

GIBRALTAR

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

16th October 2002

Nos 707 to 1124



The Speaker - The Hon Judge J E Alcantara CBE

GOVERNMENT (GSD):

The Hon P R Caruana QC - Chief Minister
The Hon K Azopardi - Minister for Trade, Industry and Telecommunications
The Hon Dr B A Linares - Minister for Education, Training, Culture and Health
The Hon J J Holliday - Minister for Tourism and Transport
The Hon Lt-Col E M Britto OBE , ED - Minister for Public Services, the Environment, Sport and Youth
The Hon H A Corby - Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs
The Hon J J Netto - Minister for Housing
The Hon Mrs Y Del Agua - Minister for Social Affairs
The Hon R Rhoda QC - Attorney General
The Hon T J Bristow - Financial and Development Secretary

OPPOSITION (GSLP/ Liberals):

The Hon J J Bossano - Leader of the Opposition
The Hon Dr J J Garcia
The Hon J L Baldachino
The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo
The Hon Dr R G Valarino
The Hon J C Perez
The Hon S E Linares

D J Reyes Esq, ED - Clerk of the House of Assembly

16th October 2002

Nos 707 to 1124

INDEX

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS 14th October 2002

Questions 707 - 1124

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
2001 Census	1122	765
Abbey National	1007 – 1009	559 – 562
Advertising – London Taxis	1065	654
Advertising – London Underground	1066	655 – 661
Airline Assistance Scheme	862	289
Airline Assistance Scheme	891	333
Airlines	890, 892 - 894	332, 334 -340
Arts Advisory Council	935	412
Banking Licences	1005 – 1006	556 – 558
Bayside School	925	402
Bishop Fitzgerald	932	409
Breathalyser Tests	1037	608
Building Materials	1063	652
Buildings and Works Department	764 – 766	105 – 112
Bus Service	839 – 840	247 –249
Cammel Laird	738 – 739	54 – 57
Casemates Development	1061 – 1062	649 - 651
Catalan Bay	998	546
Cemetery	814	199
Change of School Hours	918	395
City Under Siege Exhibition	860	284 – 285
Civil Service – Industrial Workers	1112	745 – 746
Civil Service – Pay Review	1043	616 – 617
Closed Long Term Benefits Fund	715 – 718	16 –21
Coach Park	841	250 –251
Coach Park Charges	888	328 – 329
Companies Register	1028 – 1029	592 – 597
Competent Authority	1036	607
Conference Sponsorship	1024	587
Consolidated Fund Expenditure	1101	721
Consolidated Fund Revenue	1102	722 – 727
Cost of Referendum	1109	740 – 741
Credit Agricole	1011	564 – 566
Cultural Grants	936 – 938	413 – 418
Dangerous Dogs Legislation	827	225 – 226
Detached Workers	747	65
Development and Planning Commission	999	547
Development Appeals Tribunal	833 – 834	235 – 238
Director of Postal Services	824	220 – 221
Dock Work Ordinance	852	270 – 271
Dr Giraldi Home	727 – 729	33 – 37
Drama Festival	942	422
Drug Rehabilitation Programme	730	38 – 39
Dudley Ward Tunnel	813	196 – 198
Eastside Development	858	280 – 281
E-commerce Training	920	397

