Technical Inspection of Scottish Water Distribution System

Turret West DMA

29/11/2018

DWQR Staff Present   Colette Roberton-Kellie

Scottish Water Staff Present   Amy Gove, Derek Scott, Graham Taylor, Johnston Blake

Summary of Inspection

Overall Summary

Scottish Water was carrying out a planned repair to a leaking 12" valve which was directly adjacent to a live gas main and next to a busy main road. The gas main had been clearly marked out by the appropriate authorities and it was clear that H&S issues had been well considered. It is beyond the remit of this inspection to make recommendations on road safety, but it was noted that staff were having to cross a very busy main road and climb over a barrier to access the burst main without traffic control in place; this had apparently been requested from the local authority but permission had not been granted. The inspection was carried out while the ground was being dug to expose the main; diesel generated pumps were being used to remove water leaking from the main into excavated area.

An Impact Assessment Form was available for inspection and was completed satisfactorily, and all staff had up to date DOMS cards.

Two vans were inspected and were found to be neat and well organised, fittings were bagged and well arranged, there were stores of in date chlorous tablets. Staff demonstrated a good understanding of how to make a suitable chlorous solution - there was a Modern Apprentice at the site, and other staff had written instructions for him as a reminder of how to make up the correct concentration of chlorous solution, which were reported to be made up freshly when needed. Handwashing facilities were in good working order. It was noted that the exhaust of one of the vans was directly underneath the sink, giving a strong smell of engine fumes in the area, and it is suggested that Scottish Water should evaluate the safety of this arrangement as staff reported that the engine of the van had to be on to generate hot water, particularly if it discourages its staff from using the facilities.

On arrival at the site, the diesel generated pump did not have a spill tray, but as this was being discussed, a new spill tray was brought to the area and placed under the pump. Other spill trays were available in vans.