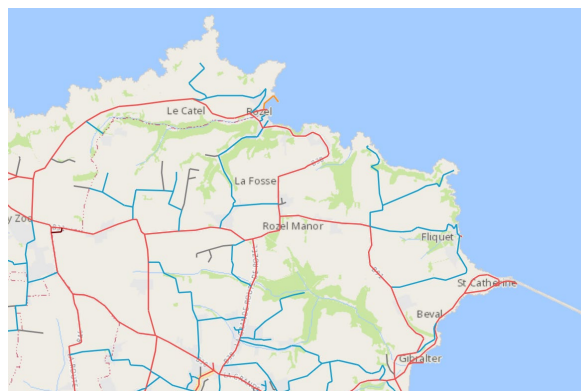


Roads and Roadworks

Overview

This Briefing Paper examines management and maintenance of roads in Jersey, examining legislation, compliance, notification and complaints in relation to road works on the Island.



Roads

Responsibility for roads varies across the Island with most roads managed by either the Operations and Transport section of the Infrastructure and Environment Department (I&E) or by individual Parishes. The Operations and Transport section is responsible for the management of the main road network which includes the construction, maintenance, and overall upkeep of these roads.

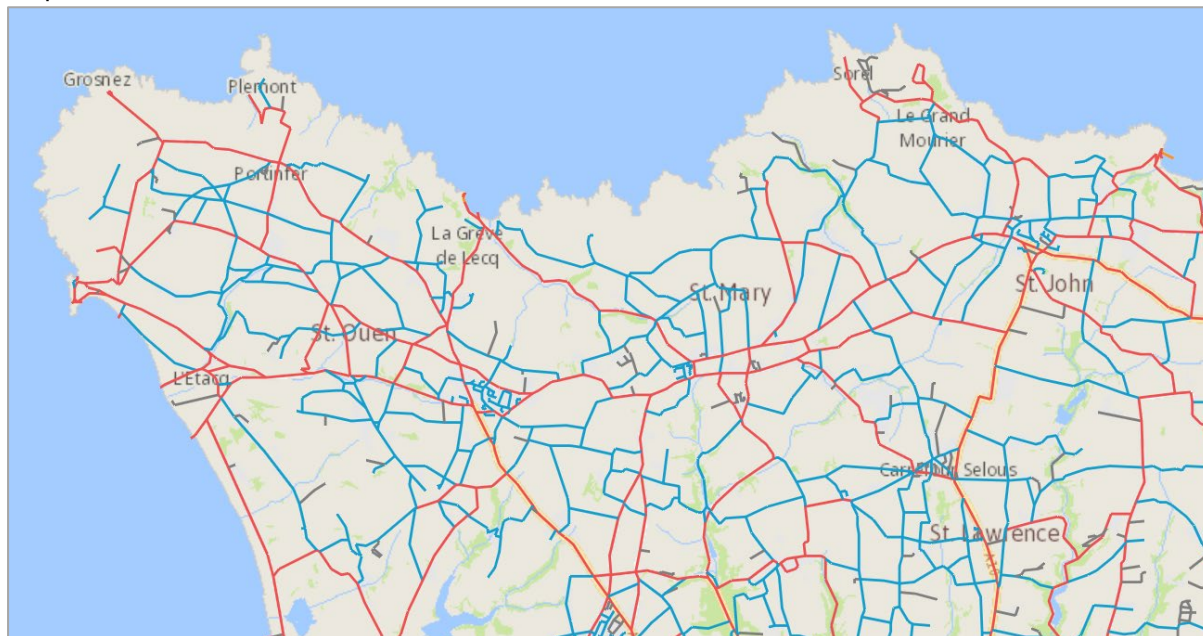
Each parish has a Roads Committee (Comité des Chemins) responsible for administering by-roads (chemins vicinaux). These committees manage the maintenance of their own by-roads and any related legal duties. The duties of these committees are defined in a range of laws including:

- Loi (1914) sur la Voirie
- Highways (Jersey) Law 1956
- Road Traffic (Jersey) Law 1956
- Roads Administration (Jersey) Law 1960
- Roads (Drainage) (Jersey) Law 1962
- Extinguishment of Roads (Jersey) Law 1972
- Road Works and Events (Jersey) Law 2016
- Planning and Building (Jersey) Law 2002

(Source: [Roads – Comité des Connétables](#))

Information on road management responsibility is available by reference to the [Roads Responsibility Map](#). This is an interactive map that allows searching for a particular road or filtering by different bodies to see which roads they manage.

The below section of the [Roads Responsibility Map](#) illustrates how road responsibility is allocated, with the I&E Department responsible for roads marked in red while Parishes are responsible for roads marked in blue.



The map allows for filtering by parish, department or other bodies that manage certain roads such as Ports of Jersey or Jersey Property Holdings. The example below is filtered to show just those roads that are the responsibility of the Parish of St. Ouen.