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
Education - Behavioural Support Team	905	361
Education – A Level Results	914	371 – 379
Education – A/S Level Results	913	370
Education – Discretionary Grants	917	390 – 394
Education – GCSE Results	912	369
Education – Inclusion Programme	908 – 911	364 – 368
Education – Mandatory Grants	916	381 – 389
Education – Number of Lecturers and Teachers	907	363
Education – Number of Teachers	904	360
Education – School Cleaners	923	400
Education – School Secretaries	922	399
Education – School Stationery	926	403
Education – Schools Capitation	927	404
Education – Threshold Salaries	902 – 903	358 – 359
Education Training Scheme	906	362
Electricity Authority	1041 - 1042	613 – 615
Employment – Contracts Terminated	745	63
Employment – Insurance Industry	762	103
Employment – Moroccan Nationals	754	87
Employment – Non EEC Nationals	753	86
Employment – Number of Gibraltarians	740	58
Employment – Number of Gibraltarians	749	67 – 79
Employment – Number of Unemployed	741	59
Employment – Number of Unemployed	748	66
Employment – Other Nationals	756	89 – 90
Employment – Spanish Nationals	755	88
Employment – Vacancies Filled	744	62
Employment – Wage Subsidy	758 – 761	93 – 102
Employment Injuries Insurance Fund	708 – 709	2 – 3
Employment Regulations (Offences) Ordinance	750 – 751	80 – 83
EU Directive – Protection of Young Workers	757	91 – 92
EU Funding	1023	584 – 586
Europa Incinerator Ltd	808	184 – 186
European Elections	1117	757 – 759
European Incentive and Business Travel Market	901	354 – 357
European Open Skies	1116	754 – 756
European Social Fund	997	544 – 545
Financial Assistance to Companies	1030 – 1031	598 - 601
Frontier Fence	1114	750 – 751
GDP Figure	1103	728 – 729
General Post Office	822	214 – 215
GHA – Algeciras Clinic	971	487 – 488
GHA – Barcelona Clinic	979	505 – 506
GHA – Complaints Procedure	965	473 – 474
GHA – Contact Nurses	988	525 – 529
GHA – Cooks	990	533
GHA – Cost of Treating Pensioners in UK	954 – 955	445 – 446
GHA – Cost of Treating Temporary Visitors in UK	972	489
GHA – Dermatologist	969	482 – 484
GHA – Diabetic Patients	948	433 – 436
GHA – Dialysis Patients	970	485 – 486
GHA – Elderly Care Patients	959	453
GHA – Elderly Patients	960, 962 - 963	454 – 456 461 – 466
GHA – Enrolled Nurses	987	522 – 524
GHA – Gynaecologist Consultant	985	517 – 520

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
GHA – In-Patient Admissions	957	448
GHA – Kitchen Facilities	984	514 – 516
GHA – Malaga Clinic	981	509 – 510
GHA – New Hospital	1079	684 – 686
GHA – Number of Operations Cancelled	961	457 – 460
GHA – Number of Prescriptions	944 – 945, 947	424 – 425 431 – 432
GHA – Out-Patient Attendances	967	476 – 478
GHA – Patient Referrals	977	501
GHA – Post of Chief Executive	989	530 – 532
GHA – Prescription Charges	946 949	426 – 430 437 – 440
GHA – Private Patients	964	467 – 472
GHA – Psycho – Geriatric Patients	968	479 – 481
GHA – Purchase of An Echocardiogram	980	507 – 508
GHA – Quota Patients Treated in UK	976	496 – 500
GHA – Specialist Training for Nurses	986	521
GHA – Sponsored Patients	973 – 975, 978	490 – 495 502 – 504
GHA – UK Social Security Pensioners	950 – 953	441 – 444
GHA – Value for Money Audit	982 – 983	511 – 513
GHA Number of House Calls	966	475
GHA Outpatient Attendances	956	447
GHA –Waiting Lists	958	449 – 452
Gibraltar Airport – Landing Charges	874	309
Gibraltar Airport – Landing charges	889	330 – 331
Gibraltar Chronicle	1098	717 – 718
Gibraltar Community Care Ltd	1104	730
Gibraltar Dance Association	941	421
Gibraltar Drama Association	943	423
Gibraltar Fair	707	1
Gibraltar Qualifying Companies	1073	672
Gibraltar Qualifying Companies	1075	674
Gibraltar Regulatory Authority	1021	580 – 581
Gibraltar Sports Authority	828	227 – 228
Gibraltar Tax Exempt Companies	1074	673
Gibraltar Taxi Association	837 – 838	242 – 246
Gibraltar’s IDD Code	1035	606
Gibraltar’s New Constitution	1108	738 – 739
Gibtelecom	820 – 821	212 – 213
Gibtelecom	994	538 – 541
Gibtelecom – Charges	819	207 – 211
Golden Jubilee Organisers	939 – 940	419 – 420
Government Debentures	1080	687
Government Loan Facilities	1097	716
Government Lottery	825	222
GTB	868 - 873	296 – 308
GTB – Give-aways	855	275 – 276
GTB – Key Selling Points	866	293 – 294
GTB – Madrid Office	897	344 – 348
GTB – Programme of Exhibitions	865	292
Head 101 – Housing	770	120 – 121
Head 102 – Subhead 1	1045	619 – 620
Head 106 – Subhead 5	996	543
Head 6-A – Subhead 8	875	310 –311
Head 8-A – Subhead 13	1055	636

