

ID 1389

SH16 Makarau Firearm/dangerous driving/threatening incident

General Incident Information

Business Group

Maintenance & Operations
Transport Services

Location

Northland Network Outcomes Contract
Project Site: NOC

Event Type

Incident

Specific Location of Incident

Makarau storm damage on SH16

Event Date/Time

27 Feb 23 / 03:14 PM

Hazard Category

Harmful Interactions

Event Owner

section 9(2)(g)(ii)

Potential Consequence

5. Extreme

Reported By

section 9(2)(g)(ii)

28 Feb 23

Witnesses/Other

Wharehine and Chevron workers located at the worksite

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Details of the Event

Description

on a tree clearing site at Makarau on SH16 one of the Wharehine tree crews just had an irate member of the public wave a gun (pistol I believe) out the window at them and yell words to the effect of Im gonnu f**k yous all up!

The crew have apparently got some of the footage on video. Have rung 111 immediately and provided details to the police.

We have 3 other crews working on SH16 at various locations Omeru, Makarau & Tauhoa. Ive rung them all and told to suspend works and get themselves off the road asap.

The crew at Omeru also mentioned an irate road user abusing them while they topped up the slump there, approximately 1 hour ago, he yelled obscenities about the quality of workmanship, amount of money spent there, useless traffic management & it being an accident site. Had to be ushered angrily from the site as was holding up traffic in the lane as he abused our operator and workers.

The police report outlined a number of interactions involving dangerous driving from the same individual during the road closure amd the Saturday prior to the firearms incident.

Will provide further information as we receive it. section 9(2) is following up with contacts in the police for updates.

We shall not be sending crews to SH16 tomorrow or future days until we hear this individual has been apprehended.

Immediate Actions Taken

police called and statements made, video and photos supplied to police. All work on sh16 has been suspended due to the risk the person poses until police provide assurance the person has been arrested or poses no threat. Harmful interaction information supplied to our internal team and contact made with parties involved

Actual Consequences and Severity of the Event

Actual Event Consequence

No Consequence

Description of Consequences

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Investigation Details

Investigation Leader

section 9(2)(g)(ii)

Date Completed / Closed

29 Jun 23 / 05 Jul 23

Investigation Findings

The contractor has reviewed the emergency response plans with principal fir harmful interactions. The area of SH16 has been problematic with alot of abuse and poor and deliberaty driving behaviours increasing the risk of harm to workers. With the support of the M&O and critial risk teams a plan to limit non essential work on the section of sh16 has been made to help deescalate the general tension.

in regards to the specific risk posed by the individual involved in this incident workers were not redeployed to the site for physical works until conformation from police the individual had been apprehended. Close contact has been met with police in relation to the persons status and potential risk.

Workers involved have been debriefed and welfare checks completed. Their actions in de-escalating the person as well as making concise statements with photos and additional information required by the police to better

Causation Analysis

storm events there have been multiple lane closure operations in place over a 3-4 week period during the clean-up. This network is also very flood prone and the flooding usually last 2-3 days after an event at West Coast Road, Kumeu & Helensville. With this volume of traffic control in place on top of previous subsidence repairs failing (through global slip failure), the atmosphere from the road user on this stretch of highway has been significantly challenging & of a highly negative nature of late.

As advised when I spoke to you both, we shall continue with maintenance operations and incident response down SH16 but will be giving some of the longer term clean up involving lane closure (& thus traffic flow impediment) a break for the rest of this week and next week. The road is open to two lanes throughout, subsidences have been topped up and known slumps/remaining slip clean up behind shoulders have all been signed up accordingly and these TTM sites are being monitored.

Hopefully a small break from traffic flow impact shall allow tensions (among some) on this stretch of highway to simmer down.

Summary of Recommendations

Ensure that there is a emergency management plan in place that is effective at all times.
This incident highlighted the importance of ensuring there is no lone working where possible in remote areas.

The capture of potential general escalations in harmful interactions in areas where there may be higher level interactions such as comms support, agency appeals for police support and the review and amendment of the works programme to help de escalate area tensions may help ensure higher levels of harmful interaction risk management and support the ground level controls implemented in the field.

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Review

Review Date	Reviewer	Review Comments
5 Jul 23	section 9(2)(g)(ii)	Investigation Review: Identified contributing factors (albeit suspect known to police); methods of road closure and frustrations, type of closures used. Review of immediate actions: Appropriate to prevent recurrence for the remaining works. Lessons Learned: Harmful Interactions sub group formed. Focus on site breaches and emergency procedures. Improved notification and reporting of these types of events.

Causation Analysis

Category	Factor	Type	Description
Individual/Team Actions	Wilful action or inaction		Wilful harmful actions by members of the public towards workers.
Task/Environmental Conditions	Workplace Conditions (e.g. Lighting, Noise)		Harmful interactions posing a risk to the work environment

Corrective Actions

Title of Action to be Taken	Date Due	Person Responsible	Date Closed
Harmful interactions advisor notified and contact made with contractors	28 Feb 23	section 9(2)(g)(ii)	28 Feb 23

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Attached Documents

Document	Note
FW URGENT - Works suspended on SH16 - Gun waved out window at crews	incident report
statement	statement
photos	photos
URGENT - Works suspended on SH16 - Gun waved out window at crews	email
FW URGENT - Works suspended on SH16 - Gun waved out window at crews	email
Info for NERT intelRe SH16	follow up information received from section 9(2)(g)(ii)
	Police advised person arrested.. no further updates available until court process etc has been completed. contractor has requested police update status of person if in custody or released
	Changed from full to simple investigation. Investigation will be completed by the relevant contractor.
RE SH16 Firearm and Harmful Interactions 2.3.23	email 2/3/23 section 9(2)(g)(ii) update and steps to limit exposure to the risk of potential harmful interaction exposure on sh16

Questionnaire

Report Reviewed By: _____

Signature: _____

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