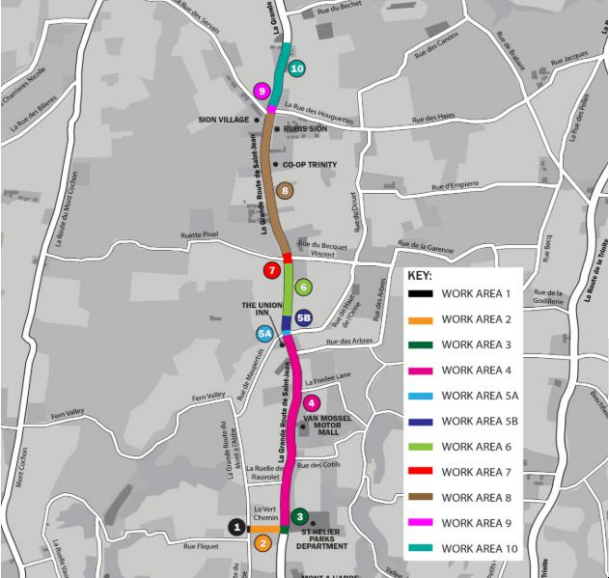




Roads Committee date: 16 September 2026	Road reference & title of report: Northern Sewer Network upgrade roadworks and diversions
Address: Northern Sewer Network upgrade roadworks and diversions	Requested by: Constable
Location map: 	Photograph/street view: 
Purpose of report To provide the Committee with an update following the Constable's meeting with residents affected by the Northern Sewer Network Upgrade Project, held on 3 September 2026. At this stage, no decisions are required from the Roads Committee. The diversion routes remain under the control of Government of Jersey Infrastructure and Environment. Should I&E propose any changes affecting Parish roads, including traffic-calming measures or amendments to approved traffic management arrangements, a further report will be presented to the Committee for consideration. <u>Background</u> The Northern Sewer Network Upgrade is a Government of Jersey Infrastructure and Environment (I&E) project being delivered by the Liquid Waste team. The project involves major improvements to the Island's wastewater infrastructure and has necessitated temporary road closures and diversion routes affecting parts of St Helier, St John and Trinity. Once completed, the upgraded sewer network will serve a substantial number of existing and future properties across the northern parishes, from Les Fontaines in St John through to the Jersey Zoo catchment area. The scheme also forms part of wider infrastructure improvements intended to support future housing development and maintain the long-term capacity and resilience of the Bellozanne Sewage Treatment Works. Construction is being undertaken in phases and is currently expected to continue into 2027. 	



Diversion routes

The temporary traffic management and diversion arrangements associated with these essential works have understandably impacted residents, businesses and road users across the affected areas. Residents and elected representatives have put forward a range of suggestions regarding the operation of the diversion routes. As the project and associated traffic management arrangements are the responsibility of I&E officers, any proposed changes must be assessed and determined by I&E officers in consultation with the relevant Roads Committees.

Refer to Appendix 2 for details on the current diversionary route that is in place that was approved by the Roads Committee. For further update and information on the project please follow this link to the Government website:

<https://www.gov.je/Travel/Roads/RoadClosures/pages/northernsewerupgrades.aspx>

This report provides background information for the Committee, including a summary of meetings held with residents and elected representatives, together with details of a petition submitted to the Parish for onward consideration by I&E officers.

Resident Petition

On 21 August 2026, the Constable circulated to officers a petition and accompanying proposal for alternative diversion routes submitted by residents of Mont à l'Abbé and Fern Valley who had attended the Constable's resident drop-in session.

The petition, signed by 22 residents, was submitted to the Parish and sets out a number of suggested amendments to the temporary traffic management arrangements associated with the Government of Jersey's Northern Sewer Network Upgrade project.

The principal proposals are:

- Reversing the direction of Fern Valley.
- Reinstating two-way traffic on part of La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé.
- Opening Ruelle Pinel to provide an alternative access route.
- Reversing the direction of La Frédée Lane and Rue des Cotils should the other proposals not be considered feasible.

Residents consider that these measures would improve accessibility for local residents and help reduce the impact of the current diversion arrangements for the duration of the works.

As the Northern Sewer Network Upgrade and its associated traffic management arrangements are the responsibility of I&E officers, the proposals have been forwarded to I&E officers for consideration.

Should I&E officers recommend any changes that require Roads Committee approval, a further report will be brought back to the Committee for consideration.

A copy of the petition proposal is attached at **Appendix 1**.



Meeting notes

Meeting outcome following the residents' meeting held on 3 September 2026 at Haute Vallée School

The meeting provided residents with an opportunity to raise concerns directly with Government officers and the Parish. Several actions were agreed to improve communication, accessibility and traffic management during the ongoing works.

