

## 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.



<b>Date(s) applicable:</b> 08 March 2018	
<b>Date Issued:</b> 15 February 2018	
<b>Issued by:</b> Victoria Clent	
<b>Applicable route/operator:</b>	LNW / London North Western
<b>Local suicide prevention representatives:</b>	Gemma Lavery (Network Rail) - 07515 620641 Steve Fisher (London North Western) - 07583 687997

<b>Nature of alert:</b> <b><u>On 08 March 2016, a 19 year old male took his life at Winsford station, just before 18:00</u></b> This tragic event was witnessed by commuters, including his friends. Since this incident, two other young people in the local area have taken their lives and a fundraising concert has been held to raise money for MIND, the mental health charity. Anniversary dates such as this – because of the man’s age, the witnesses present and amount of local media attention – have the potential to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>attract vulnerable people to the same location to take their own lives</li><li>encourage mourners to the site to attend vigils which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railway</li><li>trigger memories for rail staff involved in the incident</li></ul>	<b>Recommended action:</b> 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"><li>persons showing signs of distress or upset who may be at risk of suicide, or mourners gathering in an acts of remembrance</li><li>any tokens of remembrance, which in line with industry guidance should be removed</li></ul> It might also be appropriate to promote the industry’s <i>Small Talk Saves Lives</i> campaign locally around this time to heighten community awareness of suicide prevention. 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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<b>Support and additional information</b> Should you wish to comment on the content of this alert please contact Victoria Clent at <a href="mailto:victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk">victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk</a>	<b>BTP Suicide Prevention Hotline</b> - 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 <b>0300 123 9101</b>
 <b>Individuals requiring emotional support</b> can call Samaritans any time, free from any phone on <b>116 123</b>	
The rail industry’s award winning suicide prevention Learning Tool can be found at: <a href="http://www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk">www.nspsglearningtool.co.uk</a> . 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: <a href="mailto:suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com">suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com</a>	The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: <a href="mailto:generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk">generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</a>