

# NATIONAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

Form: F3.27A

Issue: 01

Date: 03/12/2019

Issue: 1 NR/OPS/ 82 Date: 25/02/2020

## Line Blockage irregularity—Briton Ferry



### Summary of Incident:

On 25/11/2019, a line blockage irregularity occurred at Briton Ferry.

The Signaller working Swansea workstation granted a line blockage of the Up Main from Landore Viaduct to Baglan station with a train (1L38) still within the signalling section. Upon realising their error, the signaller immediately contacted the COSS to ensure the group moved clear of the line to a position of safety and then requested that the line blockage be cancelled.

At the time of the incident, the signaller was dealing with two COSS's and had already part completed two separate NR3180 forms in readiness to grant the line blockages when sufficient margins became available. The signaller subsequently granted the incorrect line blockage.

### Learning Points:

- Before granting a line blockage:
  - Confirm the details on the NR3180 form you are discussing are correct.
  - Always use Safety Critical Communication protocols.
  - Repeat back and challenge any discrepancies or misunderstandings.
  - At the end of the call, summarise the request ensuring a clear understanding is reached before issuing an authority number.
- Always take 5 for safety!**