The following key matters were discussed and agreed:

1. The diversionary route proposed within the petition was assessed by I&E officers and was not considered suitable due to road safety concerns.
2. I&E officers agreed to investigate the potential installation of speed humps on diversionary routes. Any such measures on Parish by-roads would require approval from the Roads Committee as the Highway Authority.
3. Residents raised concerns regarding changes to LibertyBus routes 5 and 19. It was agreed that the Constable would write to LibertyBus to:
 - Confirm the current and proposed bus routes; and
 - Request that consideration be given to the accessibility of bus stops for residents.
4. Concerns were also raised regarding the speed of buses using diversionary routes. It was reported by Honorary Police that buses had on several occasions been stopped and drivers spoken to regarding their speed. The Constable will write to LibertyBus to raise these concerns and request that appropriate action be taken.
5. I&E officers agreed to work closely with residents of Abbey Close to regarding access to their properties throughout the works. The I&E officers will keep the Parish updated on proposals affecting this area.
6. Resident raised concerns regarding the inconvenience and impact that the works are having on homeowners and occupiers. A suggestion was made that the Government consider whether any form of compensation could be offered to affected residents, including a potential contribution towards rates bills.
7. Improvements to cycle access through the site were discussed. The current arrangement requires cyclists to dismount and walk along narrow footways, which was considered impractical and potentially unsafe. The site hoarding (Heras fencing) would be repositioned where feasible to allow a section of carriageway to remain available for cyclists, reducing the potential for conflict with pedestrians.
8. I&E officers will consider opening La Ruelle de Rauvet to assist with the operation of the diversion route.
9. The I&E officers advised that more regular project updates have been introduced to keep residents informed. Efforts are continuing to improve communication and engagement with the public throughout the project.
10. The Constable will arrange a further residents' update meeting within the next three months.



Extract from meeting held at the Town Hall on 19 August 2026:

Attendees:

- Connétable Inna Gardiner
- Deputy Victoria Li
- Deputy Gerald Voisin
- Josie Le Ruez, Research & Project Officer, States Greffe

Summary

A St. Helier parish constituent meeting was held to discuss a range of issues including the Northern Sewer network upgrade.

Northern Sewer Network upgrade roadworks and diversions

The constituents explained that their travel time from home to town had increased from 5 minutes pre-roadworks to 30 minutes due to the diversion routes. The constituents had provided a potential solution which involved reversing the direction of Fern Valley, and had contacted residents and neighbours in the area, who had signed their petition in favour of this change. Connétable Gardiner advised that she would need to meet with Infrastructure & Environment officers to discuss potential solutions including this option, but it would not be immediate due to annual leave in that team.

Action: Connétable Gardiner to meet with Infrastructure & Environment department to discuss the constituents' petition.

Several constituents then gathered for a 5pm meeting to discuss the Northern Sewer upgrade project.

These constituents' concerns centred around two main issues:

1. Traffic management, road access, and communication
2. Delays and progress of Northern Sewer upgrade works

Traffic management, road access and communication

Several constituents explained their concerns with the roadworks at present, in particular:

- Signage still indicated 'No Entry' on Rue des Cotils.
- Narrow entrance on Rue des Cotils.
- People were using roads as cut throughs.
- Effectiveness of current diversions, particularly via Mont Cochon.
- Lack of mirror on junction to Mont Cochon from Ruelle Pinel, although these were noted to be Parish of St. Lawrence roads.
- No single source of information.
- Updates on websites were insufficient.

Connétable Gardiner advised that a 'Residents Access Only' sign had been requested for Clarke Avenue, but had not yet been actioned, and that it was being followed up by the Connétable. It was further advised that opening Rue des Cotils and Fredee Lane had not previously been planned but had been implemented after it was realised that this was possible. The Connétable discussed the petition given to her by previous constituent attendees, and it was well received, with the Connétable noting that she would present it to Infrastructure & Environment colleagues.



Action: Connétable Gardiner to continue chasing Infrastructure & Environment regarding the 'Residents Access Only' sign for Clarke Avenue.

Delays and progress of Northern Sewer upgrade works

Several constituents explained their concerns with the Northern Sewer works at present, in particular:

- Frustration that works were taking longer than expected and there had been periods where little visible progress had been made.
- Safety of the temporary above-ground water main having been exposed during periods of high temperatures (up to 35 degrees).
- Whether water testing had begun as planned (from 17th August).

