

# ESA Launch Introduction

This month's ESA Situational Awareness theme is transporting waste manually. Waste collection activities within the sector see too many health and safety (H&S) incidents occurring due to a poor perception of environmental surroundings. This can lead to poor decision-making, such as taking a route that could lead to injury, perhaps crossing a grass verge that could be uneven and slippery. The transporting waste manually video is all about empowering our collection teams to consider the safest route when collecting bags and containers, in line with their route and customer risk assessments.

Situational awareness is continuously assessing your surroundings, identifying any potential hazards which will inform your decision making on how to carry out your work safely. This is a process often referred to as dynamic risk assessment and it's something we do unconsciously in our everyday lives when crossing roads, walking down the street, or travelling to work. We are constantly observing our surroundings to check for hazards.



A heightened level of awareness is required when transporting waste manually. Due to the nature of our work (being outdoors and with the public), we are faced with a variety of risks such as broken pavestones, potholes, and uneven surfaces that are outside of our control.

Therefore, we must make a conscious effort to carefully assess the situation we're in and decide on the safest route to take, avoiding any hazards and reducing the risk of an incident. If you are ever in a situation where there isn't a safe route, you should feedback through the near miss and hazard situation cards. This will help to identify a collaborative solution so the collection can take place safely.

Available through the QR code is a short video clip that covers the risks associated with transporting waste manually. Alongside this we have produced a poster to display at sites to promote this month's theme within your organisation and a huddle card (see attached). The huddle card is a resource designed to accompany the video, giving safety leaders pointers for discussion, and encouraging your teams to share their thoughts, experiences, and opinions.

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# HUDDLE CARD

## Transporting waste

### Huddle discussion

Wherever we work and whatever our role, we all share a common goal, keeping ourselves and others safe.

Introduce and show the video. After showing the video use this huddle card to generate a conversation about the theme, confirm understanding and seek collective feedback.



### No job is so important we cannot take time and do it safely

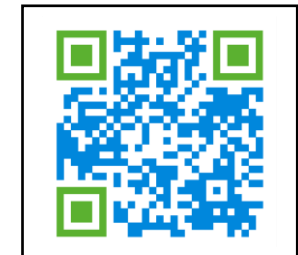
- ▶ Have any of you ever experienced an injury at work due to the issues discussed in the video? If so, how did you feel and what could have avoided it?
- ▶ What are the types of hazards you see out on your collection round that could cause a slip/trip or fall?
- ▶ How would you describe situational awareness?
- ▶ Why do we need a heightened awareness when performing our collection activities?
- ▶ How can we think differently about the routes we take to transport bags and containers?
- ▶ What may be some of the risks with the bag or container itself before transporting?

### We look out for and trust each other

- ▶ Have you ever seen someone do something dangerous at work but not challenged this? If so, why do you think that is and how can we change?
- ▶ Why don't people always work safely?

### We share and seek ideas for improvement

- ▶ Have you ever reported a near miss or hazardous situation? If not; do you know how to?
- ▶ Why are these important to us?



Scan the QR code to access the digital campaign content

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