Network Rail Safety Bulletin

LEVEL CROSSING SURFACE GAPS

For the attention of level crossing surface inspectors, installers, maintainers and those performing level crossing renewals:

Background:

Earlier this year, a cyclist’s front wheel fell into a gap in a level crossing surface at an automatic half barrier level crossing in East Midlands Route. The incident occurred while two Level Crossing Managers were on site. They stopped the road traffic, gave first aid and called an ambulance.

Installers, maintainers and inspectors please be aware of the potential hazards that can arise as a result of level crossing panels not fitting together as designed so it doesn’t happen on your route. If you see anything wrong at a level crossing please fault it.

Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:

Existing process and procedures are in place and should prevent level crossing panels having gaps between them preventing instances of this type.

Please can all staff involved in level crossing surfaces fault any gaps and if appropriate not leave them unattended. You are our eyes and ears and key to preventing these events.

Below are images of the level crossing surface with a red arrow showing the location of the gap, and also a close up of the gap.