

## 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> 30 January 2019
<b>Date Issued:</b> 09 January 2019
<b>Issued by:</b> Victoria Clent
<b>Applicable route/operator:</b> Wales / Arriva Wales
<b>Local suicide prevention representatives:</b> Emily Coughlin (Network Rail) - 07917 775747 Geraint Morgan (Transport for Wales) - 07801 644197

### Nature of alert:

**On 30 January 2017, around 05:30 a 14 year old boy took his own life at a level crossing near Harlescott, Shropshire.**

He was taken to hospital but later died of his injuries.

Fundraising initiatives have been launched in his memory and the incident is widely known about in the local community.

This type of tragic event - involving such a young person and being so notorious in the local area - could:

- attract vulnerable people to the same location to take their own lives
- encourage mourners to the site to attend vigils which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railway
- trigger memories 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:

- 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

It might also be appropriate to promote the industry's *Small Talk Saves Lives* 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.

### 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](mailto:victoria.clent@networkrail.co.uk)



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](http://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: [suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com](mailto:suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com)

### 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**

The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: [generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk)