

## 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.

<b>Date Issued:</b> 06 April 2017	<b>Date(s) applicable:</b> 27 April 2017
<b>Issued by:</b> Victoria Clent	

<b>Applicable route/operator:</b>	Western/Cross Country
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<b>Local suicide prevention representatives:</b>	Kimberley Carter (Network Rail) - 07920 276853 Karl Davis - (Cross Country) - 07900 748290
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<p><b>Nature of alert:</b></p> <p><b><u>On 27 April 2016, a 17 year old male took his life at Abbotswood Junction at 09:00 after telling his parents he was going to school.</u></b></p> <p>He had been subjected to bullying and his tragic death sparked media debate around this issue. His mother now raises funds for anti-bullying charities and has appeared on television.</p> <p>Because of the age of the boy and the ongoing media coverage of the anti-bullying campaign, this anniversary date has the potential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• attract vulnerable people to the same location to take their own lives</li><li>• attract mourners to the site to hold vigils which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railway</li><li>• trigger memories for rail staff involved in the incident</li></ul>	<p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Consideration should be given to Network Rail, staff of operators or BTP officers visiting the location of the incident around the time it took place to be on the look-out for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• persons showing signs of distress or upset who may be at risk of suicide, or mourners gathering in an acts of remembrance</li><li>• any tokens of remembrance, which in line with industry guidance should be removed</li></ul> <p>In addition it may be advisable to alert all FOCs and TOCs that have services passing through Abbotswood of the potential for mourners.</p> <p>Managers of staff who may have been involved in the incident or could be affected by its anniversary should look for signs of trauma amongst them and offer support as per their organisation's welfare arrangements.</p>
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<p><b>Support and additional information</b></p> <p>Should you wish to comment on the content of this alert please contact Victoria Clent at <a href="mailto:victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk">victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk</a></p> <p> <b>Individuals requiring emotional support</b> can call Samaritans any time, free from any phone on <b>116 123</b></p> <p>The rail industry's award winning suicide prevention Learning Tool can be found at: <a href="http://www.npsglearningtool.co.uk">www.npsglearningtool.co.uk</a>. Watching the 30 minute briefing module might just save someone's life</p> <p>To find out more about the rail industry's suicide prevention programme contact: <a href="mailto:suicidepreventionprogramme@networkrail.co.uk">suicidepreventionprogramme@networkrail.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>BTP Suicide Prevention Hotline</b> - If rail staff have an immediate concern that a person might harm themselves or be at risk on the railway they can call the BTP on <b>0300 123 9101</b></p> <p></p> <p><i>The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: <a href="mailto:generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk">generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</a></i></p>
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