

BATHING WATER PROFILE

Environmental Protection (EP) has produced a bathing water profile for all monitored bathing waters in Jersey. The profile summarises EP's knowledge of a bathing water, including its quality and details of any improvements aimed at providing better water quality for bathers.

The bathing water profiles are a requirement of the revised Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC.

Name: Victoria Pool



Beach operator States of Jersey

Details

Monitoring began: 1994

Sampling point location: Lat/Long 49.11 N 2.07 W (see map)

Bathing water quality: Weekly monitoring results are uploaded to the web page at: www.gov.je/water

For details of yearly compliance assessments for this bathing water, please see below.

Victoria Pool

Annual water quality classification

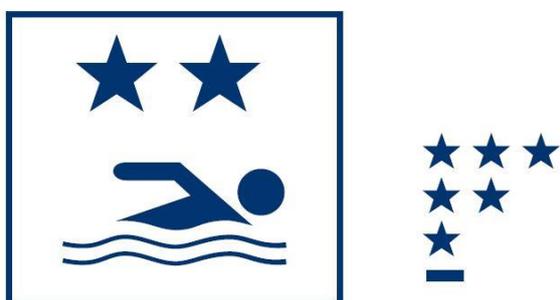
2017: Excellent bathing water quality



2016: Good bathing water quality



2015: Good bathing water quality



A classification for each bathing water is calculated annually, based on all of the samples from the previous four years. These classifications, from best to worst, are “excellent”, “good”, “sufficient” or “poor”.

Classification	Thresholds	Confidence level
Excellent	EC: ≤ 250 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 100 cfu/100ml	95 th percentile
Good	EC: ≤ 500 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 200 cfu/100ml	95 th percentile
Sufficient	EC: ≤ 500 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 185 cfu/100ml	90 th percentile
Poor	Values are worse than sufficient	

Escherichia coli (EC)

