

September 28th 2017



H&S ALERT

No. 142 | Fire Hydrant – Defective Mouthpiece Attachment



Findings

Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) throughout Wales and Hereford have been issued with a National FRS bulletin relating to safety issues identified with certain fire hydrant types within the UK. Where such hydrants are discovered, FRS staff have been instructed that this type of hydrant is not to be used even in the case of an emergency.

The hydrants in question are the series 19 hydrant type supplied by Aqua gas and installed circa 1996-2006 . The mouthpiece where the standpipe is attached, is held onto the main body by a pin and is not bolted down. There have been 3 injuries reported nationally to the Fire Service (one requiring a fire officer to undergo reconstructive surgery to his face). Incidents have occurred during fire fighting operations, where the apparatus has detached from the main – Due to the risk posed these hydrants are no longer allowed to be used and must be changed by DCWW

Actions

- **DCWW along with the Fire Service are currently undertaking a hydrant replacement project to remove all such hydrants.**
- **Where such hydrants are identified, they must be reported and replacement programmed asap as per the Fire Service request.**
- **STOP TAKE 5 and inspect all hydrants before operation.**
- **If in Doubt contact Lauren Mitchell the DCWW Fire Service Liaison Manager .**



ISSUED TO ALL: Employees | Partners |

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If you are a manager, please ensure that your team members are aware of the content of this alert or where indicated issue to partners . Additional information or guidance required on the content is available from the Health & Safety team.