

## 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> 27 April 2018	
<b>Date Issued:</b> 06 April 2018	
<b>Issued by:</b> Victoria Clent	
<b>Applicable route/operator:</b>	Western / Cross Country
<b>Local suicide prevention representatives:</b>	Kimberley Carter (Network Rail) - 07920 276853 Karl Davis (Cross Country) - 07900 748290

<b>Nature of alert:</b> <b><u>On 27 April 2016, a 17 year old boy stepped in front of a train at Abbottswood on his way to school</u></b> He had been subjected to bullying from his peers and his mother was widely reported in the press, speaking about the devastating effects of bullying on young peoples' mental health. She also launched an anti-bullying charity campaign in his memory. Due to the media attention surrounding this event and the subsequent campaign it inspired, it is possible that this anniversary could: <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.nspglearningtool.co.uk">www.nspglearningtool.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>