

Grid Flooring

Document No: IW-HSQE-SA-31

Revision: 1.00

Approved By: James Cullen

1. What Happened?

Two separate incidents have occurred in relation to grating/grid flooring on Irish Water assets in the North West. The grating/grid flooring has given way while an operative was traversing across the flooring, resulting in an operative falling through an opening and receiving significant injuries as a result.

Note: There is an ongoing investigation taking place for both incidents including the establishment of the root causes and further details and lessons learned will follow.



Photo 1: Checker plates & Grid Flooring

2. Further Actions

- Ensure where possible pre site inspections are carried out on all grating/grid flooring prior to commencing works to ensure they are secure and stable. Where defects are identified, notify the LA to ensure works area is made safe and secure.

SAFETY ALERT

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- Continue to regularly check the grating/grid flooring in your immediate work area as you progress with your work activity and report any deficiencies immediately.
- If grating/grid flooring needs to be removed as part of the works, ensure this is completed under a safe system of work (i.e. permit to work). All flooring must be reinstated in a secure and stable position once works are complete and handed back to the relevant LA.
- Ensure a suitable Method Statement and Risk Assessments are developed and adhered to. This should also include a detailed Emergency Response Procedure.
- Comply with Site Rules and requirements prepared and communicated by those in control of the works area.
- When visiting or carrying out works on site, be mindful of your own safety and that of those around you. Be aware of ongoing activities around you – if something seems unsafe or causes you concern – STOP and evaluate before proceeding.
- Record and report all accidents, incidents, near misses, hazardous acts or situations immediately.
- Report any asset defects to your IW host so that they can be addressed.

3. Further Information

For further information on this safety alert please contact hsqe@water.ie

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4. Distribution list

Internal		
Asset Operations <input type="checkbox"/>	Asset Delivery <input type="checkbox"/>	Asset Management <input type="checkbox"/>
All IW Staff <input type="checkbox"/>		
Other Please Specify _____		

External		
Local Authority <input type="checkbox"/>	DBO <input type="checkbox"/>	Capital Contracts <input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Framework Contractors Please Specify _____		
Other Please Specify _____		