



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: 14 August 2017	Date(s) applicable: 14 August 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 style="text-align: center;"><u>Suicide/suspected suicide events</u> <u>Period 5, 2017/18</u></p> <p>On 13 August the number of suicides equalled and exceeded the total recorded for the whole of Period 5 2016/17 - 17. With 6 days remaining in the period there is concern that the high number of suicides recorded over previous years in Period 5 may return this year. In 2014/15 for example 30 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 circa 22 events recorded so far in the period, by Network Rail route the greatest number have occurred on LNW (seven) and LNE (five). Operators most involved in these events are Virgin Trains, South West Trains and East Midlands Trains.</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 next few weeks.</p> <p>Analysis of events undertaken by BTP in Periods 3 and 4 by Network Rail route may also help to identify where additional mitigation measures might be introduced to prevent further events in periods 5 and 6. Their analysis is contained in the <i>BTP Report to NSPWG Periods 3 and 4 – 02 August 2017</i>. A copy has been attached for reference to the original email accompanying 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></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>