# 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: 13 April 2017 Date(s) applicable: 07 May 2017 **Issued by:** Victoria Clent

Scotland/Scotrail Applicable route/operator:

Local suicide prevention representatives:

Natalie McAtier (Network Rail) - 07718 004142 David Lister (Scotrail) - 07841 269 463

#### Nature of alert:

## On 07 May 2016, a 27 year old ex-footballer took his life on the railway at Cornton at 11:45am

This man had retired from the Falkirk football team only four months before he tragically took his own life. It is likely that there will be memorial activity on the first anniversary, hence this alert.

Anniversary dates of the death of a public figure have the potential to:

- attract vulnerable people to the same location to take their own lives
- attract mourners to the site to hold vigils which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railway
- trigger memories for rail staff involved in the incident

#### Recommended action:

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:

- persons showing signs of distress or upset who may be at risk of suicide, or mourners gathering in an acts of remembrance
- any tokens of remembrance, which in line with industry guidance should be removed

In addition it may be advisable to alert all FOCs and TOCs that have services passing through Cornton of the potential for mourners.

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.

### Support and additional information

Should you wish to comment on the content of this alert please contact Victoria Clent at victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk



### 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: <a href="https://www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk">www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk</a>. Watching

the 30 minute briefing module might just save someone's life

To find out more about the rail industry's suicide prevention programme contact:

suicidepreventionprogramme@networkrail.co.uk

# **BTP Suicide Prevention**

Hotline - If rail staff have



an immediate concern that a person might harm

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themselves or be at risk on the railway they can call the BTP on **0300 123 9101** 

The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at:

generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk