

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: 11 December 2017	Date(s) applicable: 01 January 2018
Issued by: Victoria Clent	

Applicable route/operator:	Sussex / GTR
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Local suicide prevention representatives:	Tobi Shear-Smith (Network Rail) - 07730 361934 Barry Millward (GTR) - 07814 419 868
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<p>Nature of alert:</p> <p><u>On 1 January 2016, a 17 year old male took his life at Black Rabbit foot crossing in Arundel shortly after 18:00</u></p> <p>The boy was struck at 18:05 after placing himself on the crossing as a train approached. This tragic event on the first day of a new year was widely reported locally.</p> <p>Anniversary dates such as this – because of the boy’s age – 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 Arundel 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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<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> 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>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></p> <p><i>The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at:</i> generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</p>
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