Road Operative Struck by Object

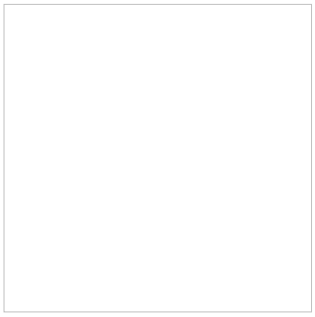
WHAT HAPPENED

Whilst fine milling a bridge deck, an operative was struck on the right hand side of his face by a large rock. Although not confirmed, it is believed that the rock came from a passing vehicle.

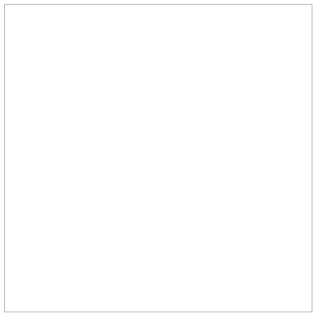
Although there was no bleeding, swelling rapidly appeared. The injured party stated that he thought that his nose was broken and bruising was appearing across his cheek bone and there was evidence of markings from an impact on his safety glasses.

First aid was given in the form of an ice pack. The swelling accelerated and a decision was made to take him to hospital for treatment, where the doctor clearly stated that had it not been for the safety glasses, the injury could have been a lot more severe. The glasses splintered slightly, but the particles were washed from his eyes in the A&E Dept.

It was confirmed that he had suffered a broken nose and further assessments are being carried out to see if he has also suffered a broken cheekbone.



Large Rock



Passing Traffic at Site

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

A full investigation is currently being carried out by the Supply Chain Partner into this lost time incident.

It is clear from the initial investigation that this relatively rare incident could have resulted in much more severe injuries if the injured party had not be wearing eye protection.

Immediate action is to review site specific risk assessments ensuring that the wearing of eye protection is taken into account when working in these types of environment.

A group level review will be carried out to determine if the mandatory wearing of eye protection, when working on high-speed roads or areas where there is a risk of debris from passing vehicles, is required.