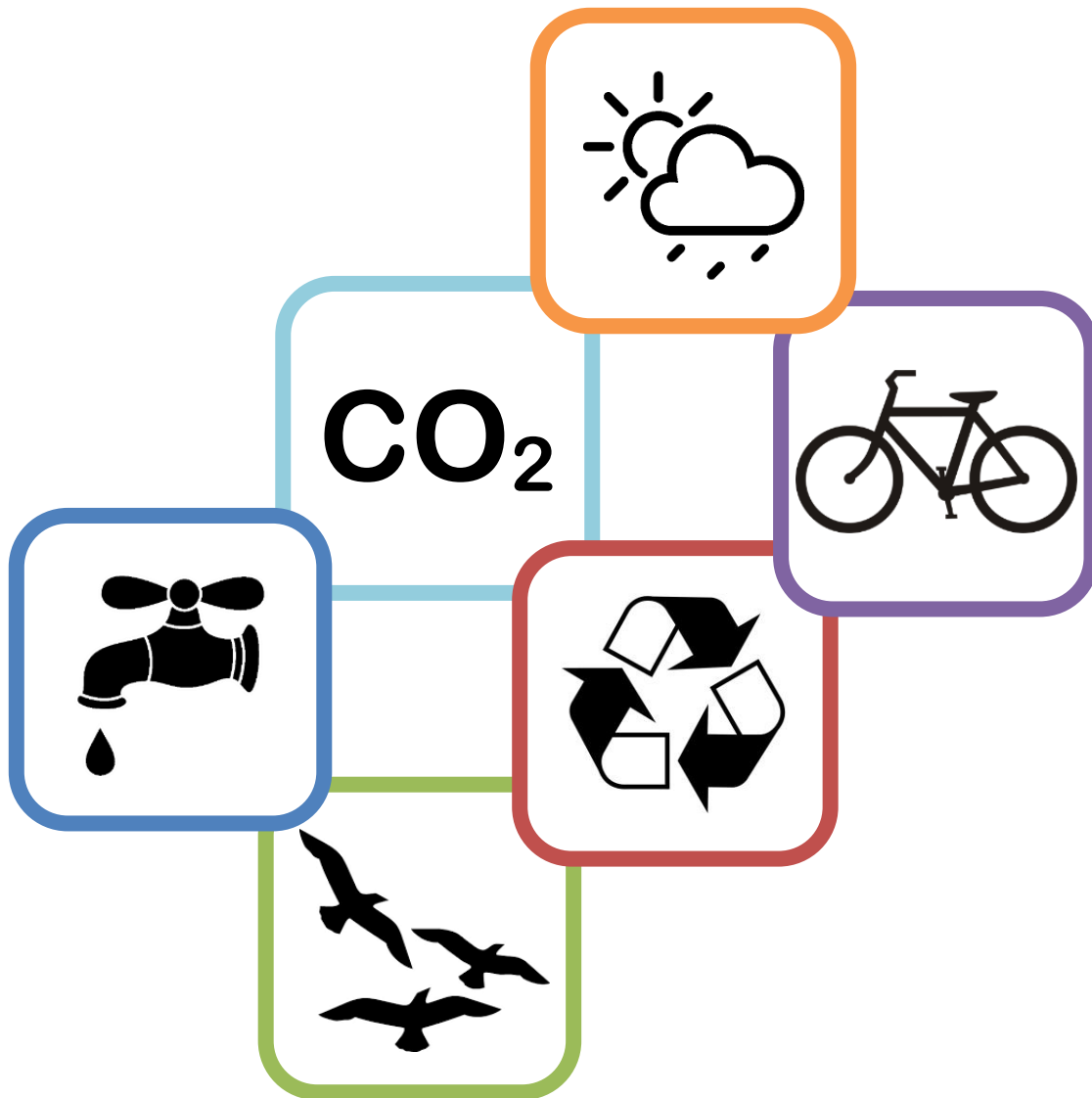




Department of the Environment

The Environment in Figures: A report on the condition of Jersey's environment 2011-2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY





