

SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Metropolitan Borough of Solihull (Aqueduct Road, Solihull Lodge) (Total Prohibition of Motor Vehicles) (Experimental Traffic Regulation) Order 2026

Statement of Reasons

Over several years there have been several vehicle collisions at the Majors Green Aqueduct on Aqueduct Road, Shirley. The carriageway reduction to a single vehicle width due to the narrow opening of the bridge, coupled with a lack of visibility has created a cluster of collisions with many vehicles losing control and striking the retaining wall and pedestrian guard rails.

This is exacerbated by the River Cole adjacent to the highway which regularly overtops its banks and floods the junction, placing motorists at a greater risk when they try to drive through deep and fast-moving waters.

In consideration of the safety issues at this location and the ongoing maintenance implications, it is proposed that the road is closed to all motor vehicles (remaining open for pedestrians and pedal cycles) under an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) for a period of 18 months. The proposal was approved at the Decision Session of the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport on 4 September 2025.

After the period of the experimental traffic has elapsed a further paper will be brought to the cabinet member to decide whether to make the ETRO permanent or to revert to opening the highway to all vehicles.

Drawing No. XXXXX-SMBC-XXX-DR-C-0001 shows the location of the experimental closure.

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