

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT BY THE
DEPUTY OF ST. MARY
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 19th JANUARY 2010**

Question

Would the Minister inform members whether sea level data is collected officially in Jersey, and if so give brief details of how it is collected, how it is made comparable year on year, how long it has been collected for, and whether the data is publicly available?

Answer

The Planning and Environment Department does not collect sea level data and utilises published UK Government reference material.

The Jersey Met Service does collect wave height information from its wave rider buoy and weather station to inform the shipping forecast but this does not provide a reference source for sea levels.

A tidal gauge station does exist on Victoria Pier in St Helier and is owned by Proudman Oceanographic Laboratories. Data is collected by Proudman on a weekly basis to compare actual tidal heights against predicted tide heights. Jersey Harbours are provided instant access to tidal readings to compare actual against predicted and free tide tables from Proudman. This equipment was installed in the early 1990s.