

SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Beechnut Lane, Solihull – Proposed Removal of a Pedestrian Crossing Point

Statement of Reasons

Beechnut Lane is a residential road in the Silhill Ward. An existing uncontrolled crossing point exists on Beechnut Lane across the Solihull By-pass.

The A41 corridor in Solihull was identified by the Department for Transport (DfT) as a route that qualified for road safety grant funding. A computer software package identified risks along the route and suggested improvements to provide mitigation.

A route treatment scheme has been prepared for the A41 that includes the removal of an existing uncontrolled crossing point on Beechnut Lane across the Solihull By-pass. The Solihull By-pass is a high speed road. The removal of the crossing point will deter pedestrians from attempting to cross the A41 at this point and improve road safety.

The removal of an existing uncontrolled crossing point across the Solihull Bypass, connecting Beechnut Lane. will encourage pedestrians and cyclists to use the existing crossing facility at the A41 / Hampton Lane / Yewtree Lane traffic signalised controlled junction.

The existing crossing is well used but presents a road safety risk due to the available visibility splay and high vehicle speeds. Vehicle speed analysis recorded an 85th percentile speed of 49.1mph which is 9.1 mph over the posted 40mph speed limit. The 85th percentile speed is the speed above which 85% of motorists travel along a route. It is used as a determination for an engineering intervention.

A consultation was undertaken on the A41 corridor scheme in 2024/25. Respondents viewed this crossing as a safety risk due to the lack of traffic control, visibility issues and speed through this section. It causes significant safety risks. There are alternative safer routes available in the vicinity. As such, removing this needs to be considered under the backdrop of risk and safety.

The A41 has been provided with a star rating following the initial risk assessment. It is envisaged that it will achieve a 4 or 5 star rating following the instigation of the proposed improvements along its length which is desirable for roads of this type. It will then comply with DfT advice.

It is recommended that the existing uncontrolled crossing point on Beechnut Lane, across the Solihull By-Pass, be removed as shown on drawing no. 236096-SMBC-GEN-DR-P-0005 Rev P01.

PAUL TOVEY

Head of Highway Management
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Manor Square, Solihull, B91 3QB
tro@solihull.gov.uk



6 June 2025