

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: 01 May 2019	
Date Issued: 10 April 2019	
Issued by: Victoria Clent	
Applicable route/operator:	LNE / Govia Thameslink
Local suicide prevention representatives:	Alex Sullivan-Wilson (Network Rail) - 07920 401951 Barry Millward (Govia Thameslink) - 07814 419 868

<p>Nature of alert: <u>On 01 May 2018, a 16 year old boy took his own life at Elstree and Borehamwood station at 01:39</u></p> <p>A popular student and keen sportsman, the boy had represented Great Britain at the Maccabiah World Games and his death sparked significant memorial activity amongst the local community, his classmates and sporting colleagues.</p> <p>Due to the age of the boy and the levels of community grief, there is a concern that the anniversary date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• could attract vulnerable people to the same location to take their own lives• may encourage mourners to the site to attend vigils which may impact upon the safety and operation of the railway• could 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>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.</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: suicideprevention@raildeliverygroup.com</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>The compiler of this alert should forward it to the NRNOC Duty Manager at: generic-NCC@networkrail.co.uk</p>
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