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
Head 8-A – Subhead 14	1056	637
Head 8-A – Subhead 22	1057	638 – 642
Head 8-A – Subhead 8(d)	1053	634
Head 8-A – Subhead 8(e)	1054	635
Head 8-A Sub-head 23	734	46 – 47
Hispano Commerzbank	1010	563
“Home From Home” Programme	853	272 – 273
Home Owership Scheme	1046 – 1051	621 – 631
Hotel Arrears	883	322
Hotels Gradings	876	312
House Prices	1115	752 – 753
Housing - Applicants Medically Recommended	779	135
Housing – Allocation Committee	784	144 – 145
Housing – Applicants Socially Recommended	780	136
Housing – Bishop Canilla House	790 - 791	152 – 154
Housing – Canton House	792	155
Housing – Coelho House	789	151
Housing – Devil’s Tower Road	788	150
Housing – Devil’s Tower Road Hostel	794	157 – 158
Housing – Edinburgh House	786 – 787	147 – 149
Housing – King’s Bastion	799 – 800	164 – 165
Housing – Laguna Estate	796	160
Housing – Medical Advisory Board	783	143
Housing – North Mole Site	793	156
Housing – Pensioner Exchange List	778	134
Housing – Post –War Flats	785	146
Housing - Post-war Flats	774	127
Housing – Post-war Flats	772	123
Housing – Pre-list	777	133
Housing – Pre-war Flats	773	124 – 126
Housing – Pre-war Flats	775	128 – 131
Housing – Referendum and Constitution Blocks	763	104
Housing – Rent Relief	795	159
Housing – Social Assistance Fund	801	166 – 168
Housing – Varyl Begg Estate	797 – 798	161 – 163
Housing – Waiting List	781	137 – 141
Housing Pre/Post-war Houses	771	122
Housing Stock	1078	681 – 683
Housing Waiting List	776	132
I & D Fund	1099 – 1100	719 – 720
Imports	1106	734 – 735
Imports - Petroleum Products	1105	731 – 733
Imports – Computers	1064	653
Incinerator	809	187 – 190
Income Tax – Corporation Tax	1081 – 1084	688 – 691
Income Tax – PAYE	1085 – 1088, 1091 – 1096	692 – 695 708 – 715
Income Tax – Self Employed Persons	1089 - 1090	696 – 707
Input/Output Study	1121	763 – 764
Interreg III B	1022	582 – 583
Investor Compensation Directive	1032	602
Job Club	752	84 – 85
Land Property Services	1038	609
Land Reclamation Within The Harbour	1012 – 1013	567 – 570
Leisure Centre – King’s Bastion	1033	603 – 604
Line Wall Road – Bridges	815	200 – 201

