

FAO Deputy Patrick Ryan
Chairman
Corporate Services Panel
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
Jersey
JE1 1DD

Dear Mr Ryan

I would like to record my disquiet about the proposed plans to import semen from non-Jersey cattle to upgrade the island breed due to fears about negative impacts of inbreeding and genetic diversity. I published an article in 2004 alongside Mr Allan Treanor and other colleagues which clearly showed there is not a problem of low genetic diversity or of inbreeding on the island Jersey so this proposal is entirely unnecessary. Please read the last sentence of the abstract. I attach that paper for your perusal. Furthermore you may have seen the attached letter from Prof Stephen Hall at the University of Lincoln, citing the need for scrutiny of this proposal by the Defra's standing committee on Farm Animal Genetic Resources. I attach it in case you have not. I think the proposed important has the potentially negative impact of disrupting the gene-pool of a pure, genetically distinct and culturally important cattle population for no legitimate reason and I would like to impress upon you that disregard of my work and that of my colleagues is a potentially negligent aspect of this whole process.

I am at your disposal if you wish to contact me.

Sincerely

Michael Bruford