## **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: 02 May 2017	Date(s) applicable: 23 May 2017
Issued by: Victoria Clent	

Applicable route/operator:	SE-Kent/Southeastern
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Local suicide prevention	on Tobi Shear-Smith (Network Rail) - 07730 361934 Brian Lynch (Network Rail) - 07515 619435	
representatives:		
	Colin Clifton (Southeastern) - 020 7620 5234	

## Nature of alert:

On 23 May 2016, a 16 year old girl jumped in front of a commuter train at Catford Bridge at approximately 08:00

Although the girl was taken for treatment and survived, she had severe injuries and many commuters were distressed by witnessing this young person's attempt to end her life.

A year on from this event, it is possible that people may be reminded of witnessing this suicide attempt and activity around the station is possible. In addition, there is also the possibility that the memories of this suicide attempt could:

• attract vulnerable people to the same location to attempt to take their own lives

• trigger memories for those rail staff involved in dealing with 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
- commuters who may have witnessed the original incident and be disquieted

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

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 <u>victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk</u>



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: <u>www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk</u>. 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: <u>suicidepreventionprogramme@networkrail.co.uk</u> 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: <u>generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</u>