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
'Luxembourg Rendez-vous' Exhibition	1026 – 1027	589 – 591
Medcruise	880	318
Mercomed Gibraltar	1071 – 1072	669 – 671
Minister's Overseas Visit	1025	588
Ministers' Overseas Visits	885	324
MOD – Housing Units	995	542
Moorish Castle	856	277 – 278
No 4 Rodger's Road	1014	571
Number of Goods Vehicles Imported	899 – 900	350 – 353
Number of Posts At Senior Grade	1113	747 – 749
Number of Private Motor Vehicles Imported	898	349
Number of Unemployed	731 – 732	40 – 42
Nun's Well	863	290
Nurseries	929	406
NVQ Courses	921	398
OESCO Contract	826	223 – 224
Offshore Betting	1067 – 1069	662 – 666
Open/Closed Long Term Benefits Fund	719 – 720	22 – 23
Open/Closed Long Term Benefits Insurance Funds	1077	678 – 680
Population Figures	1123	766 – 767
Port – Operator Licences	886	325 – 326
Port Authority	851	269
Posidonia 2002	864	291
Post –16 Education Committee	919	396
Post of Chief Executive – Housing	767 – 769	113 – 119
Post of Collector of Customs	1044	618
Post of Personnel Manager	1039	610
Postal Services	823	216 – 219
Protected Cell Companies	1003 – 1004	554 – 555
Radiation Readings	1040	611 – 612
Referendum House	816	202 – 203
Referendum Voters List	1110	742
Register of Gibraltarians	1111	743 – 744
Regulation on Denied Boarding Compensation	1120	762
Rock Hotel	1002	552 – 553
Rosia Bay/Victualling Yard	1001	550 – 551
Rosia Road – Sewers	812	194 – 195
SCADA Controller Link Project	805	175 – 177
School Meals	928	405
School of Tourism	867	295
Sea Trade Convention	857	279
Sheppard's Marina	1000	548 – 549
Signal Station Road	842	252
Single Market In Goods	1118	760
Social Advisory Committee	782	142
Social Assistance	721 – 725	24 – 30
Social Assistance Fund	710 – 711	4 – 5
Social Assistance Fund	733	43 – 45
Social Insurance (Short –Term Benefits) Fund	712 – 713	6 – 13
Social Insurance Contributions	714	14 – 15
Social Insurance Contributions	735 – 737	48 – 53
Social Services Agency	726	31 – 32
Spanish Pensioners	1107	736 – 737
St Martin's School	931	408
St Mary's School	924	401
St Michael's Cave	859	282 – 283

SUBJECT	NO	PAGE
St Michael's Cave	861	286 – 288
St Paul's School	933	410
Street Market	830 – 831	231 – 232
Supreme Court Of Gibraltar – Judgment	1119	761
Tax Reforms	1058 – 1060	643 – 648
Tax Reforms	1076	675 – 677
Telecom Services	993	537
Terms of Engagement	742 – 743	60 – 61
Tourism – Persons Interviewed	882	321
Tourism – Persons Interviewed	895 – 896	341 – 343
Tourism – Visiting Journalists	877 – 879	313 – 317
Tourism Advisory Council	884	323
Traffic Flow	845	258
Traffic Flow – Town Range	843	253 – 255
Traffic Flow – Waterport Fountain	844	256 – 257
Training Levy	991	534
Transfer of Boats At Western Beach To Coaling Island	1052	632 – 633
Transport – Highways Refurbishment	848	264 – 265
Transport – MOT Test	846 – 847	259 – 263
Transport – Ombudsman Report	849	266 – 267
Transport Regulations 2000	836	241
Transportation of Sewage Sludge	835	239 – 240
Treaty of Utrecht	1124	768 - 769
Truant Children	930	407
Upper Rock – Admission Fees	887	327
Varyl Begg Estate – Garages	817	204 – 205
Victoria Stadium	829	229 – 230
Visas for Non-EU Nationals	1070	667 – 668
Vocational Training Scheme	992	535 – 536
Voluntary Youth Leaders	802	169
Voluntary Youth Workers	804	173 – 174
Wastewater Treatment Sea-Outfall Study	832	233 – 234
Waterport Distiller	806 – 807	178 – 183
Waterport Power Station	818	206
WATG Projects Ltd	1015 – 1020	572 – 579
Wellington Front	810 – 811	191 – 193
Western Beach	1034	605
Westside School	915	380
Westside School	934	411
Work Permits	746	64
World Travel Market	854	274
World Travel Market	881	319 – 320
Yacht Reporting Berth	850	268
Youth Centre	803	170 – 172