Further Information

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Foreword from the Minister

It is easy to think of the environment as a backdrop to our daily lives but it delivers much more to us than simple aesthetics. Clean air, water, soil, our seas, biodiversity and green spaces are all highly valued and make Jersey a special place to live, work and do business. They all deliver multiple benefits to the human population that can be termed 'eco-system services' which underpin the high quality environment that we all enjoy. However, the interactions and interrelationships within our environment are complex and as this report shows, the influence of human activity can disrupt this finely balanced equation. This Environment in Figures report looks at the most recent trends in 48 environmental indicators and tells us how our environment is performing.

The last report in this series was published in 2011 when I was serving on the Environment Scrutiny Panel and in 2014, I became Minister for the Environment. I needed to ensure that the actions set out in the previous report met the environmental challenges and continued to be implemented to protect these vital eco system services.

We are experiencing pressures on our infrastructure from many factors including extreme weather events and changed rainfall patterns caused by climate change. These impacts alongside others, such as higher than expected population increase, could mean that the operating limits of the infrastructure are exceeded and might result in environmental pollution and harm. To avoid this we must manage demand and our resource use. For example, reducing and recycling waste to minimise the amounts of inappropriate wastes disposed of through our energy from waste plant, or using water wisely to reduce pressure in terms of both water supply and treatment.

Public engagement programmes such as eco active, green travel fortnight and recycle for Jersey, provide information and practical solutions to encourage collective responsibility in reducing environmental impact. For example, eco active helps to deliver demand management through a suite of tailored programmes across many sectors, including a bespoke environmental management system for the business community, schools and the public sector.

Nevertheless, this report shows that where only passive, rather than more punitive measures have been used, the combined impact of these initiatives and the efforts of the general public has been limited. For example, the sustainable transport plan has only been partially successful in terms of modal shift. This has largely been due to an amendment accepted by the States Assembly not to significantly increase the cost of motoring until a viable alternative was available to all. Therefore, implementation relied solely on encouragement and the provision of improved services to drive behaviour change towards sustainable travel. It did not impact on the direct costs of motoring. If we are to achieve the level of environmental protection that we know the public want, and meet requirements of best international practise to



which we are committed, then we will need to consider what other policy levers may be appropriate.

Our local environment doesn't exist in isolation. PWC¹, among others, has looked at the factors that are shaping and disrupting the global economic landscape and society. These 'megatrends' are as relevant at the local level and provide a powerful lens for examining the global changes that impact us all, such as climate change and resource scarcity.

In August 2015 Barak Obama, said *"No challenge poses a greater threat to our future and future generations than a change in climate"...* He warned that this was *"the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last generation that can do something about it."*

The historic 2015 Paris agreement, is a global political consensus on the need for action, with over 170 world leaders committing to limit warming to less than 2°C by 2100 to avoid the impacts of dangerous climate change. The evidence from this report shows that we are already experiencing these trends locally with associated impacts on our ecosystems services. However, Jersey is addressing its carbon emissions by implementing the recently agreed 2014 Energy Plan which presents a pathway towards a low carbon future.

Patterns of decline in global biodiversity are seen locally in reductions of migrating species. The the numbers of migrating species we ultimately see reaching Jersey's shores are impacted by global habitat loss and degradation, hunting and trapping. Maintaining our internationally recognised biodiversity is intrinsically important from a global biodiversity perspective as well as to enhance the health and well-being of Jersey's residents. Islanders enjoy a high quality natural environment and Jersey is an attractive place for people to live, work and do business whilst active enjoyment of our outstanding countryside and coastal waters promote physical and mental wellbeing.

It is a matter of concern that this report is not more positive. Whilst some progress has been made, there are still significant challenges ahead. We need to fundamentally re-examine and prepare for the impact of global megatrends on our local environment. This will mean re-evaluating how we account for the value and contribution of our environment and the ecosystem services it provides, within our strategic and long term decision making. The Council of Ministers recognise the high value of our environment both in terms of the services it gives us and the contribution it makes to our quality of life in Jersey. The results from the 2016 Island Vision survey show the value that the public place in a high quality environment. The challenge is to continue to ensure the policies we develop to protect our environment are successful.

Steve Luce
Minister for the Environment
September 2016



¹ [Link to PWC Climate change and resource scarcity webpage](#)



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Welcome

Welcome to the executive summary of The Environment in Figures: A report on the condition of Jersey's environment, which covers the reporting period from 2011 to 2015. This report is the third in a series of environmental monitoring reports, the first of which was published in 2005². It examined the available historic environmental data and considered this in the context of the issues raised in a number of previous environmental reports.

The 2005 report identified five key environmental priorities summarised below:

- Climate change
- High levels of waste reduction
- Pressure on the quantity and quality of our water resources
- Transport
- Changes in our countryside and natural history

Recommendations to address these priorities were made, and this set the strategic direction for the next 5 years.

In 2010³ the second report was published and the process was repeated, with the evidence this time highlighting in particular, that the following priorities should be focused on:

- Agreeing an Energy Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Developing a new liquid waste strategy and improving the Island's recycling targets;
- Ensuring the availability and quality of fresh water;
- Protecting our marine environment and ensuring sustainable existing and potential economic activity there;
- Meeting and surpassing the targets set in the Sustainable Travel and Transport Plan supported by the new Island Plan
- Protecting and enhancing our biodiversity and heritage landscape through legislation, the 2011 Island Plan and incentives for the agricultural that purchase environmental goods and services.

In this latest report, the indicators have been updated to the end of 2015. They continue to measure progress towards meeting the environmental challenges in the key areas of energy and emissions, climate trends, fresh waters, marine waters, waste, transport and natural environment. The 48 indicators detailed in the report have been summarised in the performance table and the trend overview and show an 'at a glance' position in respect of our environment to the end of 2015.

In early 2016, it became apparent through a more extensive testing regime that historic legacy of pesticides in our fresh waters was more extensive than previously recognised. Ongoing monitoring will continue to record progress in this area along with continued awareness raising with the agriculture industry. The next Environment in Figures report will provide further information on this issue.

² [The State of Jersey \(2005\)](#)

³ [State of Jersey Report 2005-2010](#)





The indicators at a glance

This table provides an overview of the trend for each of the indicators over the period from 2011 to 2015. A traffic lights system; red, amber or green (RAG), has been applied to provide an overview of how each indicator is performing; red meaning static or a declining trend; amber meaning static or slight change; green representing increasing trends or good performance.

Full details of each indicator are included in the full report where information is provided on how data has been collected and interpreted.

Summary table of indicators

Ref:	Indicator description	RAG 2010	RAG 2015
Energy and Emissions			
E1	The energy consumption of hydrocarbons by end users	●	●
E2	Greenhouse gas emissions	●	●
Climate Trends (compared to 30 year norm)			
C1	Increasing average air temperature (warmer)	Yes	Yes
C2	Extended growing season	No	Yes
C3a	Increasing volumes of Winter rainfall	No	Yes
C3b	Increasing volumes of Summer rainfall	Yes	Yes
C4	Increasing number of heavy rainfall days (over 25mm)	No	No
C5a	Decreasing number of cold spells	Yes	Yes
C5b	Increasing number of warm spells	Yes	Yes
C6	Increasing sea temperature	Yes	Yes
Fresh Waters			
FW1a	The volume of drinking water supplied by Jersey Water per annum	●	●
FW1b	Depth of the water table at measured sites	●	●
FW1c	Annual leakage of water mains	N/A	●
FW2a	Nitrate levels in groundwater	●	●
FW2b	Nitrate levels in surface water	●	●
FW2c	Pesticide levels in surface waters	●	●
FW2d	Biological quality of surface waters	●	●
FW3	Number and type of reported pollution incidents	●	●
Marine Waters			
MW1a	Levels of compliance with EU Bathing Water Directive	●	●
MW1b	Radioactivity in the marine environment	●	●
MW1c	Toxic algal testing	●	●
MW1d	Heavy metal concentration in shellfish and algae	●	●

