



SUBJECT: **Service Strike**

RECIPIENTS: **All Place Staff**

ISSUE DATE: **Dec 2019** **REF:** **HSB158**



It was reported an incident had happened involving a combined gas and electric strike. This resulted in the ignition of the gas. The emergency services were called to support in the incident. The Gas provider made the area safe, no injuries were reported and the road was closed as a precaution whilst the repair was made. The cables were lowered, trench backfilled and area made safe with full reinstatement undertaken the following morning.

The strike was on both Electric - 35mm & Gas – 25mm service connections to a property. The services had been laid in a combined utilities trench. There were no safety indicative markers such as tiles or tape present in the trench, nor was there any distinct separation or sand split between the two utilities. The utilities were buried significantly shallower than specified with by NJUG (industry guidelines).

The fire was extinguished by engineers by hand digging to ex-pose the damaged plant and electricity cables. The electric supply was restored. A temporary reinstatement was made of the excavation and the PC returned in the morning to permanently reinstate the works.

Things to remember

Ensure safe systems of work such as risk assessments and method statements are in place and understood.
Ensure that Safe Dig Techniques are followed as per HSG47.

If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:

Corporate Health & Safety Advisers (see George section: Corporate > Information for Working > Risk Management > H&S Advisers)