

**Customer Story** 

# Keeping drivers on track: How Live Link enabled safer roads for the TT Races



# About the IoM Department of Infrastructure and the TT Races

The Isle of Man (IoM) Department of Infrastructure (DOI) is responsible for all things transport – including the planning, coordination and communication of all highways maintenance and improvement works. In addition to their transport duties, the DOI also plays a crucial role in overseeing major events, most notably the historic Tourist Trophy (TT) Races.

Since its inception in 1907, the TT Races have enthralled motorsport enthusiasts worldwide. Over 77,000 spectators come annually to watch the world's greatest road racers ride the 37.73-mile Mountain Course on the island's public roads.



# The Challenge

Every year the IoM DOI faced a recurring communication challenge around the TT Races; around 10 to 20 motorists every year typically attempt to drive down closed roads following their sat-navs, which unfortunately did not always account for temporary road closures or changes to the network.

This was particularly common on the A18 Mountain Road, which transforms into a one-way route for the duration of the two-week event.

The races' long-standing history compounded the issue, as alterations to road closure plans each year led to heightened confusion among drivers.

Driving against one-way systems and on closed roads is dangerous under any circumstances, but the collision and fatality risks escalate significantly in the absence of speed limits and with the presence of high-performance motorcycles on the roads.

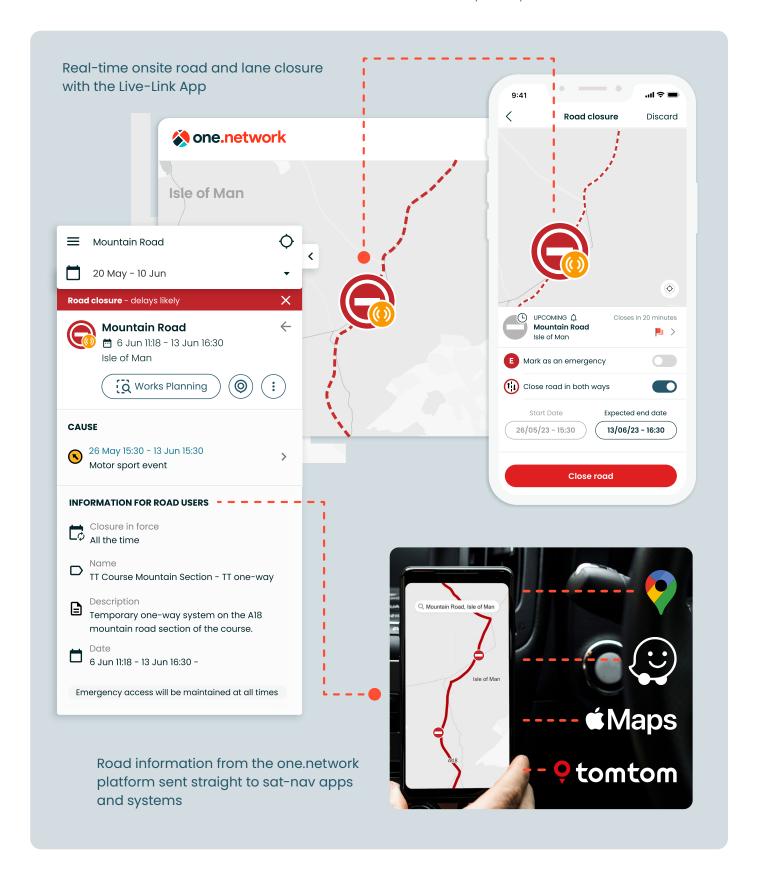
The DOI recognised that safeguarding road users during the races was of paramount importance, and they were keen to also improve general navigation around the island for TT Races visitors and island tourists alike.

Therefore, the DOI sought to take proactive measures to enhance communications and road safety on the Isle of Man.



For the 2023 TT Races, the IoM Highway Services Regulations Team trialled <u>one.network</u> and Live Link - <u>one.network</u>'s real-time road and lane closure solution.

