

During the last week Scottish Water have been made aware, by the HSE and local Roads Inspectors, of concerns regarding the management of protective boards and barriers especially on public walkways during bad/winter weather.

With our current changeable winter weather it was felt prudent to remind our internal Site Teams and our external Delivery Partners of the need to ensure protection in line with best practice and the **'Safety at Streetworks & Roadworks' Code of Practice**

The placement of trench/excavation covers should be in line with the code and suitable and sufficient to ensure safety in its everyday use until final backfill and re-instatement is complete. Where possible it should be lockable and sufficiently robust to withstand the use by the public but also the weather. This also applies to the signs and barriers we use to warn and or manage pedestrian/traffic flows.



Please ensure that where practical all excavations possible are re-instated, road plates secure, pedestrian barriers securely fixed together and protected from movement due to wind loading, pedestrian trench safety covers in place and secure from movement and finally ensure that there is a monitoring regime in place to assess their adequacy throughout the Christmas shutdown.

Finally ensure that SWs Operational Log accurately reflects locations with protection in place to enable a swift response by our Customer Service teams and our Emergency Call Out teams during what is also 'their' **festive** break

There's no better way than the safe way!"