

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: 16 October 2017	Date(s) applicable: 29 October 2017
Issued by: Victoria Clent	

Applicable route/operator:	LNW / Northern
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Local suicide prevention representatives:	Richard Godwin (Network Rail) - 07713 301240 David Wilkinson (Northern) - 07826 535752
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Nature of alert: <u>On 29 October 2016, a 16 year old boy took his life on the railway tracks in the Boars Head area near Wigan Station, shortly after 20:00</u> He was a popular student at a nearby college and his suicide was widely reported in the local media. His peers have held fundraising campaigns and set up Facebook pages in his memory. This alert is being issued as the first anniversary date of this tragic event could possibly lead to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">vulnerable people being attracted to the same location to take their own livesmourners arriving at the site to hold vigils, which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railwaymemories being triggered 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: <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 remembranceany 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 the Boars Head area of Wigan 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.
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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	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
 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	The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk