If you have any questions that have not been answered below, please send through to regulationenquiries@gov.je

Generic Area	Specific Question(s)	Answer
Testing Standards for Water Supply	What are the testing levels for liquid entering the water treatment plant, and what levels are achieved post-treatment? What testing and analysis is conducted on Jersey's water supply? What were the levels in water in the past?	Jersey Water publishes testing data for PFAS annually and outlines how these compare to the regulations and standards it follows. You can view the 2024 Water Quality Report and previous years by clicking here. The testing covers both raw and treated water samples. Jersey Water has recently commenced testing for PFAS in the sludge created from the separation of silt/solids during the water treatment process. The testing data is not yet available. The Scientific Panel Report Four will undertake further research in this area which is an industry issue globally with emerging treatment technology. Jersey Water are taking steps to ensure the situation is fully understood. Jersey Water started testing for PFAS in April 2019, and the results have been reported in the annual water quality report since then are published on the Jersey Water website. Water Quality Report - Jersey Water
	Are these levels deemed acceptable?	Drinking water in Jersey is regulated according to the Water (Jersey) Law 1972 (as amended). Under this law, Jersey Water is legally required to maintain a supply of "wholesome" water sufficient for domestic purposes. Wholesome water is defined in the associated regulatory schedule and includes a requirement that it does not contain any microorganism, parasite, or substance at a concentration or value that would constitute a potential danger to human health. In the absence of specific water quality parameters relating to PFAS in Jersey, regulations and best practices within the UK and EU are used to monitor test results.

		The EU requires the sum of PFAS (20 compounds) to be less than 0.1µg/l by 12 January 2026 which Jersey Water mains water is fully compliant with. The Jersey Water Quality Report details their performance against these standards and demonstrates compliance with these standards.
Nitrates	What are the standards and processes for removing Nitrates?	Drinking water provided by Jersey Water in Jersey is regulated under the Water (Jersey) Law 1972 (as amended). The law sets out a limit that Nitrate levels in drinking water do not exceed a maximum of 50 mg/litre. A Ministerial decision is in place that, under certain circumstances, would allow Jersey Water to breach the agreed 50mg/litre level. Whilst this is in place Jersey Water has complied with the nitrate standard in drinking water of (50 mg/l) for over a decade and has not needed to utilise the dispensation to maintain supply. This is achieved by selecting and blending raw water supplies. It was also due to the availability of low nitrate water collected in the reservoirs before the growing season began. An Action for Cleaner Water Group comprised of agricultural industry (potato and dairy), Jersey Water and Government representatives have, for some time, worked jointly together to address island water quality issues. The continuing lowering of nitrates in streams is an example of the good work of the group. Both surface water (streams) and groundwater average annual levels remain below the EU and local drinking water limit of 50mg/l. Average levels of nitrates in groundwater have levelled off, with surface water levels continuing to decrease. For more information, click this link to read Jersey Water's annual Water Quality Reports.

Jersey Water Blending	Do Jersey Water still use blending processes to achieve lower PFAS levels?	Jersey Water is not blending water to achieve lower PFAS concentrations. The boreholes in St Ouen's Bay and the abstraction point at Pont Marquet are not in use and have not been used since 2022. Blending is a process used to maintain the quality of water throughout the year, but it is not a specific practice because of PFAS.
Reclamation Site Leak Testing	Is there testing to assess whether the reclamation site near La Collette is leaking PFAS into St. Aubin's Bay?	No, at present there is no specific routine testing for PFAS in this area.
Meeting Time	Change the time of the meeting to suit those coming from town or working.	A survey was circulated to the contacts database. Most of the respondents preferred a 6 p.m. start time and agreed that Les Orms was a good location. Therefore, we have moved future meetings to a 6 p.m. start at Les Orms.
Public Knowledge	What is GOJ doing to increase public awareness of PFAS?	The Government maintains a website that provides information on PFAS and publishes all the papers and minutes from the PFAS Scientific Panel. The website is being improved, and it will include a FAQ section that will contain answers to all questions raised by the public that do not contain personal information or identifiable information. The Government is committed to continuing public meetings and making all information on PFAS public through the website. The Government will continue commissioning the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel, whose business is conducted in public. The PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel is an independent panel. It's made up of external experts recruited from a global pool of specialists in their field. All reports are scoped, prepared, and published in the public domain.

