

Managing the Island's water resources

What it means to you



The Island could face future water shortages

The Water Resources Management Plan predicts that, if nothing is done, over the next 25 years demand will increase by 15% whilst at the same time water available for use will go down by 11%.

This means that we could face a shortfall of what the Island needs every day of just over a quarter (26%) - which equates to 6.5 million litres per day.

Universal metering in Jersey

In late Spring 2010, Jersey Water will begin a programme of metering mains water connections (excluding boreholes and other private supplies).

The switch to metering is in the long term interests of all customers, as it will help to keep the price of water down for as long as possible by helping to defer significant costs of securing additional water resources.

Metering is a key factor in helping to encourage water efficiency, identify leakage and reduce waste. Customers are in control of their consumption and can manage their bills. Metering also means that customers on individual supplies, only pay for what they use. Where a meter cannot be fitted, customers will be billed an assessed volume charge, based on the occupancy of their property.



Planning for the future

Jersey Water has announced plans for managing the Island's water resources for the next 25 years.

As an Island with limited underground reserves of water and no links to external water networks, we rely on the collection and storage of surface water for most of the mains water supplied.

The supply of water in the Island is therefore vulnerable to periods of low rainfall or drought. Increases in population, changing lifestyles and changes in rainfall patterns all place increasing demands on the fresh water that we have at our disposal.

There is also a widening gap between the rising demand for water from customers and the water that is available for use.



The Water Resources Management Plan

The Water Resources Management Plan is designed to manage the amount of water available for use, against the increasing demand on the Island's resources.

It has been developed over two years by Jersey Water in conjunction with leading independent water and environmental experts and in consultation with the States' Planning and Environment Water Resources section.

The Plan recommends two different approaches:

- 1 Measures to increase water resources** - which means increasing the supply of water available to use in the Island.
- 2 Measures to reduce consumption** - which means managing the demand for water by reducing waste.



Managing demand

Measure	Detail	Potential saving
Universal metering	From late Spring 2010, Jersey Water will begin a programme of metering all unmetered mains water connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced demand for water of 10 - 20% per household. • Overall potential reduction of 4% of the average daily demand.
Increased leakage reduction	<p>Extending the existing leak detection programme with the use of the latest leak detection technology.</p> <p>Continuing the water main and service renewal programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim is to reduce leakage by 25%. • A potential saving of 5% of the average daily demand.
Water efficiency initiatives	<p>Water saving advice and guidance and ways to reduce wastage.</p> <p>Water audits will be offered for commercial customers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advice and guidance provided will help to enforce water efficiency in the long term.

Increasing water supply

Measure	Detail	Potential added supply
St Ouen's Bay - increased groundwater abstraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 1 million litres of water per day is abstracted from five small boreholes in St Ouen's bay. • The objective is to extract water from additional boreholes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 2 million litres per day.
Increased storage capacity of Val de La Mare reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising the dam (by up to 9 metres). • Timescale as yet undecided but will depend on the success of the other measures in reducing the overall demand for water. This will be reviewed again in 2014. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extra 60 days of water in storage, based on average daily demand.

What happens next?

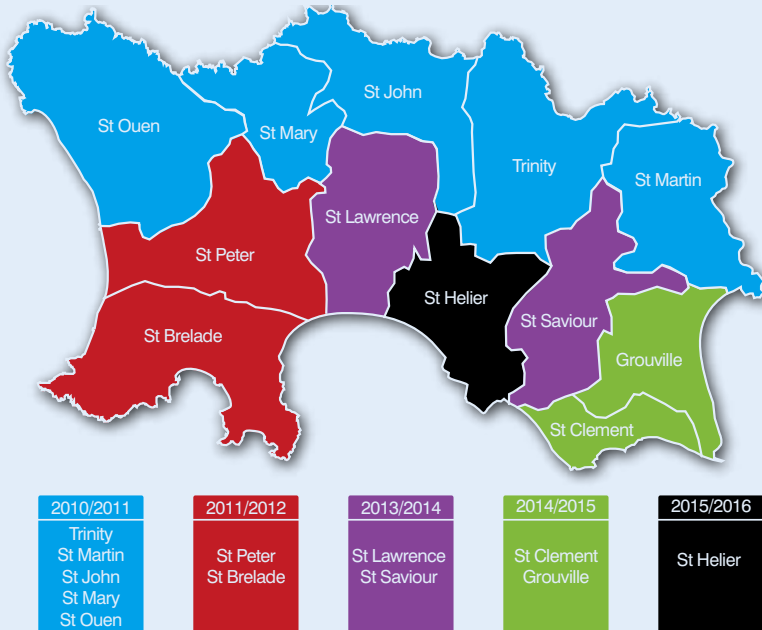
Meter installations will take place over a five year period, starting in late Spring 2010.

In advance of the installation and following a survey of each area, every customer will receive advance notice by way of a letter explaining when their meter will be fitted. There will be no charge for the installation of the meter.

Most installations will be in the roadway or pavement outside the property. Once the meter has been installed, customers will receive further information, with details on how the meter is read, billing information and water saving advice.

You can also find water saving tips on our website www.jerseywater.je

Metering Programme - Provisional Timetable*



For further information, please contact the Customer Accounts Department:

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Jersey Water is the trading name of
The Jersey New Waterworks Company Limited.

*The timetable is provisional only and is subject to change without prior notice. The programme will be rolled out on an area-by-area basis and so will vary from Parish boundaries. The areas and timings above therefore provide a guide only.