

Colleagues,

Please find below the **monthly Incursion Bulletin** from the **National Highways Incursions Working Group**, highlighting key activity, risks, and actions across the network.

◆ **Headline Summary**

- **115 incursions recorded this month ▼ 74 (-39%) vs August**
- Significant reduction seen across most incursion categories, particularly **low-risk and breakdown-related incursions**
- **IPAWS utilisation increased to 63%**, the highest level recorded this year
- Despite lower volumes, **77% of incursions were classified as Medium/High Risk**
- Continued focus required on **closure integrity, access control, situational awareness and prevention of deliberate incursions**

⚠️ **Key Risks Identified**

- Data continues to identify occasions where operatives were exposed to the potential risk of **serious injury or fatality**
- **Deliberate incursions** remain a concern, with **55% of incidents identified as seeking benefit**
- Vehicles continuing to **follow authorised movements into closures** remain a recurring theme
- Access and egress locations continue to present vulnerabilities requiring effective supervision and control
- **Medium and High-Risk incursions accounted for 89 events**, representing the majority of all incursions recorded
- Vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and e-bike users, continue to present challenges where works are adjacent to public access routes

🇬🇧 **Trends**

- **North West Region:** 31 incursions (highest regional volume)
- **South East Region:** 22 incursions
- **Midlands Region:** 20 incursions
- **East Region:** 15 incursions
- **Yorkshire & North East Region:** 14 incursions
- **South West Region:** 10 incursions
- **2% of all closures experienced an incursion (3% average in 2026 so far)**

💡 **Incident Learning (Key Message)**

- While overall incursions reduced significantly, deliberate and higher-risk incursions remain prevalent
- Driver understanding of Temporary Traffic Management arrangements continues to require consideration during planning and design
- Advance warning information remains critical in reducing driver confusion and inappropriate access
- Closure integrity must be continually monitored throughout shifts, particularly at access and crossover locations
- Early recognition, timely reporting and proactive intervention continue to prevent escalation and protect the workforce
- Effective deployment of IPAWS technology is supporting improved awareness and response to incursions

✅ **Required Actions**

All teams are asked to:

- Continue strengthening controls at **works access points and closure entry locations**
- Review locations experiencing recurring incursions and identify opportunities for enhanced mitigation
- Reinforce workforce briefings regarding:
 - Vehicle-following behaviour
 - Deliberate incursions
 - Closure integrity monitoring
- Maintain strong reporting standards for all incursions, near misses and abuse incidents within 24 hours
- Continue sharing learning and effective controls through regional working groups
- Ensure suppliers, subcontractors and delivery partners understand approved access arrangements and site entry requirements
- Maximise use of available technology and warning systems to enhance workforce protection

👍 **Good Practice**

Examples this month include:

- Effective use of incursion warning technology providing **timely alerts** to workforce teams
- Strong operational **leadership** maintaining vigilance and challenging unsafe behaviours
- Swift **reporting** and **escalation** supporting investigation and learning from events

- Regions **sharing lessons** learned to improve preventative controls and workforce awareness

 Safety Message

"Although September saw a significant reduction in incursions, **89 incidents** were still classified as **Medium or High Risk**. Never assume a closure remains secure. Remain **vigilant, monitor** access points continuously and be prepared to **respond** to unexpected vehicle or pedestrian entry at any time."

 Looking Ahead

- Consider **targeted reviews** of locations experiencing **repeated** incursions
- Continued deployment and optimisation of **technology**
- Continued emphasis on **sharing and learning across all regions**

 At a glance

Measure	Result
Incursions	115
Incursions vs Closures	2%
IPAWS Utilisation	63%
Injuries	0
Medium/High Risk Incursions	89
Medium/High Risk Percentage	77%
Seeking Benefit Incursions	63
Seeking Benefit Percentage	55%
Blue Light Incidents	4
IPV Strikes	0
Breakdown Incidents	4
Low Risk Incursions	22

 Prosecutions

On **28 September 2026**, Vilius Domarkas was sentenced to **10 years' imprisonment** after admitting causing the death of highways worker Anthony Howe by dangerous driving.

- The defendant drove into a **coned-off work area** on the M23 near Gatwick Airport.
- He was found to be significantly over the legal alcohol limit.
- He was also **disqualified from driving for 16 years and 8 months**

Safety remains our collective responsibility. Thank you for your continued commitment to protecting our workforce and road users. 🚧