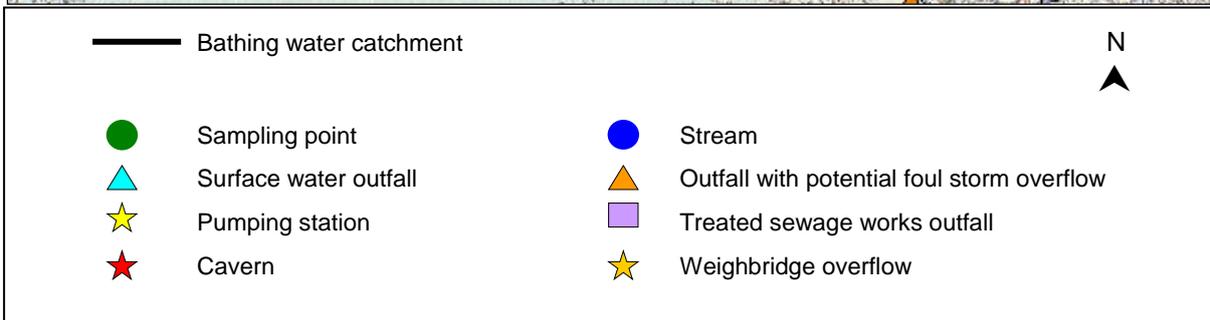
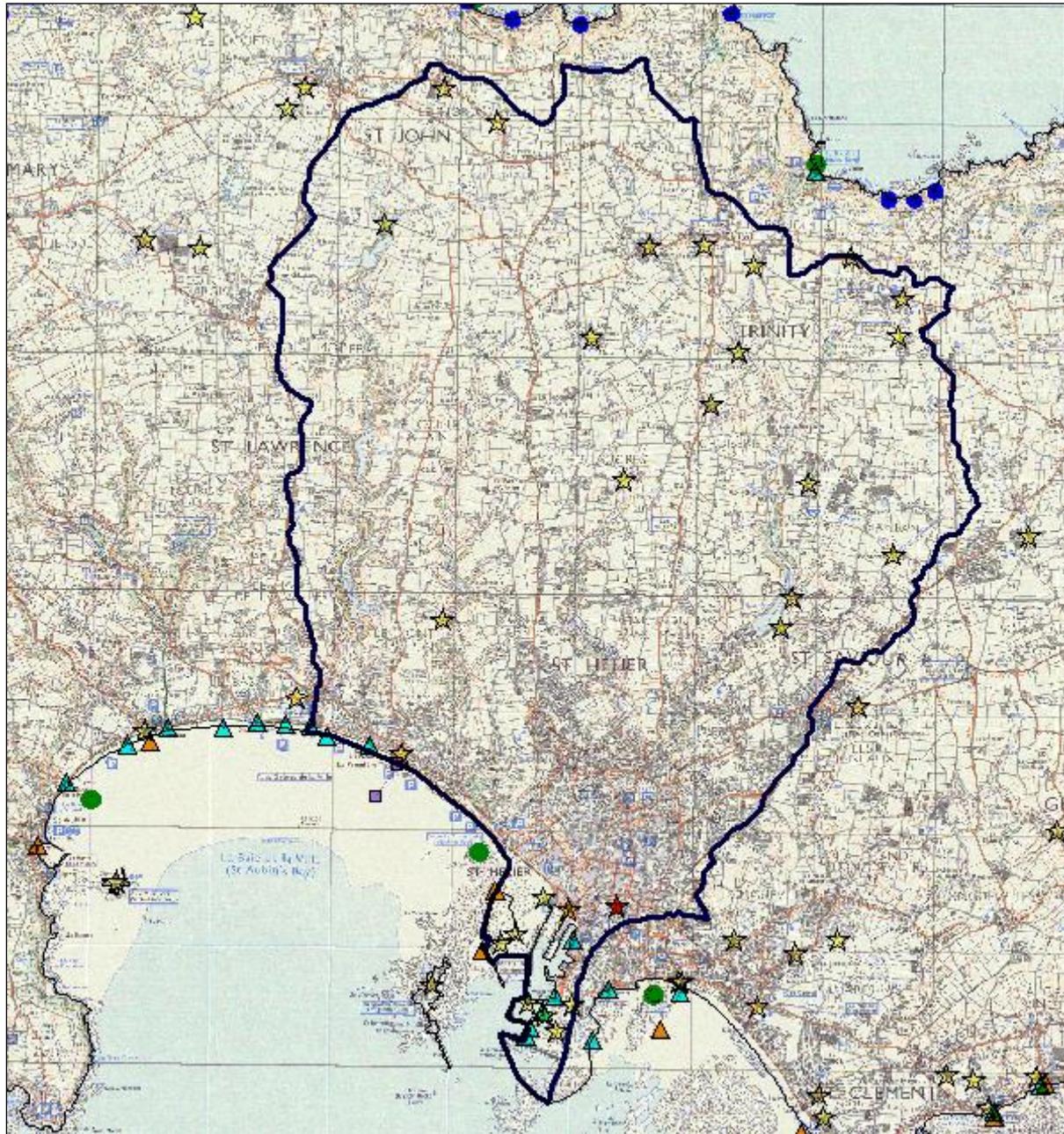
Intestinal enterococci (IE)

Bathing water description

The Victoria Pool bathing water stretches approximately 5 km along the south coast of Jersey. The beach slopes gently, resulting in a long distance to the sea at low tide. The beach consists of sand and shingle with some areas of rock towards Elizabeth Castle and the harbour, which become exposed at lower tides. Samples are collected within the bathing water pool unless the pool is empty at low tide.

During and after heavy rainfall events water quality may deteriorate in streams and outfalls flowing onto the beach.

