

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: 18 April 2017	Date(s) applicable: 09 May 2017
Issued by: Victoria Clent	

Applicable route/operator:	LNE-York/Cross Country
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Local suicide prevention representatives:	Alex Sullivan-Wilson (Network Rail) - 07920 401951 Des Lowe (Cross Country) - 0121 200 6170
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<p>Nature of alert:</p> <p><u>On 09 May 2016, a 15 year old boy stepped in front of a train at Birtley Junction at 07:00</u></p> <p>There was no apparent motive for this tragic suicide. The boy appeared happy and very popular at school so memorial activity is highly likely, hence this alert.</p> <p>Anniversary dates such as this – because of the boy's age and popularity, the unexpected nature of the event and the media interest – have the potential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	<p>Recommended action:</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">• 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 <p>In addition it may be advisable to alert all FOCs and TOCs that have services passing through Birtley 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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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: www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk. 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

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