Ref:	Indicator description	RAG 2010	RAG 2015
MW2a	Dolphin species abundance	●	●
MW2b	Marine water indicator species - Whelks	●	●
MW2b	Marine water indicator species – Lobsters	●	●
MW3a	Number and status of Ramsar sites	●	●
MW3b	Biotope quality SE Ramsar site	N/A	N/A
Waste			
W1	Number of reported waste incidents under the Waste Management (Jersey) Law 2005 (since 2011)	N/A	●
W2	Total non-inert waste reused/recycled and composted per annum	●	●
W3	Total municipal solid waste (non-inert) arisings per capita	●	●
W4a	Recycling – Total percentage of recyclables collected per annum	●	●
W4b	Recycling – Number of States of Jersey recycling facilities	●	●
W5	Total liquid waste (sewage) processed per annum	●	●
W6	Number of slurry tanks on dairy farms	●	●
Transport			
T1	Annual traffic flow at 12 major sites	●	●
T2	Percentage mode of travel by car	●	●
T3	Atmospheric pollutant monitoring	●	●
Natural Environment			
NE1a	Area of farmed land under agri-environment stewardship schemes	●	●
NE1b	Extent of protected areas on land	●	●
NE1c	Condition of areas/sites of Special Scientific Interest	N/A	●
NE2	The Conservation of Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2000 (as amended)	●	●
NE3	The development of Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP) for protected species	●	●
NE4	Status of butterfly indicator species across key habitat types	N/A	●
NE5a	Status of 12 species of garden birds	●	●
NE5b	Numbers of wading birds	●	●
NE5c	Numbers of breeding birds	●	●
NE6	Bat species diversity and abundance on iBats transect	N/A	●
NE7	Detection and control of regulated organisms	●	●

The trend summary follows on the next page. It provides a snapshot of our environment as evidenced by the information in the 48 indicators across the 6 subject areas.

1. Trend Summary

This trend summary provides a snapshot of our environment as evidenced by the information in the 48 indicators across the 6 subject areas.



ENERGY & EMISSIONS – Local energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions are slowly declining. To reduce our greenhouse gas emissions we must be successful in reducing the on-island demand and have a consistent and reliable supply of low carbon electricity from the French grid and continue to investigate offshore renewable energy generation.



CLIMATE TRENDS - Local climate trends are deviating from the 30 year norm and are in line with global climate change predictions: air and sea temperatures are rising; the growing season is lengthening; both summers and winters are wetter; cold spells are shorter and warm spells are longer.

FRESH WATERS -The quantity and availability of Jersey’s mains supply of water is currently sufficient for the population’s needs.

Although we see signs of improvement, elevated nitrate levels and the presence of pesticides means our water is of a poorer quality than we would aim for. This is a result of a high density population and long-term intensive agricultural practices in close proximity to our water courses and catchments.

MARINE WATERS - The quality of our marine waters and the biodiversity within them is very high. Pressures on the natural resources can arise from fishing activity and other economic activities.



WASTE – The 2005 target recycling rate of 32% was achieved but it has remained static since 2009. Progress has been made with hazardous waste like batteries which can now be recycled. Five parishes have introduced household recycling collections; the other parishes rely on centralised public recycling facilities.

The management of agricultural liquid waste (slurries) has improved considerably. The aging sewerage treatment facilities at Bellozanne are at the end of their useful life, a new plant will be able to treat more flow to deal with the islands increasing population.



TRANSPORT - Despite a target to reduce peak hour traffic by 15% by 2015, levels have only decreased by 1.6%. Traffic and particularly congestion reduces air quality in localised situations in St Helier and cause greenhouse gas emissions.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT - Conservation management of our designated semi-natural sites is successful in preserving local biodiversity. We are not immune to global biodiversity losses as shown by downward trends in migrating species. Indicator species, such as, butterflies and breeding birds show the biodiversity value of urban and agricultural habitats is far lower and also is becoming poorer compared to designated semi-natural sites. Environmental stewardship schemes can improve the value of agricultural habitat for wildlife.