Legislation

In March 2021 the Minister for Infrastructure agreed to a review to improve road transport legislation ([Road Transport Legislation: Review, Update and Drafting](#), MD-T-2021-0024).

Progressing this work was grouped into 5 themes:

1. Road Authority structure and duties
2. Powers to keep and make roads safe
3. Funding
4. Legislation structure
5. Future proofing

The 2025 [Critical Infrastructure Resilience – Transport Links](#) report by the Comptroller and Auditor General noted –

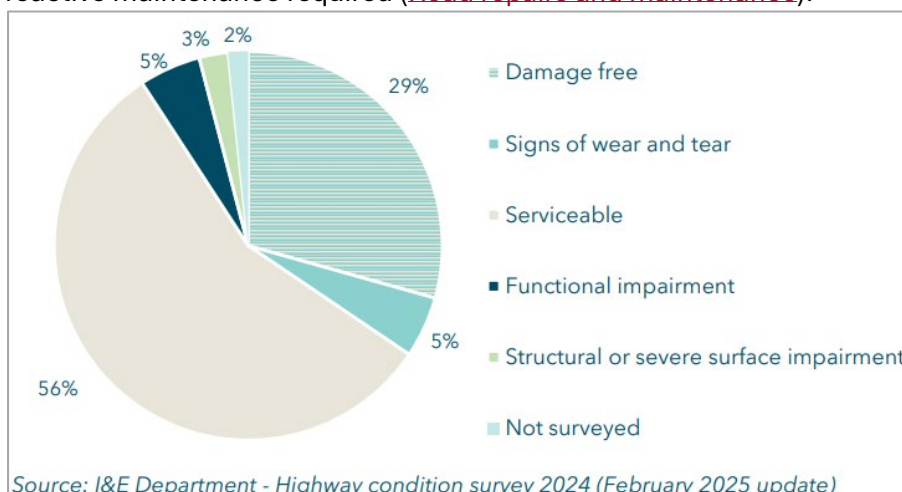
“Areas in need of resolution included:

- *the six different legal regimes covering management of public roads*
 - *inadequate Highways Authority powers*
 - *unclear Parish Roads Committees’ status, powers and legal liability; and*
 - *whether to introduce civil liability for non-repair of public roads.”*
- (p. 58, paragraph 223)

The law drafting is expected to begin at the end of 2025 and will take approximately three years to complete.

Roadworks

Road condition surveys are undertaken by each Parish’s Roads Committee every September or more often if necessary ([Roads | Comité des Connétables](#)). While the I&E Department undertake a condition survey every 3 years which informs the development of a 5-year planned maintenance programme. I&E also have inspectors who regularly check the roads for any reactive maintenance required ([Road repairs and maintenance](#)).



([R-129-2025.pdf](#), p. 61)



It is worth noting that road closures may not relate to issues with the roads themselves. Currently, there is work underway to update the combined sewer system in parts of Jersey. This involves separating foul and surface water systems, so they no longer drain into the same pipe which puts undue stress on the sewer system. This frequently depends on the closure of roads to allow works to be undertaken.

[Road Works and Events \(Jersey\) Law 2016](#) provides for the regulation of road works and events affecting roads. The Law's Parts cover –

- Duties on highway authorities and on persons carrying out works
- Road works permits
- Emergency and urgent works
- Safety, training and supervision
- Restrictions on undertaker works
- Damage and reinstatement
- Apparatus
- Enforcement powers of relevant highway authority
- Liability
- Powers to make regulations for charging
- Events
- Restriction of road use in respect of works or events
- Matters relating to decisions, determinations, proceedings and penalties

A permit must be obtained to carry out road works (Part 3 of the Law). The Minister for Infrastructure may prescribe road works as exempt from the requirement to have a permit and use an Order to prescribe the works instead. However, an Order cannot be used should the road works involve the following –

- (a) the breaking up or excavation or other disturbance of the surface of the road;
- (b) the closure of a road normally used by vehicular traffic;
- (c) the use of portable traffic lights. (12(3))

Section **15 - Permit conditions** mentions –

- (f) consultation with those likely to be affected by the proposed permit works;
- (g) publicity for the permit works;

It is the responsibility of the Government of Jersey and Parish authorities to inform the public about planned works and to consult on these projects. Stakeholder consultation and public notification are parts of the process when applying for a road works permit ([Applying for road works permits](#)).

The [Road Works \(Permit Fees\) \(Jersey\) Order 2019](#) sets out permit fees which are decided by three factors –

- traffic impact level (low-very high)
- Duration (in days)
- Use of scaffolding

The [Road Works \(Specified Road Works\) \(Jersey\) Order 2018](#) includes table providing a description of activities in relation to road works and the circumstances in which that activity is permitted to be carried out.