WRITTEN

NO. 707 OF 2002

THE HON S E LINARES

GIBRALTAR FAIR - 2002

Can Government state how much the 'feriantes' paid for water, electricity, et cetera and how much did they pay in rent, tax or any other fee?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

The arrangement that has been in place since the Government took over responsibility for the organisation of the Fair in 1997 is that an all inclusive payment is made to Government amounting to £14,000.

NO. 708 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Employment Injuries Insurance Fund as at 30th April, 31st May, and 30th June 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos 709 to 713 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 709 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Employment Injuries Insurance Fund as at 31st July, 31st August and 30th September 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos 708 and 710 to 713 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 710 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Social Assistance Fund as at:

- (a) 31st July 2002;
- (b) 31st August 2002;
- (c) 30th September 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos 708, 709 and 711 to 713 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 711 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Social Assistance Fund as at:

- (a) 30th April 2002;
- (b) 31st May 2002;
- (c) 30th June 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos 708 to 710 and 712 to 713 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 712 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

SOCIAL INSURANCE (SHORT-TERM BENEFITS) FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Social Insurance (Short-Term Benefits) Fund as at:

- (a) 30th April 2002;
- (b) 31st May 2002;
- (c) 30th June 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos 708 to 711 and 713 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 713 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

SOCIAL INSURANCE (SHORT-TERM BENEFITS) FUND

Can Government state what was the estimated balance of the Social Insurance (Short-Term Benefits) Fund as at:

- (a) 31st July 2002;
- (b) 31st August 2002;
- (c) 30th September 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested.

Answer to Question Nos 708 and 709 of 2002

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND	
Period Ending	Amount (£)
30 th April 2002	5,946,064.17
31 st May 2002	5,922,268.99
30 th June 2002	5,984,385.70
31 st July 2002	5,935,419.67
31 st August 2002	5,986,974.79
30 th September 2002	5,977,391.22

Answer to Question Nos 710 and 711 of 2002

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND	
Period Ending	Amount (£)
30 th April 2002	3,348,510.98
31 st May 2002	3,059,576.73
30 th June 2002	2,954,460.44
31 st July 2002	2,632,336.89
31 st August 2002	2,375,382.31
30 th September 2002	2,230,041.43

Answer to Question Nos 712 and 713 of 2002

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND	
Period Ending	Amount (£)
30 th April 2002	6,419,277.61
31 st May 2002	6,394,280.09
30 th June 2002	6,262,166.05
31 st July 2002	6,255,713.54
31 st August 2002	6,259,276.12
30 th September 2002	6,238,296.25

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 708 TO 713 OF 2002

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the case of the answer to Question Nos 712 and 713 of 2002, I notice that the Short-Term Benefits Fund is lower at the end of September than it was in April, that would suggest that in fact the revenue of the fund is insufficient to meet the outgoings and this is the fund from which £5 million was removed in the last financial year. Can the Minister give an explanation as to how it is that at the time we were being told that the money had been removed because there was so much money in this fund that it was not needed and that in fact even what was left was not needed?

HON K AZOPARDI:

I cannot give the hon Member an explanation at the moment but I imagine we could do so during the course of today if he is happy with that. I am sure there is nothing sinister.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am not suggesting there is anything sinister, I am questioning the value judgement of the Government. The policy decision of the Government in removing money from this fund. I am not suggesting that actually they have run away with the money.