2. Summary of environmental performance

2.1. Energy and emissions

The need to 'agree an Energy Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions' was identified as a priority action in the 2010 report, in line with the requirements of the Kyoto protocol. Following a long period of development and stakeholder engagement, Pathway 2050: An Energy Plan for Jersey was adopted in 2014. It outlines an emissions reduction pathway through to 2050 for a low carbon future; with the aim of secure, affordable, sustainable energy. The Plan is based on three policy clusters of reducing energy demand, providing energy affordability and security of supply. These policies are delivered through actions across all energy use sectors and activities. Global technological advances are likely to impact on the implementation of the Plan, and may accelerate progress. For example, in relation to emissions from transport patterns and vehicle types; currently, one third of emissions come from transport due to dependence on petrol and diesel fuels, it is likely that the global move to low carbon fuel sources for transport will have a positive impact.

In 2014 emissions
were **38%**
LOWER
than in 1990 -
their **LOWEST**
EVER

Progress on the emissions reduction pathway has been variable since 2012, reflecting shocks in the local energy infrastructure. Emissions increased in 2012 - 2013 (indicator E2), following the loss of the 2 sub-sea cables which provide imported electricity from France, requiring generation of on-Island electricity using heavy fuel oil with high emissions. The installation of new sub-sea cables in 2014 has meant that this trend has now reversed. There is potential for Jersey to exploit off-shore renewable energy resources which could increase our security of supply and ensure supply of sustainable energy.

Energy and emissions – Summary of the priorities 2016 - 2020

Continued implementation of the Energy Plan including annual reporting cycle and the 5 year review in 2020.

Agreed priorities within the Plan include:

- Focus on demand management across the following policy clusters: domestic; commercial and government and transport;
- Integrating energy issues into the Island Vision;
- Continued work around the local energy market to ensure that all energy is affordable and fuel poverty is minimised and markets function to the consumer's advantage;
- Ensuring that the local energy market is responsive to opportunities presented by disruptive technologies such as renewable energy embedded generation and storage facilities at the household and community level;
- Continue to prepare the policy and regulatory framework for the development of off-shore utility scale renewable energy.



2.2. Climate trends

The indicators show that the impacts of climate change that are being experienced globally are being felt in Jersey. The historic 2015 Paris agreement aimed to limit warming to less than 2°C by 2100 in order to avoid dangerous climate change. The agreement prioritised the need for countries to put in place resilience and adaptation measures to cope with the changes that are unavoidable and are already being felt.

2014 & 2015
were the
HOTTEST
EVER recorded

By making Jersey climate-resilient and future proofing our Island against sea level rise and the impact of more frequent and severe weather events, we can provide confidence for people to live and for businesses to invest and establish their organisations.

It is a priority to develop a coordinated approach to integrate climate resilience into strategic planning, revision of spatial planning policies and building standards. Technological and engineering solutions can provide confidence and security in our homes and workplaces, whilst maintaining the heritage, countryside and other elements that characterise Jersey.

Changing growing seasons and warmer wetter weather, impacts on agricultural markets and will impact on farming practises and livestock husbandry, crops, management practises and could alter the appearance of the countryside. Jersey is currently able to protect itself against crop pests and diseases, with active eradication and control underway. Changes in local weather conditions will favour the year round survival of some pests and diseases and changing temperatures and wind direction could enable the arrival of new invasive species.

The States of Jersey are working in partnership with key stakeholders to develop a costed Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP) based on a risk assessment which enable decisions about how to spend money on the most vulnerable areas.