		The Water Quality and Safety programme has a project specifically for public relations, and over the coming year, the website will be improved with significantly more advice and information.
Continuity of Information	What information has been provided to Regulation as part of a handover?	Regulation has been working on PFAS in the background with colleagues in Public Health and Natural Environment for some time. The Water Quality and Safety Programme is about ensuring a coordinated approach, but there is an ongoing need for colleagues from Public Health and Natural Environment to continue as subject matter experts in their area. Briefings have taken place to ensure knowledge transfer and continuity of approach. Information is being collated and organised into a single shared structure to ensure historical information is accessible and available to inform future decision-making.
Food	How is PFAS in food monitored and what standards do we follow?	The Government of Jersey will generally adopt EU parameters for contaminants in food. The EU introduced parameters for PFAS in certain foods on the 1st of January 2023 through this Regulation: COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2023/915. The Government of Jersey has plans to begin a sampling regime based on the parameters set in the aforementioned legislation. This will build on our small trial test performed on potatoes in December 2023 and May 2024.
Establishing background PFAS levels	Based on the blood results in 2022, can you calculate the likely levels of PFAS in blood at the height of the issue?	As part of their work for Report Two, the Scientific Advisory Panel compared the blood results of Jersey plume islanders with levels from other hotspot areas. The full details of the panel's conclusions can be ready in Report Two, section 6.1 - Comparability of exposure. A summary of the main points and conclusions are as follows:

		Key Comparisons and Extrapolations: 1. **Ronneby, Sweden:** • **Average PFOS Levels:** 135 ng/ml • **Timing of Testing:** 6 months to 2 years after primary exposure was identified and stopped. • **Extrapolated Levels:** If testing were conducted 16 years after exposure, the levels would be expected to fall to approximately 10 ng/ml due to PFOS's half-life of about 3 years. 2. **Australia:** • **Average PFOS Levels:** 5.5 ng/ml • **Timing of Testing:** About 4 years after contaminated groundwater was identified and alternative sources were used. • **Extrapolated Levels:** Given the half-life of PFOS, the levels might have been about twice as high (around 11 ng/ml) when the exposures were first identified and controlled. 3. **Jersey:** • **Median PFOS Levels:** 10.9 ng/ml • **Timing of Testing:** 16 years after the most contaminated water supplies were replaced in 2006. **Analysis:** • **Half-Life Consideration:** The half-life of PFOS is approximately 3 years. This means that the levels of PFOS in the blood decrease by half every 3 years.

		• **Extrapolation for Jersey:** If we consider the timing of the Jersey blood tests (16 years after exposure), the levels would have been higher closer to the period of exposure. Using the half-life, we can estimate that the levels would have been significantly higher shortly after the exposure was controlled. **Conclusion:** Based on the extrapolation from the Ronneby data, it is reasonable to assume that the PFOS levels in Jersey residents would have been much higher if tested closer to the exposure period. The current median level of 10.9 ng/ml in Jersey is consistent with the expected decrease over time due to the half-life of PFOS. While there are uncertainties, the Ronneby data provides a valuable reference point. The consensus view is that the exposure in Ronneby is reasonably similar to the situation in Jersey – because this area had exposure from the same type of fire fighting foam in drinking water - making it a useful source of evidence for understanding potential health effects in the Jersey plume area.
Domestic Water Filters for Plume Residents:	What filters are recommended for removing PFAS from the domestic water supply within the household? How do you safely dispose of the filters used? Is the Minister considering funding support for these filters?	The scientific panel will focus on the effectiveness of options to treat the public water supply as part of Report 4's scope. As detailed in the Jersey Water Annual Water Quality Report, the drinking water in Jersey's public supply meets both EU and UK regulations. However, some islanders may wish to explore and utilise domestic treatment options to reduce PFAS further in their supply. To date, the government of Jersey has not conducted any independent research or testing of products designed to reduce water contaminants. However, the Environmental Working Group in America has undertaken independent testing of household options and provided helpful guidance. EWG's 2024 guide to countertop water filters | Environmental Working Group and Getting 'forever chemicals' out of drinking water: EWG's guide to PFAS water filters |

		Environmental Working Group. Although the links are to American retailers the items reviewed are readily available from UK retailers. Any government decision to fund specific domestic filtration solutions must be grounded in sound research and scientific evidence of their effectiveness. Therefore, the Ministers have asked for a review of domestic treatment options to be an early phase of Report Four, after which they will consider the merit of recommending and funding appropriate options. This will be considered alongside the options for a unilateral reduction in PFAS levels through additional treatment methods at our two water treatment plants.