



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

RAIL R U OK? DAY

So many Australians have been touched by the trauma of suicide—be it the loss of a friend, family member, neighbour or work colleague.

Each death, with its devastating personal, social and economic impacts, constitutes an awful and unacceptable tragedy that leaves us wondering if we could have done more.

Sadly, so many of you in this industry know only too well the ripple effect of suicide on the wider community.

Being so often the first responders to incidents on the rail, you are well aware of the potential for severe mental, physical and emotional trauma for those involved.

Given the stressors that rail industry staff are exposed to, it is heartening to see you take steps to create safer, stronger and more supportive workplaces, while addressing the stigma surrounding the mental health impacts of exposure to such incidents.

This Rail R U Ok? Day I encourage everyone to reach out to colleagues who are doing it tough, to start the conversation about mental health, and to work together to save lives.

Through coordinated efforts, let us ensure that the years ahead mark a turning point for suicide and poor mental health, as we progress towards creating a more caring and resilient society.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Turnbull'.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia

7 April 2017