

# Waste management company prosecuted after worker crushed by excavator

- Worker suffered life-changing injuries after being run over by a reversing 15-tonne excavator.
- HSE found the company failed to protect pedestrians from moving vehicles in the yard.

A waste management company in Hampshire has been prosecuted by Britain's workplace regulator after a man had both legs amputated when he was crushed by a 15-tonne excavator.

The 24-year-old man was working for R W Waste Limited at its yard in Shedfield on 7 November 2023. The excavator, operating in the same yard, reversed over him as he was sorting waste. Both of Mr Parrott's lower legs were later amputated and he has been unable to return to work since.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that R W Waste Limited failed to protect workers and other visitors to the site. The company had not put in place suitable arrangements to keep pedestrians safe while vehicles were moving around the yard.



CCTV screenshot of waste yard prior to incident

Health and safety legislation requires workplaces to be organised so that pedestrians and vehicles can circulate safely. Where large vehicles must reverse, employers must consider additional precautions and implement them where appropriate to protect those working nearby. HSE guidance on [reversing](#) states that most of these accidents can be avoided by taking simple precautions.

Guidance can be found in the [Workplace \(Health, Safety and Welfare\) Regulations 1992 Approved Code of Practice and guidance.](#)

R W Waste Limited, of Botley Road, Shedfield, pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) and Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

At Southampton Magistrates' Court on 16 April 2026 the court heard that the appropriate fine, after trial, would have been £180,000, which was reduced to £120,000 to reflect the company's guilty plea. However, as the company had gone into liquidation and was unable to pay, it was ordered to pay a nominal

fine of £1. No order for costs was made for the same reason.

**HSE Inspector Nicola Pinckney said:**

“The failures of this company has left a young man with truly life-changing injuries.

“He has not been able to work since.

“Unfortunately, this type of accident is sadly not uncommon in this industry.

“After the incident, and following enforcement action taken by HSE, the company did introduce a number of readily available measures that significantly reduce the risk of this happening again.

“We take these failures seriously and will hold those to account who fail to keep their workers and other people safe.”

This HSE prosecution was brought by HSE enforcement lawyer Julian White and supported by HSE paralegal officer Gabrielle O’Sullivan.

**Further information:**

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain’s national regulator for workplace health and safety. We are dedicated to protecting people and places, and helping everyone lead safer and healthier lives.
2. More information about the legislation referred to in this case is available.
3. Further details on the latest HSE news releases are available.
4. Guidance on managing workplace transport can be found in the [Workplace \(Health, Safety and Welfare\) Regulations 1992 Approved Code of Practice and guidance.](#)
5. HSE does not pass sentences, set guidelines or collect any fines imposed. Sentencing guidelines for health and safety offences can be found online.