Bathing water map

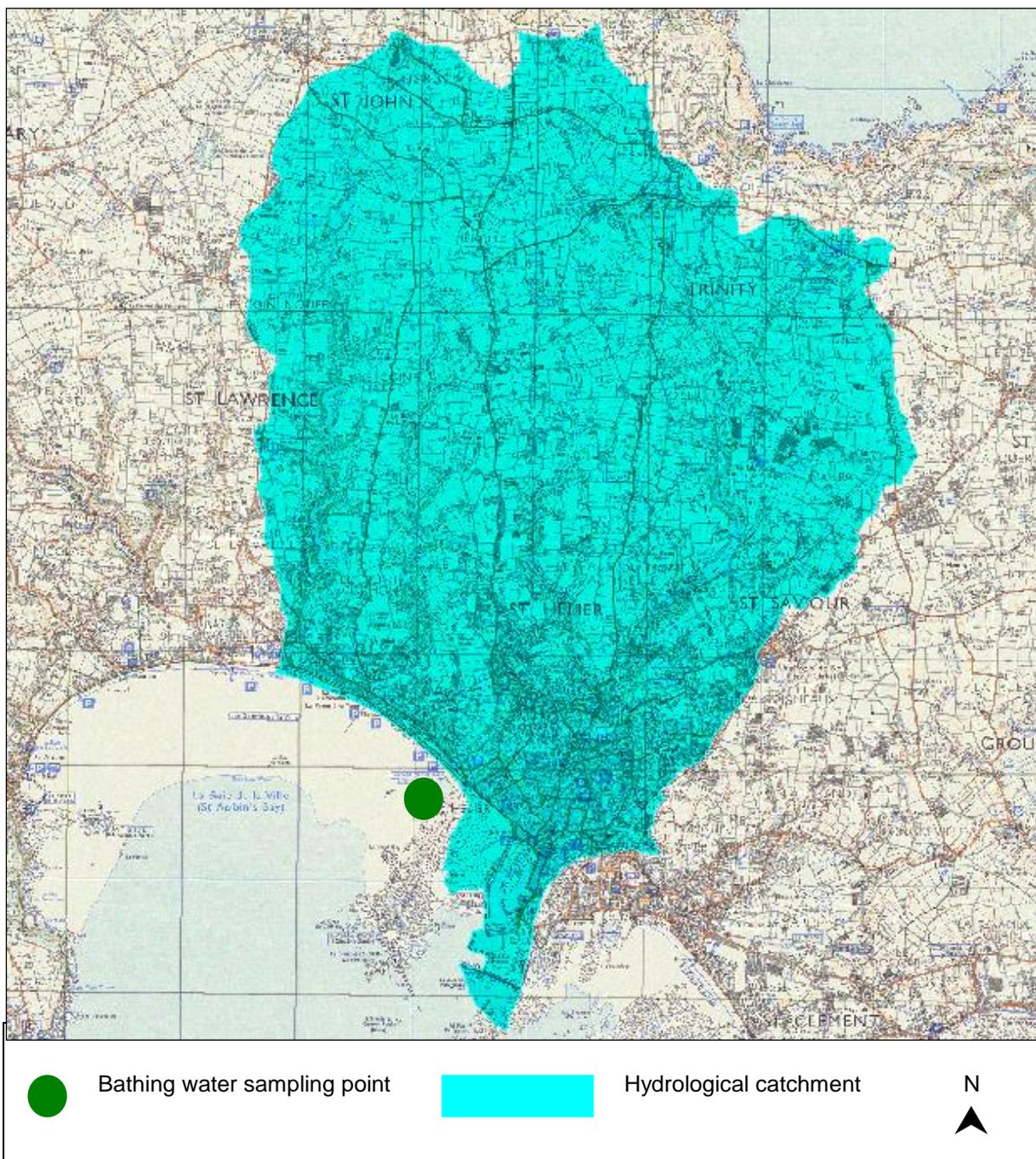


Catchment description

The natural drainage (hydrological) catchment surrounding the bathing water is approximately 3,003 hectares. The catchment consists of four stream valleys surrounded by steeply sloping hills. Water running off the land into the streams will reach the beach via the outfalls.

