

NEWSLETTER

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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.

March 2026

March saw the completion of the road surfacing, buff cycleway surfacing and the switch-on of the new traffic lights. The road markings were also completed but the cycleway markings have been delayed until we get a sustained period of good weather

Work has started on upgrading the pedestrian crossing between Tweedale Street and Drake Street. The realignment of the central reservation and installation of ducts for the crossing has been completed (except the surfacing) and work has switched to constructing the new footways either side. This should be complete by the end of April/early May, although the carriageway surfacing has been postponed until the May half-term due to other works in the area conflicting with the planned diversion route.

April 2026

April will see the completion of the cycleway markings between New Barn Lane and Tweedale Street and the final snagging of this phase.

Work on the upgraded crossing will see the completion of the new cycleway and crossing facilities, although the crossing might not get commissioned until the new carriageway surface is laid and the new traffic sensors installed.



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