

POKÉMON GO – INCREASED TRESPASS RISK

Pokémon Go, which has taken the world by storm, is a mobile games app that was launched in the UK last month. It involves players finding and catching “pocket monsters” in thousands of real world locations.

Players capture, battle and train virtual creatures called Pokémon, which appear on device screens as though in the real world.

Part of the game includes the creation of areas called ‘PokeStops’ or ‘Gyms’ (community areas for restocking, fighting, etc.) which will attract other users.

Concerns have been raised and warnings issued across the construction industry about people trespassing on sites while they attempt to “catch” all the Pokémon.

Building sites and some Mineral Products Association members have reported increased trespass activity, with Pokémon players either intentionally or inadvertently wandering on to sites.

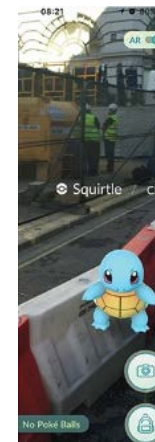
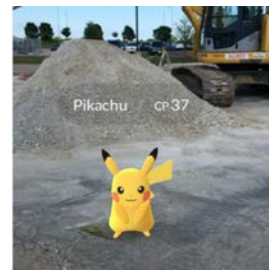
Some of our sites tend to suffer from increased trespass at this time of year with the summer holidays. This is yet another reason to remain vigilant for trespassers and ensure appropriate precautions are in place.

Note:

It is possible to ask for official removal of ‘PokeStops’ and Gyms by contacting https://support.pokemongo.nianticlabs.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=341148 on a location by location incident; however someone needs to have found them, using the real game on their mobile beforehand, saved the information then submitted it to the website.

Key Review Points

- Be particularly vigilant for trespassers, bear in mind that they may be focussed on the game rather than the hazards around them
- Confirm mobile plant and vehicle safety features, such as mirrors and CCTV camera systems, are in good order, clean and correctly adjusted
- Ensure boundary protection, barriers and signage on site perimeters and around “Danger Areas”, such as excavations and water hazards, are suitable
- Prevent access to heights out of hours by locking off ladders, etc.
- All safety equipment should be included in robust inspection and defect reporting systems
- Report any evidence of Pokémon Go related trespass through the line management so that we can track any increase in activity
- Remind family and friends who may play Pokémon Go about the dangers of trespassing



Look after yourself and each other

Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

Driving

Drive safely, ensure you are authorised and that vehicles/mobile plant are well maintained.

Incident/Hazard alerts

Report all incidents/hazards immediately.