Climate trends – Summary of the priorities 2016 - 2020

Jersey must develop an Island wide strategic response to adapt to the local impacts of global climate change. We must develop a costed Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP):

Developing this Plan includes the following:

- Agree the baseline evidence to develop an agreed resilience factor for Jersey;
- Undertake risk assessment to identify priorities for strategic planning including the Island Vision, the Island Plan review, infrastructure planning and ensure climate resilience and response is integrated into emergency risk registers and response plans;
- Carry out an economic assessment of risks of climate change impacts versus the investment needed in climate resilience;
- Ensure a coordinated process to develop a climate resilience and adaptation framework that includes all stakeholders in a framework of corporate governance;
- Continue to monitor local weather, atmospheric trends and input to UK based climate models and work with experts to establish and report accurate data on sea level rise.



2.3. Fresh waters

In 2011, the following environmental priority was recognised 'Ensuring the availability and quality of fresh water'. Jersey has a legacy issue of elevated nitrates in groundwater due to the application of fertilizers to agricultural land. There has been ongoing work to address this diffuse pollution through the Nitrate Working Group and working with multiple farmers at the scale of the whole water catchment. Recent successes include, for the first time, a decoupling of nitrate levels in water from the area of agricultural farmed under potato crops (indicator FW4). However, on occasion, Jersey Water have been unable to provide drinking water that meets World Health Organisation maximum nitrate standards of 50mg/l.

The QUALITY of our water is reduced by
DIFFUSE POLLUTION

Assessing the extent and reducing the occurrences of pesticides in water are a high priority for the Department of the Environment and for Jersey Water; the monitoring regime for pesticides and also for phosphate is being increased and refined accordingly.

The implementation of a Water Plan in 2017 will provide a holistic approach to catchment management reducing inputs of nitrate, pesticides and phosphorus; all stakeholders, agriculturalists, land managers and the public, will play their part in improving water quality.

Jersey depends almost entirely on rainfall for its water. Jersey Water are already storing and abstracting water from most of the island streams. The Island's geology means that the storage capacity of groundwater in underground fractures is limited. Climate change is already changing the expected pattern of rainfall. Longer drier periods, more unpredictable and intense rainfall all add to the complexity of managing the quantity, as well as, the quality of our water resources.

Fresh Waters – Summary of the priorities 2016 - 2020

We must improve the quality of our water which has been affected by agricultural, industrial and domestic land use.

In order to address this we must adopt and implement the forthcoming Water Plan from 2017-2021 with the aim of improving the status of the resource. This will include:

- Implementing measures to reduce inputs of nitrate, pesticides and phosphorus through good land management practices to minimise any further contamination;
- We will need to monitor the success of the policies in the Plan and continue to increase our baseline water quality data;
- We will continue to use a mix of advice, education and regulation to improve the water resource and increase knowledge of the importance of sustainable water resources in the community;
- We will continue to use, and strengthen where necessary, the regulatory tools at our disposal.

Additionally we need adequate supplies of water of sufficient quality as do the water-dependant habitats and flora and fauna. Around 90% of the Island's population receive their water from the public water supply which is predominately collected from streams.



2.4. Marine waters

In 2011 the following environmental priority was recognised 'Protecting our marine environment and ensuring sustainable existing and potential economic activity there'. The quality of our extensive marine waters and the biodiversity within them overall is very high. But pressures on these natural resources can arise from fishing activity and the future impacts of climate change affecting species assemblages.

Preparations for commercialisation of offshore renewable energy in nearby waters will need to take into account potential impact on the marine environment and local fisheries.

The development of Marine Spatial Planning will provide an integrated approach to manage our marine resource effectively in line with high levels of conservation and protection of biodiversity.

The WHELK
FISHERY
continues to decline.
Catches have not
improved in 14 yrs

Marine Waters – Summary of the priorities 2016 – 2020

We must maintain the high quality marine environment and its rich biodiversity which supports traditional industries like fishing and aquaculture.

In order to achieve this we will:

- Continue to ensure compliance with legislation, bilateral agreements and conventions that protect habitats, species and the fisheries resource;
- Re-constitution of Ramsar Management Authority to ensure continued implementation and development of management plans for all Ramsar sites;
- Development of Marine Spatial Planning for Territorial Waters;
- Develop network of existing Marine Protected Areas into a coherent ecological network;
- Ensure a data and evidence led approach to all aspects of marine resource management.



