

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 10

January | February 26

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.



January 2025

The wintery weather at the start of the new year hampered progress a bit but works have proceeded more-or-less in line with the programme.

The old subway has been filled with concrete and the approach ramps filled with stone fill, ready to construct the new footpath/cycleways. The construction of the cycleway from Mandale Park towards Highfield Hospital has continued and is around 75% complete.

Work has started on the reconfiguration of the junction of Kemp Avenue, which has proved to be a bit of a challenge due to the proximity of the entrance to the hospital and the number of buried services in this location. Work has also started on installing the new traffic lights at New Barn and Old Manchester Road junctions, but these will not be switched on until all works are complete around mid-March.

February 2026

February should see the completion of the footpaths and cycleways (excluding the final surfacing) and the installation of the new signals, including Kemp Avenue. The new bus shelters will also be installed in early February.

The resurfacing of the carriageway is planned to start in mid-Feb and should last for approximately 3 weeks (including new road markings and installation of sensors for the new traffic lights. This will require a full closure of Manchester Road to allow the work to be carried out safely and will be done overnight to minimise disruption.



Rochdale
Development
Agency



For any further information or queries please email:

infrastructure@investinrochdale.co.uk