

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(s) applicable: April 2018	
Date Issued: 12 March 2018	
Issued by: Victoria Clent	
Applicable route/operator:	All Network Rail routes and all operators

<p>April Suicide Peak:</p> <p><u>Suicide Awareness Alert</u></p> <p>Since 2014/15, Period 1 of each new financial year has traditionally been the time of the highest number of suicides/suspected suicides on the network.</p> <p>Over the last four years 109 people have taken their lives during Period 1.</p> <p>In 2015/16, 34 suspected suicides were recorded during this period. In 2017/18, this figure fell to 25 but six of those occurred over a 30 hour period (23 and 24 April 2017).</p> <p>As well as the human cost and tragedy for all involved in these events the delays are considerable causing significant issues for the network, passengers and staff alike. Circa 46,000 minutes of delay were accrued as a result of the 25 events in 2017/18.</p>	<p>Recommended action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review mitigation measures at high risk locations to validate that they remain fit for purpose.• Brief staff 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 remembrance○ any tokens of remembrance, which in line with industry guidance should be removed• Promote Phase II of the industry's <i>Small Talk Saves Lives</i> campaign when it comes on-line – April 2018• Consider increasing the physical presence of personnel on the network e.g. BTP or MOM patrols
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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: suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com</p>	<p>The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</p>