2.5. Waste

In 2011 the following environmental priority was identified 'Developing a new liquid waste strategy and improving the Island's recycling targets'.

Modern living can be resource hungry with increasing demand on water and energy and the production of increased amounts of waste. The regulation of waste management is having a positive impact on pollution and reducing environmental damage and ensures that Jersey is able to demonstrate that it is a responsible jurisdiction complying with good practise.

The provision of recycling facilities and awareness campaigns have not resulted in high levels of participation in recycling or waste reduction. Reduction in waste volumes has resulted from the impact of global manufacturers changing product packaging and materials to meet regulatory requirements. The economics of waste management and recycling are complex, management of waste is a hidden cost to most householders and businesses. In order to increase recycling rates a fundamental transformation of waste management will be required including the introduction of fiscal levers, such as, a commercial waste charge to incentivise recycling as a more financially attractive option. This will increase recycling rates and ensure that Islanders are more aware of both the environmental and financial costs of waste management.

The waste water strategy has been approved and requires the replacement of the sewage treatment works to cope with increasing population and associated higher flow rates, and increased rainfall as a result of climate change.

RECYCLING
rates have
PLATEAUED
at **32%**
since 2009

Waste – Summary of the priorities 2016 - 2020

In 2016 the Department for Infrastructure will commence a fundamental review of waste management as part of a wider public sector reform programme.

There will be political debate and public consultation that will set the waste management strategy for the next 10 years. Recognising this, the following priorities are indicative and they will be superseded by the agreed strategy once published. However, they will include:

- Revision of the solid waste strategy including increased recycling targets. The solid waste management service will be transformed and charging for commercial waste will be introduced;
- Implementing the 2014 waste water strategy and the introduction of charges for liquid waste;
- Continue to abide by internationally agreed standards in future waste management and monitoring of compliance at licenced waste management sites.



2.6. Transport

In 2010 the following environmental priority was recognised 'Meeting and surpassing the targets set in the Sustainable Travel and Transport Plan supported by the new Island Plan'. Despite a target to reduce peak hour traffic by 15% by 2015, levels have only decreased by 1.6%. Traffic and particularly congestion continues to reduce air quality in localised situations in St Helier and cause greenhouse gas emissions.

**PEAK TIME
CONGESTION**
has decreased by
1.6% vs a 15%
TARGET

The sustainable transport plan has been based on incentives and outreach campaigns like the annual cycle challenge, the provision of an improved bus service and associated infrastructure like bus shelters. These encouraging measures have not gone hand-in-hand with more punitive measures that could also drive behaviour change, such as discouraging private car use by increasing car parking charges.

Jersey's only environmental tax, Vehicle Emissions Duty has demonstrated that as long as the charging regime is well designed and not regressive, fiscal levers can bring about behaviour change and reduce environmental impacts. Since its introduction we have seen a move towards smaller, more fuel efficient vehicles in the Jersey fleet. It is clear that without a significantly revised approach achieving anything close to the target of a 15% reduction in peak time travel will be impossible.

Transport – Summary of the priorities 2016 – 2020

The challenges ahead focus on making accelerated progress in line with the following policy objectives:

- Sustainable Transport Policy – continued progress towards a 15% reduction in peak time congestion;
- The Energy Plan – 5 % reduction in the use of motor vehicles on our roads *at all times* by 2020;
- The Air Quality Strategy Action Plan – Continue to provide real time data to underpin evidence base.

The key actions to achieve this are:

- Delivery of Sustainable Transport Policy and Energy Plan and particularly drive modal shift away from private car use;
- Implementation of Island Plan policies and Future of St Helier project to ensure sustainable travel and transport and to support economic prosperity and residential expansion in the urban area;
- Continue to implement air quality monitoring programme and provide publicly available air quality information.



