



# Window Defect – Safety Near Miss

## Outline of the problem

A tilt window has accidentally been installed as an opening door at high level within the building. There was no form of edge protection or restrictor to limit the opening of the door. There was a risk of falling from height.

## Root Cause

The “anti turn clip” or “screw” had not been fitted to the opening mechanism to restrict the movement of the handle – this clip should have been fitted to restrict the mechanism and handle movement to Tilt only. With this missing the mechanism was able to function as a door opening.

## Underlying Causes

- Both window and door units are manufactured with the same type of opening mechanism. Its function is determined by the fitting of the anti turn clip. QA checks at manufacture and installation failed to identify the issue.
- Window remained installed without handles in the locked and closed state until permanent handles were fitted at a later date and the issue was highlighted and rectified.

## Action to Prevent Recurrence

- Agree the necessary Inspection Test Plan with subcontractor for checking defects at delivery or install stages.
- Monitor QA checks at the correct stages and ensure any defects are clearly communicated, recorded, and rectified.
- Liaise with window manufacturers about their manufacture processes, and understand any design implications which may cause safety issues on site.



Safe by choice



Safe by design



Safe lives



Safe places



Safe relationships

REFERENCE

SHE-ALT-2023\_14

ISSUED

July 2023

DISPLAY UNTIL

October2023