

C1 Listening1

Ministers are considering ...

Volunteers could be deployed to help plug gaps in the UK's Border Force, which has undergone drastic cuts during the past decade. The plan, similar to the use of special constables in the police, is being considered by the government.

Under the proposal, teams of volunteers would be used to increase the number of staff at the Border Force, which manages immigration and customs controls. The government stressed that involving volunteers in immigration enforcement was not under discussion.

Concerns have been raised in recent years about the coverage of dozens of minor harbours and landing places in the UK. "Small ports and airfields are a known security weakness in our border security, so it's important to ensure that security is stepped up, particularly to stop illegal immigrants," said Charlie Elphicke, the MP for Dover. "But border security is a skilled job, which takes many years of training. I would urge great caution before seeking to adopt a model like that used by the police, with special constables. We can't have a Dad's Army-type of set-up," he added.

A representative of the Border Force's 8,000 staff also expressed concern about the plan and accused the government of "making borders weaker with the use of casual labour". He said it was "risking the country's security to save money". "Border Force are already using poorly trained seasonal workers at most ports and airports, not just at peak periods but throughout the year because of permanent staff cuts. The plans to use volunteer Border Force specials is a further move towards temporary employment of the workforce," he said.

An inspection published earlier this year of 62 ports on the east coast that were normally unmanned found that Border Force officers had not been to 27 of the sites during the past 15 months. The assessment said one of the risks of long periods of non-attendance was that there was "no visible deterrent to anyone who was prepared to risk using these spots to land illegal migrants or contraband".

The Home Office said the Border Force had a good record and that the government was committed to ensuring that it had the necessary resources. "We will never compromise the security of our borders," a spokesman said.

2287n = 2,78 perc OK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/dec/31/ministers-consider-using-volunteers-to-guard-uk-borders>

C1 Listening 1

Maximum score: 15

Listen to the news about the Government's border patrol plans and answer the questions as in the example below.

0. What plan is the Government considering regarding border defence? ___
___the employment of volunteers (on UK borders)___
1. What necessitates the Government's plans? (1)
___the (significant) cuts in (border management) staff ___
2. What places are the two main weak points of UK border security?
(2)
___small ports/harbours___
___and (small) airfields/landing places___
3. What task would remain in professionals' hands? (1)
___immigration enforcement___
4. How does the MP for Dover characterize border patrol job? (1)
___it is a skilled job/it requires a lot of time/many years of training___
4. What is the model the Government's plan is based on? (1)
___special constables in the police___
5. What did the representative of the Border Force accuse the Government of? (3)
___they/the Gvt. make the borders weaker/making the borders weaker___
___(they/the Gvt) endanger (the country's) security/endangering security___
___in order to decrease/cut cost/to economize/they want to save money on staff salaries
6. What did the inspection of 62 unmanned ports on the east coast reveal? (2)
___27 of them had not been checked___
___during the past 15 months___
7. What did the assessment of the results of the inspection say? (2)
___one of the risks (of non attendance/not checking these sites) is/was that there is nothing to deter___
___those who risk using these ports/sites for illegal actions (migrants, contraband)___
8. What did the Home Office say about Border Force performance and border security? (2)
___Border Force has/had a good record___
___the Gvt. will never compromise border security/will always provide the (necessary) resources___

C1 Listening 2

How good are sniffer dogs?

Reporter: Do the cutting edge technologies used at airports to detect drugs mean that more traditional practices, like the use of sniffer dogs for example, have had their day? Sergeant Owen Rogers, from the Cambridge Police Dog Unit, told Radio 1 how our furry four-legged friends continue to help us out.

My first question is: How good is a sniffer dog's sense of smell compared to ours?

Owen - It's not exactly known. However, estimates vary between a hundred and one million times better sense of smell than humans. It all depends on two things within a dog in comparison to the human, the first being the size of the olfactory membrane. Estimates reckon that a German shepherd dog would have 100 million olfactory cells in comparison to a human's 5 million olfactory cells. But it's not just that. It's the area within the brain that is set aside for the detection of smells. Once again, it's massively enhanced in a dog. Again, estimates are about 10% of the brain in a dog and about 0.25% in a human.

Reporter - As well as being able to smell all these different smells, they'll actually be able to tell them apart as well, won't they?

Owen - Scent discrimination is what we call it. So for instance, a dog will be able to tell constituent ingredients of any substance whereas a human could just smell the entire substance.

Reporter - How do you go about training a dog to become a sniffer dog?

Owen - It's not just the breed that counts. It's the actual dog and once you've identified a dog that has sufficient drive to take on the job, you then introduce the substances and you make the dog interested in the substance by rewarding it for sniffing the substance in question.

Reporter - So, lots of dog biscuits.

Owen - Personally, I'm not in favour of biscuits. But a tennis ball goes down very, very well indeed and you will condition the dog, essentially, to stare at the source of the scent until the delivery of a ball. So, dogs are not that intelligent and they will actually think that the ball will appear from the source.

Reporter - How long does it take to train the dog and is it a case of, once it's trained then it's good to go for years and years, and years or do you have to keep refreshing them?

Owen - It depends on what you're trying to achieve. But for the scents to become imprinted within the dog, it can take just a matter of a few weeks. But yes, you have to refresh the dogs very, very regularly, just to reinforce the reward for the find that they have.

<https://www.thenakedscientists.com/articles/interviews/how-good-are-sniffer-dogs>

kb. 2200 n = 2,23 perc (23 mp-vel hosszabb, mint a specifikáció, de ez talán megengedhető)

C1 Listening 2

Maximum score: 10

Listen to the interview with Sergeant Rogers about sniffer dogs and put an X in the right column as in the example (0)

	<i>TRUE</i>	<i>FALSE</i>	<i>NOT MENTIONED</i>
0. Sergeant Rogers works for the Cambridge Police Dog Unit	X		
1. the use of sniffer dogs is an outdated method for drug detection		X	
2. a sniffer dog's sense of smell is one million and one hundred times better than the sense of smell of humans		X	
3. the size of the olfactory membrane was measured by a German scientist			X
4. 10% of a dog's brain is dedicated to the detection of smells	X		
5. humans are incapable of smelling the constituents of a certain material	X		
6. Sergeant Rogers is responsible for selecting the sniffer dogs of his unit			X
7. dogs have to have a drive to become sniffer dogs	X		
8. during training, you have to condition the dog to stare at the substance	X		
9. as dogs are very intelligent, they know that their reward is hidden in the substance		X	
10. you have to refresh the dogs' training every two weeks			X