



Description of Event

A designer has provided Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) hardware on poles without working space for MEWP access.

Population at Risk

Maintenance Workers, Contractors and Inspectors

Hazardous Activity and Residual Risk Description

- Maintenance and inspection of ANPR in close proximity to live carriageway with an assessed residual risk of a likelihood of serious to major harm.

Potential consequences of this event

- The use of ladders accounts for around 40% of falls from height in the UK with approximately 48,000 people attending hospital every year.
- The residual risk requires a 'less desirable' work at height control measure to be designed and implemented, such as inclined ladders.
- The ground may be soft and unstable requiring preparatory works prior to using the ladder.



Photo of ladder with operative using safety belt and hook.

Safety Hub [Alert Database](#)

- Sub-category 1 MEWP's with subcategory 2 fall from height has 5 alerts including 3 with fatal injury.
- Subcategory 2 fall from height for working with ladders has 7 alerts including 2 fatalities.

Potential Mitigation Measures

Design

- Design a hard standing or access area for use by a MEWP if possible.
- Provide information and instruction for workers on make and type of MEWP to be used in maintaining technology mounted on masts.



Construction

- Review designed access proposal for suitability of site conditions.

Maintenance / Operations

- Consider using tower scaffold if MEWP access is not available.
- Select ladder with anti-slip devices.
- Secure ladder at top prior to working.
- Worker to wear a ladder safety harness.
- Raise safety observations.
- Inspect ground conditions before using access equipment.
- Update O&M manual with details of access equipment to be used.



Photo of ladder with anti-slip device.

Further Guidance and Reading

- [LA455 Safe Use of Ladders and Stepladders](#)
- [DMRB GD 304 – Designing health and safety into maintenance](#)
- [BS 8560:2012 Code of practice for the design of buildings incorporating safe work at height](#)
- [RtB 16 – Working at Height](#)



Please send ideas for Whole Life Design safety shares to wellbeing@nationalhighways.co.uk

LEAN

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