Written Questions

Sarah Wollaston (Totnes, Conservative)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the expenditure incurred by her Department on salaries for full-time investigation staff allocated to the tackling tobacco smuggling strategy for staff (a) engaged in detection, (b) engaged in investigations, (c) working on intelligence matters and (d) in total in 2009-10.

Damian Green (Minister of State (Immigration), Home Office; Ashford, Conservative)

The UK Border Agency deployed an estimated 1,504 full-time equivalent staff to the tobacco strategy in 2009-10, assigned to detection and intelligence duties. Further and more detailed information is not available as the Agency’s expenditure records are not broken down by specific functions and activities.

Investigation and the provision of legal advice in relation to tobacco smuggling remained the responsibility of HM Revenue and Customs.

Dr Wollaston: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many staff in the UK Border Agency were assigned to implementing the tackling tobacco smuggling strategy in 2009-10; and how many such staff were engaged in (a) detection, (b) intelligence gathering and analysis, (c) investigations and (d) the provision of legal advice. [83505]

Damian Green: The UK Border Agency deployed an estimated 1,504 full-time equivalent staff to the tobacco strategy in 2009-10, assigned to detection and intelligence duties. Further and more detailed information on expenditure is not available. Investigation and the provision of legal advice in relation to tobacco smuggling remained the responsibility of HM Revenue and Customs.

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