complaint Reform](#) which introduces a range of reforms and improvements to the existing Service Complaints system for Service Personnel. This is a new system that will increase efficiency; make the system more independent through the introduction of Central Admissibility Teams; improve the support available for those who engage with the process and increase trust and confidence in the system and its decision makers.

In order to address the recommendations regarding the investigation of serious crime the [Defence Serious Crime Command](#) was established in April this year and the Defence Serious Crime Unit (DSCU) will be fully operational by December 2022.

Defence continues to build trust in the Service Complaints System and Service Justice System through a revised approach to the [publication of official statistics](#). This is part of a commitment to being transparent and continually seeking to develop and improve policies and support to serving personnel.

Understanding behaviours

We have also launched several targeted interventions to enable Defence to improve our understanding of unacceptable behaviours. These have included the implementation of recommendations from the '[Wigston Review into Inappropriate Behaviours](#)' and the subsequent [Gray Review](#). April 22 saw the implementation of Climate assessments across Defence and work continues to upskill our diversity and inclusion Advisers and Practitioners to better support our people.

These delivered measures ensure that Defence continues to be a place where people are proud to work and have faith in their justice system. However, this is only the beginning and we are continuing to develop and improve policies to ensure our brave and dedicated serving personnel are proud to be part of the British Armed Forces.