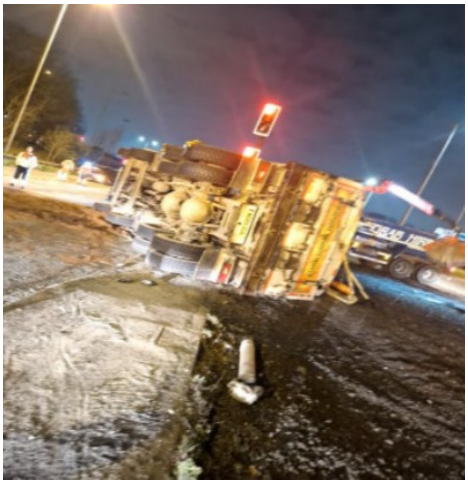
TRANSPORT – FATAL 6 – Tipper rollover on M4

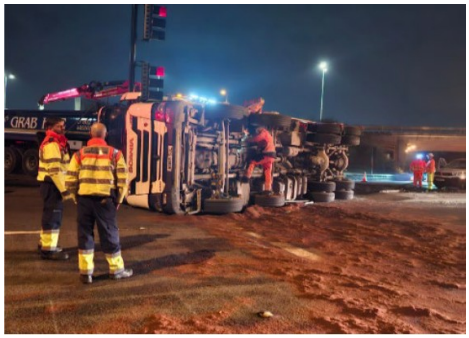
WHAT HAPPENED

A loaded tipper lorry traveling in the early hours of the morning on the M4, overturned onto its side at Junction 4. The driver sustained minor injuries and there was a diesel spill to the highway. No other persons were involved or injured.

The following root causes were identified;

- The vehicle stability when carrying approximately three-quarters load of planings were not fully considered, increasing rollover risk during braking and steering.
- Speed was not reduced sufficiently early on approach to the bend.
- End-of-shift/night-time driving contributed to fatigue, reducing alertness, cognitive processing, and forward planning.
- Fatigue and perceived time pressure impacted decision-making.





LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Local

Driver removed from the company's operations and a lifetime ban applied.

National

• Ensure drivers adjust their driving style and speed to suit the road and environmental conditions.

• Increased awareness of night-time driving risks.

• Reinforcement of the need for early speed reduction and forward planning when approaching motorway slip roads.

• Improved understanding of vehicle stability risks.

• Ensure sufficient breaks and rest periods are adhered to.

LOCATION:	**ON-HIGHWAY**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS / DELIVERY**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**11/06/2026 23:44:41**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**ROLLOVERS**	**INCIDENT No:**	**04978**