

### INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF WASTE & RECYCLING FATALITY

- Issued by HSE’s Waste and Recycling Team to the WISH Forum to assist timely promotion of key health and safety risks.
- The details are based on initial notification and where applicable, media coverage and do not fully reflect the detailed circumstances of the incident. The death has been treated as work related.
- The links to existing HSE and/or WISH guidance below are to help recipients to promote health and safety and should not be taken to imply details of cause of the incident.
- Initial notifications of fatal accidents will be communicated through this system only when deemed appropriate. The sum of initial notifications should therefore not be quoted in any form as fatality statistics for the sector. Official fatality statistics for the Sector will be published by HSE.

<b>Does not reflect end of year fatal statistics</b>	
<b>Date of incident</b>	22/08/2020
<b>General nature of incident</b>	<b>Electric Shock from Overhead Power Lines (OHPLs)</b>
<b>Brief details of incident</b>	
<p>A waste operative received an electric shock and was killed when using a machine to move a mound of aggregate under an overhead power line (OHPL).</p> <p>Every year, people are killed or seriously injured when they contact, or get close to, live overhead electricity power lines. In the waste industry this commonly involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machinery/vehicles: e.g. skip loaders, excavators and other mobile plant, tipper lorries, grabs, refuse collection vehicles and drilling rigs</li> <li>• Equipment: ladders, MEWPS (elevating work platforms), working platforms</li> <li>• Work activities: e.g. loading, unloading, lifting, stacking, landfill gas drilling</li> </ul> <p>The law requires that work may be carried out in close proximity to live overhead lines only when there is no alternative and only when the risks are acceptable and can be properly controlled.</p>	
<b>Key messages</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric shock from OHPL contact is foreseeable and risk must be eliminated or controlled.</li> <li>• Identify lines and consult the network supplier for advice. Consider if lines can be removed or protected (e.g. buried)</li> <li>• Don’t tip, load or store materials close to, or under, OHPLs.</li> <li>• Don’t carry out any work under OHPLs unless very carefully controlled,</li> <li>• Make sure all visitors and contractors are aware of the location of OHPLs (Make sure lines are marked, protected and visible e.g. use barriers to stop people getting close)</li> </ul>	
<b>Guidance:</b>	
<a href="https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/g6.pdf">https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/g6.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.energynetworks.org/look-out-look-up">https://www.energynetworks.org/look-out-look-up</a> <a href="https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg378.pdf">https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg378.pdf</a>	