

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2016**

Question

Could the Minister advise how many incidences have occurred over the last 5 years concerning detention of certain breeds of dogs by customs officers?

What assessment has she made of whether customs officers are sufficiently resourced to deal with the specifics of such cases and the requirement to obtain an independent assessment to determine a dog's breed?

Answer

There has been one instance of a breed of dog listed in Schedule 1 of the Customs and Excise (Import and Export Control) (Jersey) Order 2006 being detained by officers from the Customs and Immigration Service in the last 5 years.

I am satisfied that the Jersey Customs and Immigration Service is sufficiently resourced to deal with such cases. I would point out, however, that officers in the Service are not trained or qualified to determine a dog's breed and as such have to rely on the advice of an independent person who is recognised as having the appropriate qualification. There are currently no appropriately qualified persons based in Jersey.