

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 23rd MARCH 2010**

Question

“Having been notified by the Minister in January 2009 that all matters relating to the extension of mains drains would be covered in the forthcoming Liquid Waste strategy, would the Minister explain why, some 16 months into his term of office, the Strategy has not yet been produced and would he inform members when it will be issued for consultation and what proposals it is likely to include?”

Answer

The liquid waste strategy is 90% complete in draft form. The environmental, asset and engineering details of the strategy are finalised and these specific elements will be published for consultation to the environmental scrutiny panel in April.

However, my team have not finalised two key aspects of the strategy, how to raise the necessary funding and the preferred organisational structure for liquid waste, moving forwards.

The strategy covers four main areas, namely, process improvements, maintenance of existing assets, network capacity enhancements and foul sewer extensions.

Process improvements cover all aspects of treatment and the replacement of the sewage treatment works at Bellozanne.

Maintenance of existing assets covers the long term maintenance needs of the sewerage network, surface water networks process assets and pumping stations.

Network Capacity enhancements details the necessary work the network will need to safely match any predicted population growth.

Foul sewer extension covers the long term plan for extending the existing network and includes a review of how to undertake this in a cost effective and innovative manner.

As minister for TTS I and my team are striving to deliver the Liquid Waste Strategy in a timely fashion, however, my department has limited resources.

Progression of the Liquid Waste Strategy requires additional funding to enable a business case to be developed which will set out for States Members the preferred means of delivery. To enable the Strategy to be progressed a total of £0.5 million is required.

Finally, the current economic downturn has led me to challenge the initial timescales for delivery of this strategy and I feel there is a need to further consider the funding mechanisms options for the medium term.