HON J L BALDACHINO:

In answer to Question No 710 and 711 of 2002, I notice that there is about £1 million less in the Social Assistance Fund, is there an explanation for that as well, from April 2002 to September 2002?

HON K AZOPARDI:

We are happy to give the hon Members supplementary information on any of these figures and we will do so later collectively.

~~~~~

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The Leader of the Opposition asked the same question in respect of both funds why the sum in respect of the 30<sup>th</sup> April was higher than in relation to the 30<sup>th</sup> September. In respect of the Social Assistance Fund the sum in respect of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2002 is £3,348,000 loosely and on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 was £2, 230,000 loosely and the hon Member asked as to the reason for the decreasing balance. The information that I have from Treasury is that at the beginning of the year they posted about £7 million was transferred into that from the Consolidated Fund which is the normal practice at the beginning of each year. That sum is transferred to meet the projected expenditure of that fund, there then is normally a reduction in the balance through the year and that is the reason why if the hon Member looks at the final figure of the fund account balance brought forward at the end of each financial year he will see that the sum of money is actually quite small so, for example, the fund account balance figure estimate for 2002/2003 is £81,000 and for the year 2001/2002 was £273,000 and in respect of 2000/2001 was £164,000. So at the end of the year it is a small amount that really is left over and at the beginning of each year I am assured that what happens is that there is a big lump sum payment made into the fund so that it can then cater for expenditure which necessarily means that the balance of the fund as the year goes by decreases from month to month. That is in relation to the Social Assistance Fund.

In relation to the Social Insurance Short Term Benefits Fund the figure for 30<sup>th</sup> April 2002 was £6,419,000 again loosely and for the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 was £6,238,000 approximately. The hon Member was asking as to whether this fund can meet its

liabilities as a result of the transfer of £5 million which was conducted at the beginning of the year, I think that is specifically his interest.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Again I am assured that when the calculation was done to enable the transfer of the £5 million from this fund there was a projection of the necessary expenditure over a number of years and it was projected that the fund would still have enough money to meet its liabilities for at least a period of 10 years and a view was taken that that was a sufficient horizon for the viability of the fund and that of course at any time the Government can transfer money into this fund to meet any further liabilities beyond that and so the Government's view is that that is sufficient for the purposes in relation to that fund as well. I hope that that is enough information for the hon Member.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The point that I made is that this indicates that the fund is currently operating on an excess of expenditure over income because the balance is going down and we were told I believe at the previous meeting of the House when we questioned the £5 million transfer that in fact the amount that was left in the fund was such that it was still possible to transfer more money out, is that a view that is no longer the case?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

It really depends on when one applies a future cut-off date, we think we have got enough money to deal with expenditure over a period of 10 years if we leave the fund untouched, if we then ask the question, "...Well hang on what about if we instead of applying a 10 year horizon we apply a five year horizon?" then of course we would have surplus amounts and therefore if that were the question to be applied that could be transferred out but the horizon as when the projections were made was the 10 year period but of course everything that I have explained in the last 20 seconds would allow Treasury to make a different calculation for them to reach a different conclusion. Always in the basis that the Government have the rider of putting further money in if they feel they need to.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Obviously, we are raising this matter because we were opposed to the money being taken out and if by taking the money out they find that they have left a little behind they will have to put money in I have no doubt, that is not the issue. The issue is that since we are unhappy with the original decision we are monitoring what is happening and asking questions and is the 10 year projection then on the assumption of what that the