This is the largest catchment with residential properties and businesses comprising approximately 35 percent of the catchment. Approximately 60 percent of the catchment is agricultural with land split equally between arable and livestock. Natural vegetation consists of mainly wooded valleys. Surface water features such as Grands Vaux reservoir and the reservoirs in Waterworks Valley cover approximately one percent of the catchment. Other land-use includes two trading estates and part of the La Collette land reclamation site.

Catchment map



Pollution management

The quality of the sea is dependant on the type and size of land (the catchment) draining to the coast and the activities undertaken on it.

The following section gives an indication of potential sources of pollution, conditions under which they may arise and measures put in place to drive improvements.

Sewage Treatment Works outfall

Twenty-four compliance samples are collected in each calendar year from a designated sampling point within the Bellozane Sewage Treatment Works post ultra violet treatment, and are analysed for Chemical Oxygen Demand, Suspended Solids, Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Nitrogen. In 2000 a discharge permit was issued for this plant to regulate the discharge. Flows of sewage up to 77,760 m³ per day receive primary settlement, biological treatment by activated sludge process and ultra violet (UV) disinfection prior to discharge to St Aubin's Bay. Storm flows above this level up to a maximum of 86,400 m³ per day receive primary settlement and UV disinfection before discharge. The UV dose must be achieved and is regulated through the discharge permit under the Water Pollution (Jersey) Law 2000. The low-water and high-water outfall are indicated by the purple square on the bathing water map.

Emergency/Storm overflows

There are 28 pumping stations, a storage cavern and a penstock located within this catchment. Nine pumping stations are located close to the coast whilst the remaining 19 are situated further inland. First Tower pumping station has a high capacity overflow to the cavern at the Weighbridge overflow. The Underpass pumping station has no overflow capacity and spills in the underpass roadway. The Cavern has a 25,000 m³ storm water storage capacity. Once the storage capacity is reached there is an overflow to the Weighbridge. The Weighbridge overflow spills to sea if the Cavern is full via the West of Albert Marina surface water station. The West of Albert Marina surface water pumping station is a surface water pumping station during normal flow conditions. There is no overflow capacity and surface water discharges to sea via the Elizabeth Marina (Weighbridge) outfall. Elizabeth Castle pumping station has no overflow capacity and spills at the station. Elizabeth Harbour pumping station has no overflow capacity and spills at the station. Victoria Pier pumping station has no overflow capacity and spills at the station. La Collette Fuel Farm is a surface water pumping station. La Collette Marina pumping station has a small overflow capacity and spills in the road outside the station once the overflow capacity is reached. La Collette Power Station pumping station has no overflow capacity and spills outside the station. The overflows operate during heavy rainfall when the sewerage system can become overwhelmed by the amount of surface waters entering the sewerage system. The overflows prevent sewage from backing up pipes and flooding properties. The Weighbridge overflow has spilled via the West of Albert Marina surface water station through the Elizabeth Marina (Weighbridge) outfall during 30 storm events and one power failure due to a lightning strike in the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. The spills during the bathing season occurred on: 25 August 2012 lasting 1 hour and 28 minutes, 13 August 2015 lasting 2 hours and 53 minutes and later the same day lasting 3 hours and 9 minutes, and 18 September 2015 lasting 49 minutes. La Collette Marina, La Collette, La Collette Green Waste Site, Victoria Pier, Elizabeth Castle, Elizabeth Harbour, Underpass and First Tower pumping stations have not spilled during the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016.

Union Street Combined Sewer Overflow has spilled three times during the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. All three spills occurred during the bathing water season. The spill of 11 June 2015 lasted 15 minutes. On 12 August 2015 a spill lasted 8 minutes and a further spill occurred overnight on 12 – 13 August lasting a total of 1 hour and 3 minutes.

Esplanade Combined Sewer Overflow has spilled once, during heavy rainfall, in the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. This spill occurred during the bathing water season on 13 August 2015 and lasted 4 minutes.

King Street Combined Sewer Overflow has spilled five times, during heavy rainfall, in the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. The spill of 11 June 2015 lasting 30 minutes is the only spill to occur during the bathing water season.

