

Suicide Awareness Alert

This alert has been issued because of specific intelligence relating to suicide activity on the rail network which it is believed may prompt individuals to take their own lives.

Date Issued: 11 November 2016	Date(s) applicable: 03 December 2016
Issued by: Ariane Ally	


Applicable to: <i>(state route(s)/TOCs/other)</i>	South East – Sussex/Southern
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<p>Nature of alert:</p> <p><u>On 3 December 2014 a 19 year old man took his life at Balcombe station.</u></p> <p>The incident took place at around 10:00.</p> <p>The event saw a high level of press and social media attention due to the popularity of the man and the fact that his father had taken his own life (not on the railway) just a few weeks before.</p> <p>Although the event took place two years ago it is the combination of the factors above that prompt this Alert to be issued. There is particular concern that the station or surrounding area may be visited by those vulnerable to suicide or individuals/groups who wish to commemorate the young man's death in some way.</p>	<p>Recommended action:</p> <p>Network Rail and TOC staff in and around the area should be briefed to be especially vigilant for anyone showing signs of distress or upset particularly around the mid-morning period.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to liaising with the BTP to increase policing in the area.</p> <p>The anniversary of this tragic event could also be marked at the station by members of the public leaving 'remembrance' or 'memorial' tokens. These should be removed at the earliest opportunity in line with the industry's guidance on 'Fatality memorials/tributes on the network'.</p>
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National Suicide prevention team		
Name	Role	Phone
Ian Stevens	Programme Manager	07799 337211
Rachel Watters	Project Lead	07739 778221
Caroline Kingston	Project Lead	07734 646629
Ariane Ally	PMA	07730 355125
Victoria Clent	PMA	07730 359657

Should you wish to comment on the content of this alert please contact Ariane Ally.

BTP Suicide Prevention Hotline - If rail staff have an immediate concern that a person might harm themselves on the railway they can call the BTP on **0300 123 9101**



Individuals requiring emotional support can call Samaritans any time, free from any phone on **116 123**

The rail industry's award winning suicide prevention Learning Tool can be found at: www.npsglearningtool.co.uk. Watching the 30 minute briefing module might just save someone's life.

The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk