

Rail and Maritime Transport Union media release: 17 March 2016

Auckland railway operator fails safety test – union

The rail workers union is calling on Transdev, the company that runs train services on Auckland's metro lines, to put safety first after a fatal shooting at Papakura Station last week.

"Our members are feeling shaken after the fatal shooting at Papakura Station on Saturday," says Rail and Maritime Transport Union (RMTU) Northern Region Organiser Stuart Johnstone.

The fatal shooting follows a vicious assault at the station in December 2015.

"Our members are calling on Transdev to do more to improve security. This will help protect both rail staff and passengers."

"Yet the company is dragging its heels. Despite finding the money to employ "mystery shoppers" to grade how train managers are performing, the company has repeatedly rebuffed our suggestions on how to improve safety," said Johnstone.

"Transdev has cited cost as a reason not to implement our suggestions, but can you really put a cost on health and safety of rail workers and passengers?"

For further comment contact RMTU organiser Stuart Johnstone: 027 246 4961

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