

HGV Vehicle heading towards site with intent to enter the road closure

DATE 23rd May 2018

Site Area, A303 East of Winterbourne Stoke

Full Road Closure for High Friction Surface Treatment works.

Traffic Management ready at 21:15hrs, due to wet weather start work at 21:30hrs.

22:40hrs, Traffic Management lead operative spoke to Quality Marking Services Chargehand, that he had just received an urgent call from ROC (Highways England Regional Control Centre) that the site has been classified as “High Risk” following a telephone call to ROC, from an Articulated HGV lorry driver, who stated in strong foul and Racial language “that he was going to drive through the road closure and kill anyone in the way”.

The instruction from Highways England had been to immediately clear the road of all personnel, vehicles and equipment, which was promptly executed, all QMS vehicles and personnel moved to a safe place away from the work area.

The laid HFST had yet to set and be swept?

The Traffic Management remained in place, as the road surface would have been unsafe for vehicles until swept of loose HFST aggregate.

When the HFST had set, each end of the closure was blocked with vehicles and operative spotters had been placed in a safe place, so they could warn site of approaching vehicles, this allowed the back sweeping of the HFST aggregate to be completed.

Once the back sweeping had been completed the block vehicles and Traffic Management had been removed and the road opened.

As the road remained on “High Risk the remaining nights work had to be aborted.

Quality Marking Services Chargehand and operatives, responded with diligence and professionalism throughout the event.

ROC had informed the police who were in pursuit of the vehicle.

The police have the drivers, Vehicle Registration number, home address and telephone number.

West Midlands Police have taken statements from the ROC controllers, telephone recording of the phone call and are currently investigating the incident.

Quality Marking Services Ltd have been in direct contact with ROC controllers, who have said they will keep QMS updated on the case progress. We will share this information when known.

Roadworkers deserve to be safe “Think Safety, Act Safely, Be Safe!”

Brendon Hext

DATE 4th June 2018.

Distribution: Matt Hancock WJ Road Markings, RSMA, RSTA, Supply chain partners.