

20.10.20

**9 Deputy M. Tadier of the Attorney General regarding the legal ownership of the Sir George de Carteret statue in St. Peter (OQ.287/2020):**

Will the Attorney General please advise the States if the States has any legal ownership of the Sir George Carteret statue in St. Peter, and if not who the legal owner is?

**The Solicitor General (Rapporteur):**

The conveyancing team within the Law Officers' Department have recently carried out some very thorough research on this topic. It transpires as a result of that, that the statue stands on land which is in fact owned by the States of Jersey. The reason for that is that little parcel of land once formed part of the A12, the main road through the village which was in States ownership. In the 1950s the route of the A12 was shifted to the east and straightened in order to remove what was a fairly pronounced corner in that part of the road, but the land remained in the ownership of the States and does today. So if the land is owned by the States I suppose the question then is who owns the plinth and the statue that sits on it. My view is that the plinth and the statue are sufficiently permanent a structure that they together amount to a fixture which in turn means that they would be considered in law as forming part of the land on which they sit and thus owned by the landowner, in this case the States. So in the absence of any arrangement or agreement to the contrary - and we have seen none - we think the plinth and statue are owned by the States of Jersey.