Throughout the event, the Force Incident Managers worked with the IoM Constabulary, using Live Link to close roads across the island and push the information out to all major sat-nav apps in near real-time. This included Google, Apple Maps, Waze, TomTom and Here Technologies.



To ensure seamless communication and accessibility for the public, every planned closure was also pre-published on the one.network map and shared via the Isle of Man's Facebook page, granting clear visibility to the public and providing local radio stations with an accurate and up-to-date source of information.

# The Results

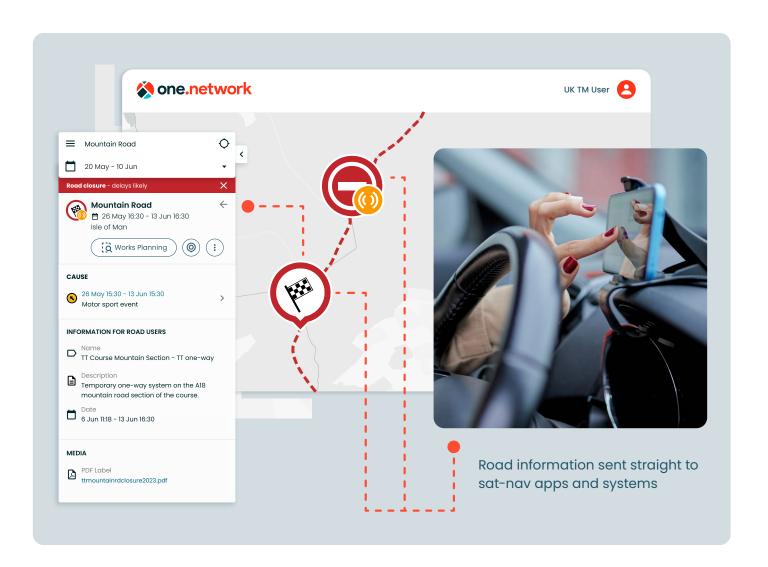
Thanks to Live Link, for the **first time since** the introduction of the TT Races one-way system on the Al8 Mountain Road section in **2005**, there were **zero instances of motorists using sat-navs that drove the wrong way.** 

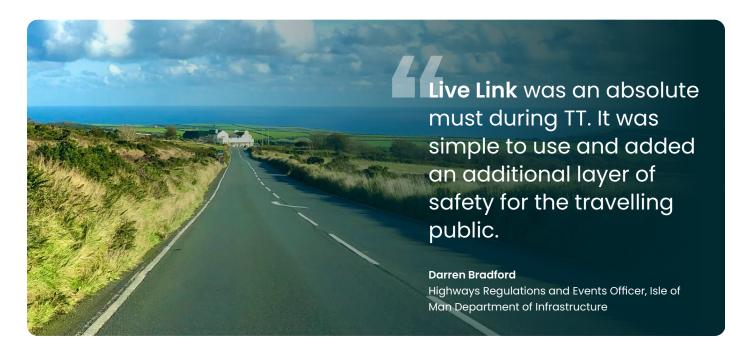
Members of the public received closure and disruption information straight to their sat-nav apps, allowing them to navigate around the island smoothly and safely.

**Live Link** allowed us to get the right information to the right people at the right time, without relying on confusing language. We could communicate the closures directly to the sat-nav apps the public were already using.

## **Michael Taylor**

Road Policing Sergeant, Isle of Man Constabulary





Furthermore, by communicating closures to sat-navs, ambulance drivers on the island gained access to real-time closure data, ensuring that, if required, they could promptly respond to emergency calls without the risk of delays.

Having experienced the transformative impact of Live Link during the races, the DOI and Isle of Man Constabulary hope to roll out the solution in the future for their everyday road closure communications.

I think one network and Live Link are crucial for us. one network, if rolled out to police, will simplify a laborious process in completing the road closure form and publicising it.

### **Michael Taylor**

Road Policing Sergeant, Isle of Man Constabulary

For further insight into how Live Link can help you increase road safety & enhance public communications

**Get in touch**