balance will come down to zero over a 10 year period because of the excess of expenditure over income?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes, that generally would be the calculation. If things remain as they are for 10 years that would be the case, if revenue does not go up, we do not transfer money in et cetera.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Would the Government not agree that in fact as the Social Insurance Funds have been managed until now it has never been considered that a realistic projection would be that the balance should be run down to zero, it has always been the view taken that the purpose of having a fund at all is in fact to have a buffer in case the unexpected happens in terms of the balance between contributors and beneficiaries otherwise one does not need a fund one needs a fund because we are not paying social benefits out of current contributions, we are paying social benefits out of current contributions plus investment income. Surely if one runs the capital down then one is going to be running down as well the return on the accumulated investments. So it is not that the Government are actually thinking of letting this happen, I assume the Government would stop well before it got to zero.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes. I know that the hon Member likes to indulge in these mathematical, economical calculations but let me assure him that I have tried to give an explanation of how the projection was done by Treasury, they adopted a fairly prudent stance of, we need to make sure that we have got money in this fund for a long period of time and 10 years is a conservative estimate. It is possibly going to be more than that but the intention is purely when the assessment was made it was purely to understand the sufficiency and to ensure the sufficiency of the fund. The Government have no intention of letting the fund run down to zero and making the academic, the hypothesis come to fruition that is not our stance, we would at some point take a view and transfer money in to ensure that the fund does not reach that point. We can do so by a different variety of ways by even adjusting the proportion of the Social Insurance Stamp Contribution into this fund and we have no intention, that is the current policy, we have no intention of letting the fund run down to the hypothetical position of zero.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that this is the first year in fact that the fund is actually going to finish up on these figures, with a lower balance at the end of the financial year than it had at the beginning of the financial year except for the year when the £5 million was removed of course and that was because the £5 million was removed, but on a recurrent income and expenditure level this is the first year that this is going to happen, have the Government a trigger point on this balance which would require them to act, that is to say, if they started off the year with £6.4 million and by September they are now down to £6.2

million we are then talking on the basis of six months it is not an unreasonable assumption that we will finish up in March with just over £6 million. Beyond that at what point does the Government say, "...well we are not going to let it run down to zero once it hits such a point we will act," because in fact this will be the first year that it is going into minus.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I understand that there has to be a cut-off point and a point at which even though there is a hypothetical projection that one has got money going forward for a number of years 10 maybe more at some point one will take the view that because one does not actually want that hypothetical moment to arrive one is going to have to put money in either through a lump sum transfer or by adjustment of the proportion of the stamp or whatever. I understand that the projections were made, the Treasury still has not taken a view of when that cut-off point would arise, they are the guardians of the solvency of this fund and they would advise the Government on that and we would expect to receive that advice in accordance with the Government's stated policy that we have no intention of running down the fund and we would make transfers into this fund at an appropriate moment and at an appropriate level to ensure that it remains solid and solvent.

ORAL

**NO. 714 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS**

Can Government state if they have entered into any special arrangements with any company or companies on the payment of Social Insurance Contributions?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

The Treasury Central Arrears Unit has entered into repayment agreements on behalf of Government with 259 companies in arrears of Social Insurance Contributions.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 714 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Other than the repayment agreements for arrears can Government say how many companies have got special arrangements as regards making their returns on the quarterly schedules of social insurance contributions on their own initiative. That is special arrangements that we were told at the beginning of the year some companies

were entering into in which they were not issued as it were with the equivalent of a social insurance card, they themselves made their own returns?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Not that I am aware of but I am not 100 per cent certain and I will find out and pass on the information.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it that the Minister is not aware whether any have been done?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

That is the case.

ORAL

**NO. 715 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the number of pensioners being paid or with entitlement to payment in April, May and June 2002 from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners showing the number of Gibraltarians/UK Nationals, Moroccans and other nationalities for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 716 to 718 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 716 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the number of pensioners being paid or with entitlement to payment in July, August and September of 2002 from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners showing the number of Gibraltarians/UK nationals, Moroccans and other nationalities for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 715, 717 and 718 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 717 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for each of the months of April, May and June 2002 showing the amount from UK and local funds and the expenditure to former Spanish workers and to pensioners from local funds?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 715, 716 and 718 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 718 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for each of the months of July, August and September 2002 showing the amount from UK and local funds and the expenditure to former Spanish workers and to pensioners from local funds?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question Nos 715 and 716 of 2002**

The following pensioners were in receipt of payments from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund from April 2002 – September 2002.

