

STATES OF JERSEY



ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2009 (P.113/2008): ELEVENTH AMENDMENT (P.113/2008 Amd.(11)) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 9th September 2008
by the Minister for Transport and Technical Services**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Transport and Technical Services has connected 86% of the Island to the sewer network. The remaining 14% of the Island's households are served by septic tanks, tight tanks and private treatment facilities. The last foul sewer extension scheme was completed in 2005. Since then, the Department has prioritised its reduced capital allocation based on the best environmental benefit and ongoing revenue constraints. To this end, the allocation of available resource on sewer infrastructure has been on maintaining the existing network and separating surface water from the foul system. The foul sewer extension programme is on hold until additional capital can be secured.

Any increase in capital funding or new funding source that enables foul sewer extensions to recommence will improve the plight of rural communities without mains drains. The first priority, however, is to secure sufficient funding to maintain and enhance the existing infrastructure. The Department would require, in addition to this, an annual departmental budget increase of approximately £1.5 million to recommence extending the sewer network over the next 10 to 15 years. The use of planning obligations alone is unlikely to be sufficient to meet this level of expenditure.

Transport and Technical Services supports the intention of this amendment and the fact that it is highlighting the problems facing the Department in securing long-term funding for infrastructure. Unfortunately, some other form of funding, other than funding via Planning Obligations, will be required if a long-term solution is to be provided that will be sustainable for the next 10 to 15 years.