



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: 15 June 2017	Date(s) applicable: 15 June 2017
Issued by: Victoria Clent	

Applicable route/operator:	All Network Rail routes and all operators
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<p>Nature of alert:</p> <p><u>Suicide/suspected suicide events</u> <u>Period 3, 2017/18</u></p> <p>On 14 June the number of suicides equalled the total recorded for the whole of Period 3 2016/17 - 13. With 9 days remaining in the period there is concern that the high number of suicides recorded over previous years in Period 3 may return this year. In 2015/16 for example 25 events were reported.</p> <p>Given the comparatively low number of suicides recorded in 2016/17 (253) and two consecutive years of falling suicide numbers on the network a significant increase in suicides this period will impact adversely on our staff, customers and ultimately the industry's year end suicide figures.</p> <p>Of the 13 events recorded so far in the period, by Network Rail route four have occurred on LNW, three on LNE&EM, and two in Scotland. Operators most involved in these events are Cross Country (three) Northern Rail (2), First Scotrail (2) and Virgin Trains (2).</p>	<p>Recommended action:</p> <p>Network Rail route and train operator teams may wish to consider reviewing their suicide prevention activities particularly at high risk locations to reduce the potential for further suicide events over the remaining days of the period.</p> <p>Analysis of events undertaken by BTP in Period 2 by Network Rail route may also help to identify where additional mitigation measures might be introduced to prevent further events in period 3. Their analysis is contained in the <i>SPMH monthly summary – May 2017</i>. A copy has been attached for reference to the email which accompanied the original version of this alert.</p> <p>It is important to remember the traumatic impact any suicide event can have on staff and customers alike. Managers of staff who may be involved in such incidents should look for signs of distress amongst them and offer support as per their organisation's welfare arrangements. Samaritans can offer support to customers who have been involved in or witnessed a suicide.</p>
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<p>Support and additional information</p> <p>Should you wish to comment on the content of this alert please contact Victoria Clent at victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk</p>	<p>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</p>
 <p>Individuals requiring emotional support can call Samaritans any time, free from any phone on 116 123</p>	
<p>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</p>	
<p>To find out more about the rail industry's suicide prevention programme contact: suicidepreventionprogramme@networkrail.co.uk</p>	<p>The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</p>