

ESPLANADE PILOT



The Government has an ambition to reduce carbon emissions that are driving climate change which is a threat to the global community. The Government’s Sustainable Transport Policy (STP) aims to reduce carbon emissions and congestion and improve health by encouraging active and sustainable travel. Public transport has an important role to play in achieving this.

Bus travel provides a core service for islanders. The service grew to approximately 5 million passengers per year up to 2019. Whilst future improvements will need to take into account the impacts of Covid-19 on travel patterns, there is still a commitment to bus service improvements in the [STP strong start programme](#), including bus priority measures.



In the long term, the STP aims to make the bus the ‘go to’ mode of transport on the island for journeys where walking and cycling can be challenging.

This proposal is for an eastbound bus gate to allow buses heading east to travel directly past Liberation Square to the tunnel. This will reduce delays for the hundreds of passengers a day that normally use this route and improve bus journey reliability.

Why is this scheme taking place?

Buses leaving Liberation Station heading to the east of the Island suffer traffic delays because they have to turn left onto the Esplanade and head west to Castle Street before merging with traffic from the roundabout onto La Route de La Liberation. This causes peak time delays to the service.

A pilot eastbound bus gate and bus lane is proposed for a short section in front of The Pomme d'Or Hotel. This will reduce bus journey delays but will not change any traffic routes available for other vehicles. It will also reinforce the message that sustainable transport should have priority as part of the Government's response to the Climate Emergency.

Whilst this is a new concept for Jersey, this bus advantage scheme implements an STP Strong Start ambition and will contribute to making transport more sustainable.

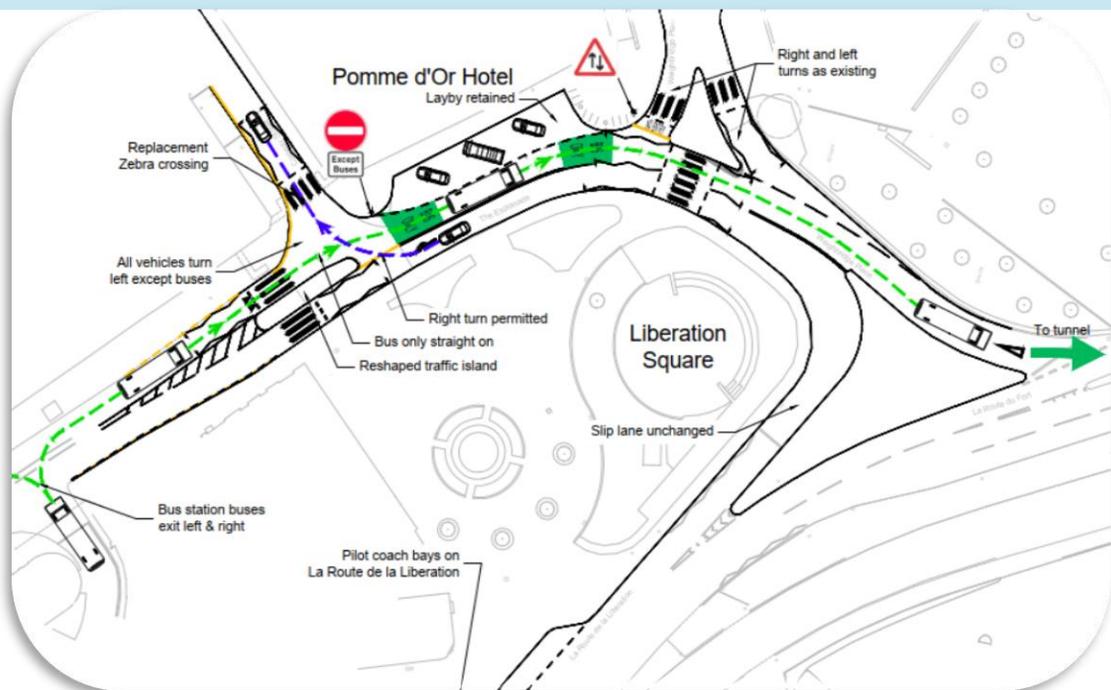
"The Sustainable Transport Policy recognises that any further increase in our current transport system would be unsustainable and not in the best interests of the Island's future. Our entire transport system must be redesigned following the principles of sustainable wellbeing, and this policy framework starts us on that journey."

Deputy Kevin Lewis, Minister for Infrastructure

Benefits of the scheme

The proposal will provide a low intervention pilot scheme which can be further improved when wider improvements are made to the public realm. Additionally,

- As current traffic routes are retained the reallocation of road space will have low impact on the traffic network.
- Eastbound bus lane will reduce journey times to the east of the Island and improve reliability of the service, making it more attractive to use.
- Reduced emissions and congestion on the network is part of the longer term benefits of a more attractive bus service.
- The lay-by in front of Pomme d'Or hotel is retained.
- Pilot coach stops will be located nearby on La Route de La Liberation to improve safety and reduce pick up and drop off traffic disruption around the town side of Liberation Square.



Proposed bus priority routes