

2019.03.12

15 Deputy R. Labey of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding registration documents accepted by the Driver and Vehicle Standards department: [OQ.60/2019]

Will the Minister advise whether the Driver and Vehicle Standards Department in Jersey insists solely on receiving paper V55 certificates, the manufacturer's sales registration document, when registering new vehicles; and, if so, why they are not accepted in electronic format?

Deputy K.C. Lewis (The Minister for Infrastructure):

V55 forms are only available in paper format and so there is no electronic route currently open to Driver and Vehicle Standards. V55 forms are intended for a pre-completion by vehicle manufacturers and are considered secure forms by the D.V.L.A. (Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency) in the United Kingdom.

6.15.1 Deputy R. Labey:

I understand that it is only Jersey and our sister island in Guernsey that do not allow V55 forms to be submitted and exchanged electronically, as compared with the rest of Europe, where this is standard. Will the Minister confirm that and outline any steps that he might - and his department might - be taking to change this anomaly?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Indeed, there are strict guidelines to the access and use of the forms by vehicle manufacturers and dealers to prevent vehicle fraud. D.V.S. (Driver and Vehicle Standards) in Jersey has a fantastic working relationship with the D.V.L.A. in the United Kingdom. Should a secure, electronic, option become available, in the future, D.V.S. will work to ensure that this route is open to local dealers.

6.15.2 Deputy R. Labey:

Has this ever been tried; that this be done electronically? Surely, if it is done throughout Europe, in every other country apart from Jersey and Guernsey, it must be possible, so why can we not do it?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

It is possible, but as we get quite a lot of our vehicles from the United Kingdom, the United Kingdom do not have this facility, as yet. If and when this comes online in the United Kingdom, then Driver and Vehicle Standards would be more than happy to follow suit.

Deputy R. Labey:

I did ask if it had been attempted here in the department.

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Not to my knowledge.

6.15.3 The Connétable of St. Brelade:

Would the Minister confirm that the department has, in fact, got the electronic capability to be able to address this issue?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

I believe that is the case, but, as I have said previously, the United Kingdom, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority in the United Kingdom, who we are very closely aligned to, do not do it as yet. If and when they pursue this line, then we will be more than happy to follow.

6.15.4 Deputy S.M. Wickenden:

Could the Minister not just confirm that there was a project to sort out the D.V.S. into a more digital format over the last 3 years?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Could the Deputy repeat the question?

Deputy S.M. Wickenden:

There was a project to digitise this programme that ran through with the Minister's department over the previous 3 years. Could he look into that please?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Yes. As I say, if and when the United Kingdom come online, we will be more than happy to follow, but most of our cars come from the United Kingdom, so we are not able, as yet, to do a paperless route. If and when they come online, we will be more than happy to follow.

The Bailiff:

Final supplementary? No?