2.7. Natural Environment

In 2011 the following environmental priority was recognised - 'Protecting and enhancing our biodiversity and heritage landscape through legislation, the 2011 Island Plan and incentives for the agricultural that purchase environmental goods and services'.

Species and habitats are the building blocks of our ecosystems, and we regard them as the basic measure of our biodiversity. Jersey is not immune to global biodiversity losses as shown by downward trends in migrating species reaching our shores. In addition, declines in our local wildlife suggest that our conservation efforts to maintain habitats and species are insufficient. However, targeted conservation management on our designated semi-natural sites has proven a successful tool in preserving local biodiversity. Further work in the agricultural sector and building industry need to be implemented to halt further biodiversity losses.

Biodiversity provides many key eco-systems services. Eco-system services are underpinned by fit-for-purpose well-regulated infrastructure that is appropriately regulated and receives sufficient investment to meet best environmental practice operational guidelines. Whilst interactions and interrelationships are complex, eco-system services underpin the high quality environment that we all enjoy; clean air, water, land, biodiversity and green space are all elements that are highly valued in terms of what makes Jersey special. All these aspects are recognised as important in attracting inward investment and the relocation of high productivity individuals to the Island.

As well as providing a stable basis for future diversification of the economy, we need to reconsider our models for assessing success and for evaluating ecosystems services contribution to the economy.

Without active
INTERVENTION
& protection,
our Biodiversity is
DECLINING

Natural Environment – Summary of the priorities 2016-2020

It is imperative that the causes for the observed decline in our island's biodiversity is understood and reversed. This decline is despite the efforts made by many organisations and individuals undertaking conservation activities.

In order to address this our priorities for the next five years include:

- Revision of Jersey's Biodiversity Strategy to meet international obligations and a changing environment. The concept of eco-system services will underpin the development of the Strategy;
- Continued implementation and development of legislation and Island Plan policies to ensure the protection of the Island's biodiversity and habitats;
- Development of Protected Areas Strategy to define the location and extent to which we need to protect land for biodiversity;
- Implementation of the Countryside Access Strategy and ensuring good public access linkages to the wider environment whilst protecting our countryside.
- Continue and strengthen plant biosecurity measures and public awareness of risk.



3. Using The Environment in Figures report to help build an Island Vision

Recognising that many of the environmental challenges we face and their corresponding solutions are long term, in 2015, work began to develop an 'Island Vision' which will describe the sort of place islanders collectively want Jersey to become. Having this agreed vision will improve Jersey's long term planning process beyond the relatively short timescale of each Council of Ministers and the Strategic Plan. This approach will ensure that priorities identified within each electoral cycle sit within a broader vision of the Island's future that encompasses the full range of social, environmental and economic goals.

Whilst the Island will face many important immediate priorities which must be tackled, the Island Vision prevents us from losing sight of the bigger picture.

The Island Vision recognises that the full range of social, environmental and economic goals are inextricably linked.⁴ It describes a set of desired outcomes and the framework, (illustrated to the right), proposes broad themes from the economy, community and the environment. The environmental theme is broken down into: sustainable resources, natural environment and the built and historic environment.



Tangible outcomes have been developed, based on feedback from previous public surveys and consultations, against which it will be possible to monitor progress (the environment outcomes are shown below).

- Air is healthy to breathe
- Fresh water resources are clean and sustainable
- Secure, affordable & sustainable energy
- Waste is managed appropriately
- Managing the threats posed by climate change

Sustainable Resources

- The beauty of Jersey's countryside and coast is protected
- Marine environment is protected
- Wildlife, plants and habitats are protected

Natural Environment

- St Helier is a vibrant capital where people want to live, spend time and invest
- Provides quality homes and neighbourhoods
- Islanders can travel around Jersey easily
- Historic buildings and heritage sites are valued and protected

Built & Historic Environment

The Environment in Figures report provides evidence of progress towards these outcomes and identifies environmental challenges and will help inform the development of appropriate policy responses as required.

⁴ [Link to States of Jersey Longer term plan webpage](#)