

Lessons learned

Hot works resulting in COSHH cabinet fire

Date of incident	28 August 2025	Incident type	Fire
Incident ref number	INC24258	Contractor	EKFB
Location	Wendover Green Tunnel	Keyword search	COSHH



Summary of incident

Whilst steel-fixers were carrying out hot works within the steel yard at Wendover Green Tunnel, sparks produced from the hot-works ignited a COSHH cabinet located approximately 3m away from where the hot works were being carried out.

The sparks caused flammable materials within the COSHH cabinet to ignite, producing a fire.



Photographs



Findings

- The hot work activity was not in line with the permit which stated it had to be greater than 10m away.
- Area was not properly checked prior to hot works being conducted by the permit issuer.



Find this alert in the Biosite app using ref **180**



Lessons learned

- The permit condition is to be updated based on the risk profile and fire watch timings to ensure suitable for the risk.
- Fire Watch timing/cool down periods to be updated to reflect Joint Code of Practice for Fire Prevention on Construction Sites (JCoP) section 16.15 (d) – requirement for TIC's to be reviewed.
- Monitor and maintain COSHH stores to ensure no build-up of spilled substances.