

Safety Alert



make it **safe**
make it **home**

For Anglian Water employees & contractors

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Working from your vehicle

Impact of weather conditions

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What Happened?

An AW employee was removing items from the back of their Vivaro van. One of the back doors was open by 90 degrees, a gust of wind caught the door and it blew shut on the employee's left hand trapping their finger in the lock mechanism, resulting in a fracture to their left index finger.

What can we do to prevent a reoccurrence?

- Where possible store items so that you can work from the side of the vehicle
- Carry out an "on the hoof" risk assessment prior to working from the back of your vehicle taking into account the weather conditions - particularly high winds, ice and snow
- The hinged mechanisms on the vehicles are not designed to hold the doors open and therefore should not be relied upon to do so
- Where possible open the doors so they fold back to the main side panels (this cannot be done on the Vivaro vans)

Remember – nothing is so important that we cannot take the time to do it safely

Safety Alerts should not be thought of as accident investigation reports. However, they are issued to raise awareness of accidents that occur and to highlight the safe working practices required to avoid them being repeated.