Delays to the project were discussed, and the Connétable noted that the discovery of high voltage cables and other mains had restricted access to the project area, with water mains having to be diverted above ground to allow enough space to complete sewer work underground. Some constituents noted that there was also a procurement issue causing delays, but that no one had a full picture of the situation. Constituents raised concerns about communication methods, as some noted that they had not heard of various meetings or petitions before. Connétable Gardiner advised that Roads Committee meetings were advertised on the Parish website.

The constituents advised they would like answers to the following questions:

1. What went wrong with project planning and surveys - why did the surveys undertaken not show the high voltage cables and other mains? What is the procurement issue, and when will it be resolved?
2. Has the temporary water pipe been installed, and if not, why not?
3. Has water testing for the temporary water pipe started? Is the temporary water pipe safe and adequately protected during weather events including high temperatures?
4. When will the project finish?

It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged inviting constituents, officers from Infrastructure & Environment and Jersey Water, to be able to discuss concerns. Constituents discussed how they could be notified of events going forward, and it was agreed that they would provide to the Connétable and Deputies, through the Research and Project Officer, their contact emails.

Action: Connétable Gardiner and Deputies to organise a meeting and invite Government officers, Jersey Water, and constituents, to facilitate discussion of the issues and possible solutions. It was decided that this meeting would take place on Thursday 3 September at 4pm at Haute Vallée School.
Action: Research and Project Officer to send constituent contact emails to the Connétable and Deputies Li and Voisin.



Appendix 1: Resident Petition

The petition was submitted by residents living in the vicinity of Fern Valley, Rue de Maupertuis and La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé. It raises concerns regarding the impact of the current diversion arrangements and suggests several amendments intended to improve access for local residents and reduce journey times. The petition was signed by 22 which includes signatures from residents of bordering parish of St John.

Data Protection Note

The signed petition itself has not been reproduced within this report because it contains personal data, including names, addresses and signatures. The report therefore includes the petition proposals excluding the signatures section.

Proposed Improvements to the Temporary Traffic Management for Fern Valley, Rue de Maupertuis and Upper La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé

Background

Residents of **Fern Valley, Rue de Maupertuis** and the upper section of **La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé** have experienced significant disruption since the introduction of the current traffic management for the Liquid Waste Capital Delivery project.

Following correspondence with the project team, residents have been advised that no changes to the diversion layout are currently planned until completion of the works in **March 2027**.

As the current arrangements are expected to remain in place for several more months, we respectfully ask that the following practical improvements be considered.

Why changes are needed

The current traffic management has several unintended consequences:

- Residents are **unable to travel southbound**, with the only exit being via the northern diversion. A journey to town that previously took around **5 minutes** now regularly takes **20–30 minutes**.
- Large volumes of diverted traffic are now using residential Green Lanes, resulting in frequent speeding despite regular police enforcement. This has created ongoing safety concerns for residents, pedestrians and cyclists.
- The proposed changes would:
 - significantly reduce journey times for local residents;
 - reduce unnecessary fuel consumption and emissions;
 - ease congestion on the northern diversion routes;
 - improve safety on surrounding Green Lanes;
 - achieve these benefits with only minimal changes to the existing traffic management.

Current Traffic Arrangement

- Fern Valley is currently one-way westbound.
- Upper La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé and Rue de Maupertuis are one-way northbound.
- Southbound traffic on La Grande Route de Saint-Jean is closed from Woodlands Farm.



Proposed Improvements

1.0 Primary Resident Escape Routes

1.1 Reverse Fern Valley

Fern Valley carries very little through traffic other than residents and postal deliveries.

Reversing the one-way direction would allow residents to exit towards **St Lawrence** and access town without travelling through the northern diversion.

Some residents of Rue de Maupertuis may also benefit from this route where suitable parking arrangements with residents of Fern Valley or Upper La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé can be made.

Suggested action

- Reverse the one-way direction of Fern Valley for resident access through appropriate signage.

1.2 Reopen Upper La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé as Two-Way

The section between **Fern Valley** and **La Ruelle de Rauvolet** is generally wide, straight and offers excellent visibility.

This section operated safely as two-way traffic before the roadworks and has continued to be used by farm vehicles throughout the project.

The only genuine bottleneck is around **Le Vert Chemin**, which could remain one-way.

This proposal would restore a southbound exit via **La Ruelle de Rauvolet** for local residents.

Suggested actions

- Reopen La Ruelle de Rauvolet for southbound resident access.
- Re-introduce two-way traffic on the upper section of La Grande Route de Mont à l'Abbé via traffic lights. There is sufficient space on both ends for vehicles to queue safely. This would also slow down speeding in this area.

2.0 Secondary Options

2.1 Open Ruelle Pinel

Opening **Ruelle Pinel** westbound for residents would provide an additional southbound escape route for residents of Rue de Maupertuis.

