

STATES OF JERSEY



ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2008 (P.93/2007): SEVENTH AMENDMENT

**Lodged au Greffe on 4th September 2007
by the Deputy of St. Ouen**

STATES GREFFE

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2008 (P.93/2007): SEVENTH AMENDMENT

In paragraph (a)(ix) after the words “pages 104 and 105 of the Annex” insert the words –

“except that in Objective 2, in Performance/success criteria (iii), after the words ‘Sustainable Liquid Waste Policy’ insert the words ‘to include proposals to provide mains drains for areas highlighted in the five year programme proposed by the then Public Services Committee in the 2004 – 2008 Resource Plan’ ”.

DEPUTY OF ST. OUEN

REPORT

A number of years ago, a Sewer Working Party was set up to consider extensions to the mains drains network. As part of that work, the Group drew up a 5 year programme to provide mains drains to a number of rural areas across the Island over a 5 year period between 2004 and 2008. The areas identified consisted of relatively large groups of homes within the countryside and were prioritised accordingly. As part of the prioritisation process, consideration was given to issues such as: housing density, poor drainage and potential pollution to the ground water. Unfortunately, although these areas were identified and funding approved to provide mains drains to these areas, funding ceased, and a number of these high priority areas are still without mains drains.

Those highlighted by the Sewer Working Party for mains drains covered several areas in –

- St. Saviour
- St. Peter
- St. John
- Trinity
- St. Ouen
- St. Brelade
- St. Mary
- St. Martin
- Grouville
- St. Lawrence

Presently, there are no new mains drains extensions planned for most, if not all, of the areas identified and the problems still remain unresolved, which is totally unsatisfactory. I am well aware that budgetary constraints may have been a contributory factor in Transport and Technical Services not extending the current mains drains network; however thought must be given to finding an acceptable solution to addressing this issue.

With the results of the Ground Water survey concluding that the recharge of our ground water comes from rain falling on Jersey, pollution of one of our most precious resources must be of concern. Those who haven't access to mains drains are left to rely on a combination of tight tanks, soakaways and septic tanks. This method of liquid waste disposal by its very nature increases the risk of contamination to the ground water, especially in the more built-up areas. Coupled to this, most householders who do not have access to mains drains also lack the opportunity to use mains water and have to rely on accessing water from under the ground.

My amendment simply asks that the Department to address this issue and brings forward proposals for the States to consider.

As this amendment relates solely at this stage to the creation of an Implementation Plan and funding programme there are no additional financial and manpower implications.