

TES25-266 v1.0



## Lessons learned - A PICOP error led to a possession overrun

### WHAT HAPPENED?

A possession overrun occurred when a PICOP was unable to establish that a worksite had been given up within the possession.

Several unsuccessful attempts were later made to re-establish contact with the ES and confirm the worksite status.

A contingency plan was initiated by Network Rail as the isolation could not be removed without confirmation that the worksite had been given up.

The contingency plan meant that the end of the possession was delayed by 1hr 46m.

### UNDERLYING CAUSES

The PICOP had omitted to record the time agreed with the ES for giving up the worksite and later failed to recall the specific content of the conversation with the ES.

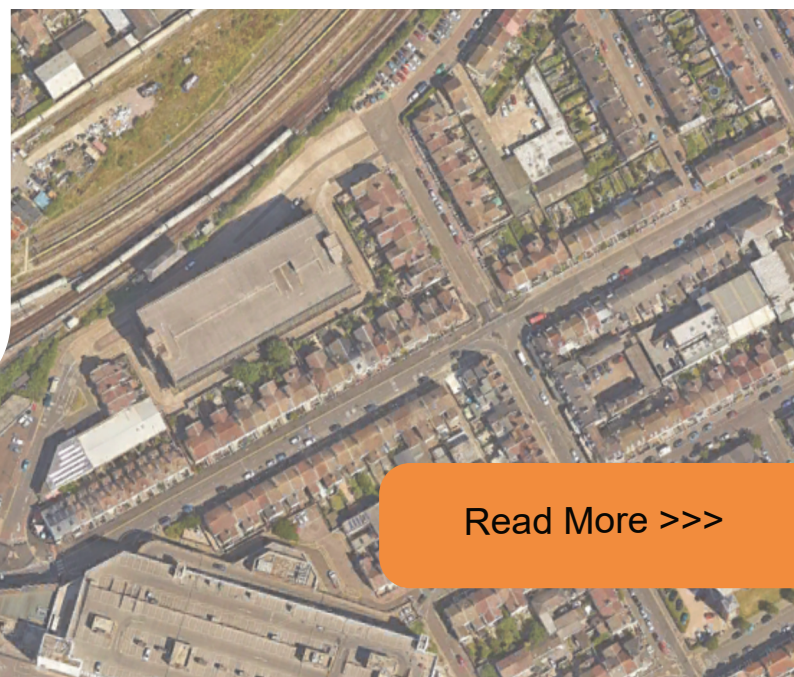
The ES had left site after giving up the worksite with the PICOP and was uncontactable for the rest of the rostered shift to enable the PICOP to verify the worksite status.

### LESSONS LEARNED

- Where required to do so, always record the times and details of conversations, as soon as possible.
- Never rely on just remembering something that has safety critical elements to it - document it.
- If you leave site when your work is complete, ensure that you are still contactable for the remainder of the rostered shift.

### CONSEQUENCES FOR THE PICOP

The PICOP was subject to an investigation that resulted in them receiving several briefings regarding the event itself and other findings.

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## TIME TO THINK – UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS

- Have you ever omitted to record times and details where required by your role, accidentally or intentionally, that later led to undesired consequences.
- If you are concerned that you do not know how to carry out a task properly or safely or that the plans or instructions that you have been given are incomplete, unworkable, too difficult, or unsafe in any way:
  - **STOP WORK.**
  - **GO TO A PLACE OF SAFETY.**
  - **TAKE 5 MINUTES TO THINK CLEARLY ABOUT THE SITUATION.**
  - **CALL THE TES2000 ON-CALL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUPPORT AND FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.**
  - **DO NOT RE-COMMENCE WORKING UNTIL:**
    - You have agreed a safe system of working with the TES2000 On-Call Representative,
    - The correct and valid plans / documentation are in place,
    - You have received an authorisation code from the TES2000 On-Call Representative if the plan has been changed.



SAFETY FIRST - EVERYONE HOME SAFE

Safety, Health, Environment, Quality (SHEQ)  
Email: [SHEQ@TES2000.co.uk](mailto:SHEQ@TES2000.co.uk)  
Out of hours SHEQ advice: 07935 500 054



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