2.2 Reverse Fredee Lane and Rue de Coutils

Should Proposal 1.2 not be considered feasible, reversing the direction of Fredee Lane and Rue de Coutils would still provide some improvement over the current arrangements.

Although residents would strongly prefer Proposal 1.2, this would represent a worthwhile alternative.



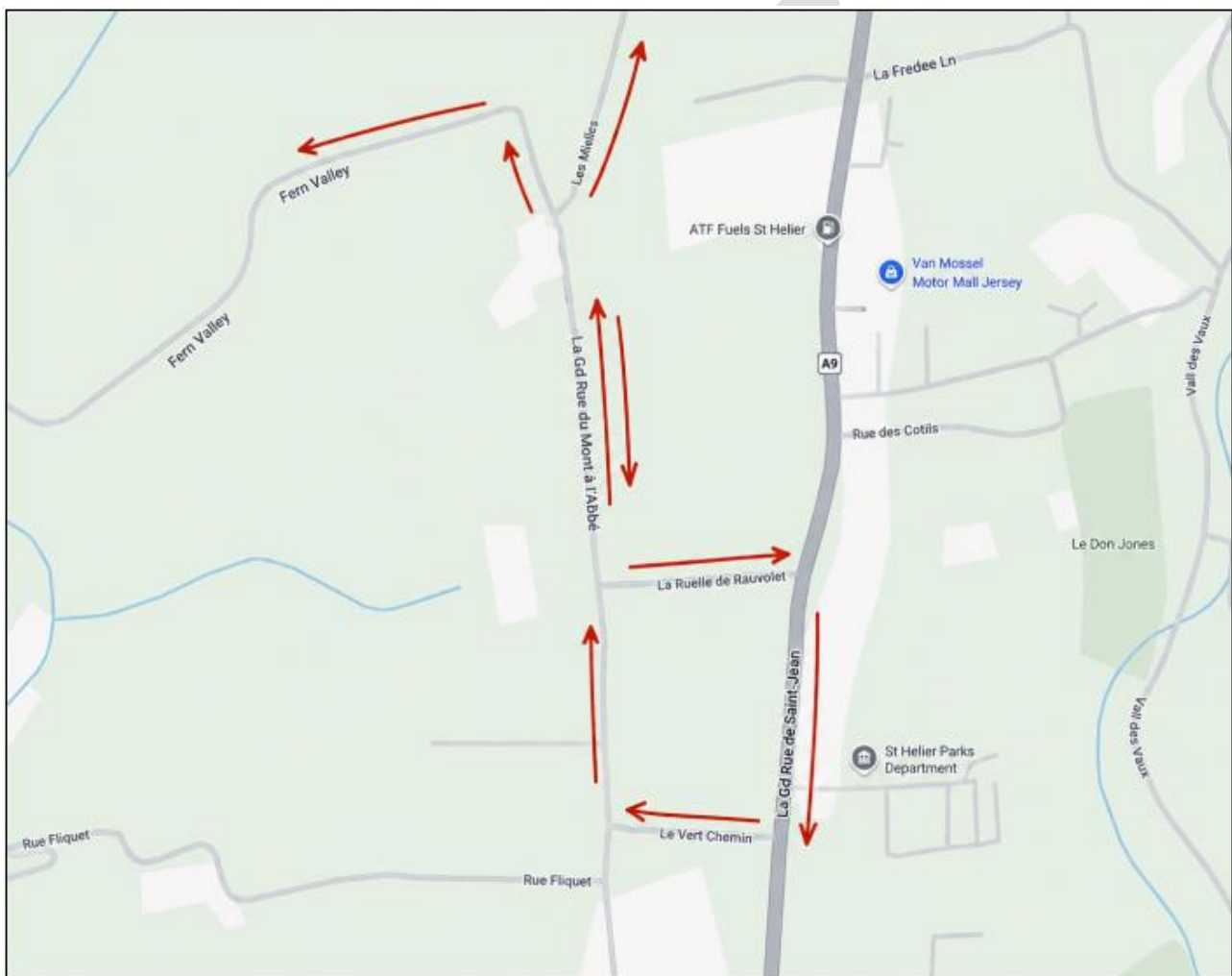
Conclusion

The works are expected to continue until **March 2027**.

The proposed measures require only modest changes to the existing traffic management but would substantially improve daily life for local residents, reduce congestion and improve road safety for the remainder of the project.

We respectfully ask that these proposals be reviewed and discussed with the affected residents.

Suggested alternative diversionary route



Appendix 2: Current approved diversion route

Starting on 17 August 2026, the normal one-way directions of La Rue des Cotils and La Fredee Lane were reversed. This means that motorists can now drive south on La Fredee Lane, and west on La Rue des Cotils.

