

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY THE CONNÉTABLE OF ST. JOHN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 15th MAY 2012**

Question

Will the Minister confirm that the road surface at the Airport was in better condition than expected and, if so, was the decision to resurface it justified, particularly when many roads across the Island are in a very poor condition?

What was the cost of the Airport road resurfacing contract?

What action, if any, has the Minister taken to persuade the Council of Ministers to provide extra funding to make a proper difference to the roads across the Island?

Did pressure from St. Brelade politicians influence the decision to resurface the Airport Road?

Answer

The road surface along Avenue de la Reine Elizabeth II was in a poor condition and was visibly deteriorating. The funding that will be used to extend the works along Avenue de la Commune was money held in contingency against the prospect of the underlying asphalt layers being in a worse condition than expected. Fortunately after the top surface course was planed off, these underlying layers were in better condition than expected.

The original cost of the Airport Road resurfacing project was approx £738,000 and the extended works will cost £105,000 which will be met within the overall budget allocated.

The road resurfacing budget has increased in recent years due to continued efforts from TTS to highlight the condition of the Island's road network. These budget increases have allowed TTS to carry out major resurfacing works to the following roads :

La Route de la Haule – St Brelade and St Peter
St Peter's Main Road – St Peter
Mont Fallu – St Peter
Victoria Avenue – St Lawrence and St Helier
Mont Millais – St Helier
Le Mont de Ste Marie and Les Chenolles – St Mary
Commercial Buildings – St Helier
La Route d'Ebenezer - Trinity

In recent months a Business Case has been developed requesting funding for additional projects to reduce the backlog of resurfacing required which is currently being considered by Treasury. TTS is hopeful that funding will be available but this is very much dependant on Treasury support and ultimately States Assembly approval.

No pressure has been exerted on the department's officers by current or previous St Brelade politicians. Decisions on which road to resurface are dependent on the road condition surveys, utility company activity and streetworks coordination.