

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 10

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## Bee Network Phase 2

The upgrade of a major stretch of road between Castleton and Rochdale town centre is underway, after the approval of £13.5m of external funding for the scheme.

The Bee Network project will see a number of junctions along the busy A58 Manchester Road upgraded, with new crossings to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and new, optimised lights which will monitor traffic movements and speed up journey times.

Seven junctions are in line for improvements, including Manchester Road and Bolton Road, Manchester Road and Roch Valley Way and Manchester Road and Drake Street.

The project will be delivered in stages over an 18 month period to minimise disruption as much as possible, including:

- A new crossing being created across Manchester Road to enable safe and easy access to Highfield Hospital.
- A new cycle lane being created to extend the existing cycle lane in Castleton from The Royal Toby Hotel into Rochdale town centre.
- New greenery and planting being introduced along Old Manchester Road, alongside road resurfacing, 20mph speed limits and traffic calming measures.
- Increase of parking, with 30 new spaces being created close to Beech House School, to support people using Mandale park.



## December 2025

The junctions of New Barn Lane and Old Manchester Road were substantially completed and re-opened to traffic, although turnings right out of the junctions will still be prohibited, (as will the left turn into New Barn Lane for pedestrian safety), until the new traffic lights are switched on. These areas just need the final footway/cycleway surfacing, which will be carried out in conjunction with the rest of the site.

Work also started on the construction of the footway/cycleway outside Mandale Park, which will join up with the one constructed at Tweedale St junction.

## January 2026

Work will continue on the cycleway from Mandale Park, moving south towards Highfield Hospital. This phase should be complete by mid-February

We will also start on infilling the abandoned subway, with prep-work starting the first week back and pumping the concrete fill material due to start on 12th January (cold weather permitting). Placing the stone backfill material to the access ramps will also be carried out simultaneously and this phase should be complete by the end of the month.



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