

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 15th JANUARY 2013**

**Question**

With regard to the recent 'hole in the road' in St. Clement, would the Minister advise of the projected life expectancy of the repairs, whether there is any contingency to replace the sewer and, if so, at what cost?

Would the Minister also advise whether the ten men in the photograph published in the Jersey Evening Post watching two others working in the hole in the road were public sector employees and, if so, what their job titles are?

**Answer**

The repair to the collapsed sewer in La Grande Route de la Cote that was carried out over the 27th and 28th of December was a temporary fix to prevent further leakage of sewage from the sewer, and to enable sewage flow to be restored and the road to be re-opened to traffic as quickly as possible.

The department is currently in discussions with contractors over a more long term remediation, although this is likely to be some form of structural lining option as was carried a few years ago on La Grande Route de la Cote between the Rice Bowl Restaurant and the Ambassadeur Hotel.

The advantage of this form of remediation is that the structural integrity and flow capacity of the original pipe can be restored without having to carry out major excavations in the road as the relining can be carried out from existing manholes. The life expectancy of this remediation option is likely to be something like 50 years.

The exact costs of this remediation option are not yet known but they are likely to be of the order of £30,000. However, a survey of downstream sections of sewer has not yet been carried out as clearance operations to remove residual debris are still ongoing. It is possible therefore that consideration will need to be given to extending the re-lining to ensure that the risk of a further collapse is mitigated.

With regard to the ten men in the photograph featured in the JEP, these were a mix of public sector employees and employees of the private drainage contractor Brenwal. Brenwal were brought in as the department did not have sufficient experienced men available to address this emergency due to the Christmas break.

Of the ten men outside the excavation, seven were Public sector employees and three were from Brenwal. The two men in the excavation itself were also Brenwal employees.

Of the seven public sector employee's, two were Driver/Operators of Specialist Vehicles, manning a jetvac tanker which was providing a sewer cleaning support function, two were

Driver/Labourers who were collecting, setting up and operating support equipment for Brenwal such as lighting and pumping.

A further public sector employee was a Drainage Leading Chargehand who was supervising the work of the aforementioned personnel and another was the Manager Drainage Infrastructure who has overall responsibility for the day to day operation of the drainage network. The final employee was the Assistant Director Drainage Infrastructure who was attending site at the time to obtain an update for media purposes.

I should add that at the time the photo was taken, excavation had reached a stage where the pipe was about to be exposed which generated an interest in all those in attendance as to how bad the damage was.

Given the short time between personnel attending the original incident and the road re-opening to traffic, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all personnel involved, both public sector and those from Brenwal, for their efforts in resolving this emergency as speedily as they did, particularly as it occurred over the Christmas period when many staff were on leave.