Misconnections

The misconnection of domestic foul water to surface water drainage can affect the water quality of streams and the sea.

Environmental Protection is not aware of any current misconnections within the bathing water catchment.

Surface water outfalls

There are twelve outfalls situated within this catchment (indicated by the light-blue triangles orange triangles and purple squares on the bathing water map). The closest outfall to the sampling point is at Elizabeth Marina located 350 m to the south-east of the sampling point. Any contamination entering the streams and surface water drains will discharge through these outfalls onto the beach. This is most likely to occur after heavy rainfall. EP currently routinely monitors the water quality of Millbrook, First Tower, Gloucester Street and Weighbridge outfalls.

Highway drains

Heavy rain falling on pavements and roads often drains into highway drains surface water sewers, ending up in local streams, and ultimately, the sea.

Highway drains are often connected to streams which could result in the quality of the stream or bathing water becoming adversely affected, especially following periods of heavy rainfall.

Working with the farming community

There are between 1,800 and 1,900 cattle within this catchment with 1,500 cattle registered between four farms. There are approximately 50 sheep and approximately 50 pigs registered within the catchment. There are approximately 16,500 poultry registered at various holdings within the catchment.

All farmers are required to adhere to the cross-compliance requirements in order to be able to claim the single area payment under the States of Jersey Rural Economic Strategy. This cross-compliance involves a number of measures to minimise pollution including where necessary a 'Farm Manure Waste Management Plan'.

During and after periods of heavy rainfall, run-off from agricultural areas will be greatly increased. The quality of the bathing water may be adversely affected as a result of such events.

Working with industry

There are a variety of activities taking place around the harbour, which include land reclamation, aggregate recycling and green waste recycling. The fuel farm is also situated at La Collette. The drainage for most of the town centre discharges through either Elizabeth Marina (Weighbridge) or the Gloucester Street outfalls.

There should be minimal impact on the bathing water quality from these sites.

Working with private owners

Approximately ten percent of domestic properties are not on the main sewerage system and have private sewage treatment arrangements. EP do not believe these are a source of pollution to the bathing water at present. If any concerns arise, EP will investigate and request immediate remedial action from those responsible.

Streams

Streams can be affected by human or industrial inputs from further up the catchment. There are four streams and which drain through various outfalls within this catchment (see bathing water map). The Grands Vaux stream is one of the largest in the island. These streams may sometimes be a source of poorer water quality than usual after heavy rainfall. EP routinely monitors the water quality of the Valley des Vaux and Waterworks Valley streams. EP has historically monitored the water quality of the Grands Vaux stream

Boats

Fishing boats and pleasure craft moor in this bathing water at Elizabeth Marina, St Helier Harbour, Old Harbour, English Harbour, French Harbour and La Collette Yacht Basin which collectively provide the largest number of berths in Jersey. The ferry terminals to the UK, France and other Channel Islands are also located at Elizabeth Harbour and St Helier Harbour, within this catchment.

Wildlife

Seagulls are often present at this bathing water.

Algae

Macroalgae (seaweed) and phytoplankton (microscopic algae) are a natural part of the marine environment.

Seaweed (macroalgae)

EP's current information suggests that the bathing water can be subject to excesses of seaweed depending on tides and the weather.

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton (microscopic algae) naturally increase in numbers at certain times of the year. This process is known as a phytoplankton bloom. EP's current information suggests that this bathing water is unaffected by phytoplankton blooms.

Access and Facilities

Parking	✓
Easy access	✓
Access by steps	
Refreshments	✓
Deck chair hire	✓
Watersports	✓
Toilets	✓
Disabled toilets	✓
Showers	✓
Lifeguards	

Further information

To make any comments about the contents of this bathing water profile please send an email to: envprotection@gov.je. Please phone the water pollution hotline on Tel: 709535 to report pollution. For health advice please contact Environmental Health on Tel: 445808 or visit www.gov.je/environmentalhealth

About this document

Original: August 2011

Last update: May 2018

Next update: