

Fatal 6 - Transport - Tipper caught on a railway level crossing

WHAT HAPPENED

An independent contracted hauliers 8w rigid liveried tipper got caught between two closing railway barriers trapping the vehicle on the level crossings. On this occasion it was a monitored crossing, so the barriers were raised immediately, and any approaching train held, preventing a serious incident.

This incident is similar to several seen in 2019. It has highlighted the requirement to remind drivers of their responsibilities in relation to the adherence of warning light signalling on the highways.



Key Factors:

- The vehicle had just turned left 90 degrees out of a junction onto the crossing and was focused on traffic coming from both directions
- The barriers had just been lifted and closed again within 30 seconds. The driver did not expect the barriers to close again so quickly
- The driver was experienced, under no pressure and had a good safety and driving record
- The exit of the crossing was not blocked
- The driver correctly exited his cab when he got caught on the crossing but immediately returned to the vehicle and cleared the crossing upon seeing the barriers start to rise again

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Actions for drivers to take

- The safe and legal operation of the vehicle remains solely with the driver at all times, and they should ensure it is safe to enter a level crossing
- Drivers should ensure that their exit is clear before starting to cross the crossing and not to attempt to cross if the warning lights are flashing
- Drivers must remain vigilant and ensure that the highway regulations are being observed and that there is no danger presented to other vehicles and pedestrians
- Hauliers to report any such incidents to the company for whom they are working

LOCATION:	ON-HIGHWAY	ALERT STATUS:	Normal
ACTIVITY:	TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS / DELIVERY	DATE ISSUED:	16/05/2023 16:21:44
SUB ACTIVITY:	DRIVER AWARENESS	INCIDENT No:	03639