


	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS RESPONSE IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>1. The Senior Coroner for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, Mr Christopher Wilkinson, of 1 Guildhall Square, Portsmouth PO1 2GJ in response to a ‘Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths’ following an inquest hearing into the death of Mr Seth Curtis Palminder THIND that concluded on 27 September 2022.</p>
1	<p>NATIONAL HIGHWAYS</p> <p>I am [REDACTED], Regional Director, South East, responding on behalf of [REDACTED], Chief Executive of National Highways Limited of Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, SURREY, GU1 4LZ.</p>
2	<p>CORONER’S MATTERS OF CONCERN</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN were identified are as follows:–</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the incident location [REDACTED] there is little if anything by way of safety measures [REDACTED]. There is for example no enclosure of the walkway to prevent this. 2. At the incident location there are no means of summoning help or calling for help should a person be in crisis and require assistance. There are no signs or signposting for mental health assistance of support (such as from Samaritans). 3. There are no known monitored CCTV cameras covering the bridge or approach area, rendering monitoring of a recognised danger spot actionless. 4. At the incident location, according to Hampshire Police Record Management Systems, there have been 12 crisis incidents in the last 5 years (of which the police are aware) – [REDACTED]. There have been a further 89 reported ‘concern for safety’ incidents at the location. 5. Wider reports of [REDACTED], most of which do not have sufficient safety measures in place (as above) or means of summoning help at a point of mental health crisis. 6. Deaths continue to occur [REDACTED] from these bridges and insufficient measures have so far been taken to address and prevent their occurrence.
3	<p>DETAILS OF ACTION TAKEN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety Measures <p>The location is fitted with a parapet that met the required standards set out in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) at the time of construction in 1971 and remains compliant with current standards (DMRB CD 377 Requirements for road restraint systems). This parapet measures 1.65m high, providing a protective barrier. Although historically some structures have been enclosed for a number of reasons, including for suicide prevention or to prevent items being thrown onto the carriageway below, this is not something that highway authorities do now as the enclosed space often sees a rise in antisocial behaviour and criminal activity.</p>

	<p>2. Signs</p> <p>In September 2022, we installed four Samaritans “Crisis” signs on the inner faces of the parapets over both carriageways of the A3() road below. This features the short 6-digit number anyone in crisis can call from any phone 24 hours a day to reach a trained Samaritans volunteer.</p> <p>3. Working with Partners</p> <p>We have raised the subject with the “Hampshire Safer Roads Partnership” and suicide prevention has been added to the agenda for the next quarterly meeting due to take place in December 2022. The Hampshire Safer Roads Partnership is comprised of Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire & Rescue, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, Isle of Wight Council, and National Highways. The aim is to forge a link with the local Public Health team and the Hampshire Suicide Prevention and Intervention Network if such a network exists.</p>
4	<p>DETAILS OF FURTHER ACTION PROPOSED</p> <p>1. Network Needs List</p> <p>We will add this structure to our South East region “Network Needs” list of locations that are put forward to bid for future public funds. In this case, we will seek funding for a study into the prevention of future potential suicide events at this location. The proposed study would enable us to analyse the potential risks, the prioritisation of this structure against the structures across the South East region and the Strategic Road Network (“SRN”) to help us determine if there are appropriate mitigating measures that could be taken forward. Measures that may be considered as part of the study are physical barriers, CCTV monitoring, increased signage to organisations offering support and interventions such as immediate telephone access to mental health groups. The “Network Needs” list provides a way of prioritising and promoting the highest priority areas, locations, and structures, with the proposed schemes and studies meeting the highest needs attracting the required funds to go ahead.</p> <p>2. CCTV</p> <p>If funding is secured and a study is carried out which finds that CCTV installation is a recommended outcome, then a CCTV scheme would be submitted for future funding. If it were to be installed, CCTV at the location would be monitored from our Regional Operations Centre at Godstone, Surrey as part of a wider network of cameras covering the SRN in the South East.</p> <p>3. Working with Partners</p> <p>We will seek out and engage with the relevant public health and suicide prevention teams and personnel in the area to promote courses such as the Samaritan’s campaign “Small Talk Saves Lives” training to inform local residents and others on how to recognise the signs of potential crisis and how to approach a person in crisis in an appropriate way to offer them the assistance they may need.</p> <p>4. Other Structures</p> <p>None of the other local structures on the southern (Hampshire) aspects of the stretch of the A3()</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">[REDACTED] [REDACTED] It is however clear that there is a need to work more closely with Hampshire Constabulary to establish clear lines of communication to ensure the police make us aware of such events when they relate to the SRN.</p>												
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<p>6</p>	<p>SAFETY OF ROAD USERS</p> <p>The safety of everyone on our road network matters; it is an imperative for our business in what we set out to achieve and a core value of our organisation in how we go about it. Our Suicide prevention strategy outlines our continued contribution to delivering the cross-government national strategy for suicide prevention. As part of our strategy, we assess and prioritise sites across the SRN for the delivery of crisis interventions and suicide prevention measures, working in partnership with the Samaritans and the local authority public health teams.</p>												
<p>7</p>	<p>09 December 2022 Signed:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 20px 0;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">[REDACTED], Regional Director on behalf of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>												