Compliance

Instances of either illegal or non-compliant road works [compound disruption on Island roads](#) and must be identified and managed by the body responsible for the impacted roads. A 2024 survey on the road network found that 23% of work was non-compliant and 18% had no permit when it needed one. [That means 41% of all road works did not comply](#). To combat this problem the I&E Department are currently working with law drafters on updating Article 67 of the [Road Works and Events \(Jersey\) Law 2016](#) to improve the imposition of penalties for non-compliant or illegal roadworks. While a compliance framework is also in train.

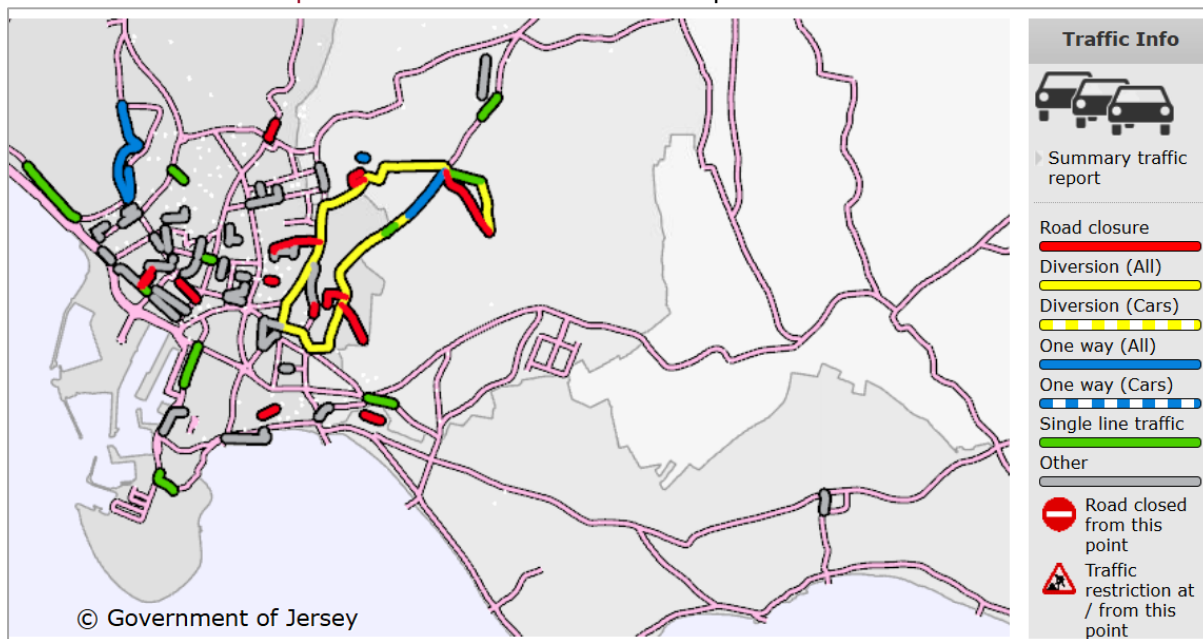
Notification

The Government website entitled [Road closures and delays](#) provides information on projects which generally includes a plan or map and a schedule of work, as well as access and bus diversion information where appropriate. The [Current road closures and delays](#) website lists basic information on road closures, for example –

► St. Helier - Trinity Road - Between Springfield road and Dongola Road

Start date:	Monday, 04/08/25
End date:	Wednesday, 10/09/25
Traffic details:	Road Closure All Day
Promoter:	GoJ Drainage Capital Works
Contractor:	Geomarine
Description:	Continuation of the surface water separation project. Full 24/7 road closure at the bottom of Trinity Road between Springfield Road and Dongola Road. initially planned to be completed by the 1st of September, but unfortunately due to a void that was found during excavations the project has suffered a delay and is now expected to be finished by the 10th of September 2025. Diversion routes posted. Expect delays especially at peak times. Plan your routes carefully and respect temporary traffic arrangements.

A [Road information map](#) is also available to show the impact of road works on the Island –





In addition, the Infrastructure and Environment (I&E) [Facebook page](#) aims to provide up-to-date information on work being undertaken by I&E.

However, issues around communicating road works information to the public, and the subsequent economic impact of road closures, have been noted in the media –

- [Jersey politicians admit more needs to be done to notify public of roadworks - Jersey Evening Post](#) (27 September 2024)
- [Roadworks in Jersey are 'killing part of town' - BBC News](#) (22 August 2025)
- [Harbour-front shops lose trade after parking suspended "without warning" - Jersey Evening Post](#) (28 August 2025)

Reporting and Complaints

If you wish to report potholes or pavement damage you can use the [Love Jersey](#) app or you can email or telephone the relevant parish or the Department for Infrastructure's Roads Maintenance Team, (T.01534 445509, E. dfi@gov.je between 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday) depending on who manages the road you're concerned about. For faulty traffic lights, signs, markings, and crossings call the Department for Infrastructure's Roads Maintenance Team (T.01534 445509), do not use the Love Jersey app for these issues.