|                                             | <b>April 02</b> | <b>May 02</b> | <b>June 02</b> | <b>July 02</b> | <b>Aug 02</b> | <b>Sept 02</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Pre-1969 Spanish Pensioners</b>          | 7050            | 7003          | 6972           | 6960           | 6951          | 6930           |
| <b>British Pensioners (Gib/UK National)</b> | 4626            | 4648          | 4662           | 4671           | 4690          | 4709           |
| <b>Moroccan Pensioners</b>                  | 1293            | 1301          | 1306           | 1308           | 1314          | 1318           |
| <b>Other nationalities</b>                  | 352             | 355           | 356            | 360            | 360           | 360            |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>13,321</b>   | <b>13,307</b> | <b>13,296</b>  | <b>13,299</b>  | <b>13,315</b> | <b>13,317</b>  |

**Answer to Question No 717 of 2002**

The balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002 for each month showing the amount from UK and local funds and the expenditure to former Spanish workers and to pensioners from local funds is as follows:-

|                                                       | <b>30 April 02</b> | <b>31 Mar 02</b> | <b>30 June 02</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                                                       | <b>£</b>           | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>          |
| <b>Fund Account-<br/>Opening Balance</b>              | <b>420,963</b>     | <b>924,778</b>   | <b>402,373</b>    |
| <b><u>"Local Account"</u></b>                         |                    |                  |                   |
| Opening Balance                                       | 168,408            | 567,765          | 26,063            |
| <b><u>Add</u></b>                                     |                    |                  |                   |
| Transfers from the<br>Open Long-Term<br>Benefits Fund | 1,235,000          | 340,000          | 920,000           |
| Other Receipts                                        | 3,462              | 4,575            | 1,601             |
|                                                       | 1,406,870          | 912,340          | 947,664           |
| <b><u>Less</u></b>                                    |                    |                  |                   |
| Pension Payments                                      | (839,105)          | (886,277)        | (875,497)         |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>                                | <b>567,765</b>     | <b>26,063</b>    | <b>72,167</b>     |
| <b><u>"Spanish Account"</u></b>                       |                    |                  |                   |
| Opening Balance                                       | 252,555            | 357,013          | 376,310           |
| <b><u>Add</u></b>                                     |                    |                  |                   |
| Receipts from DFID                                    | 520,000            | 290,000          | 990,000           |
|                                                       | 772,555            | 647,013          | 1,366,310         |
| <b><u>Less</u></b>                                    |                    |                  |                   |
| Pension Payments                                      | (415,542)          | (270,703)        | (908,256)         |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>                                | <b>357,013</b>     | <b>376,310</b>   | <b>458,054</b>    |
| <b><u>Fund Account –<br/>Closing Balance</u></b>      | <b>924,778</b>     | <b>402,373</b>   | <b>530,221</b>    |

**Answer to Question No 718 of 2002**

The balance of the Closed-Long Term Benefits Fund from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 for each month showing the amount from UK and local funds and the expenditure to former Spanish workers and to pensioners from local funds is as follows:-

|                                                       | <b>31 July 02</b> | <b>31 Aug 02</b> | <b>30 Sept 02</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                                                       | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>          |
| <b>Fund Account-<br/>Opening Balance</b>              | <b>530,221</b>    | <b>383,130</b>   | <b>478,721</b>    |
| <b><u>"Local Account"</u></b>                         |                   |                  |                   |
| Opening Balance                                       | 72,167            | 3,278            | 20,184            |
| <b><u>Add</u></b>                                     |                   |                  |                   |
| Transfers from the<br>Open Long-Term<br>Benefits Fund | 810,000           | 950,000          | 900,000           |
| Other Receipts                                        | 2,856             | 2,383            | 2,800             |
|                                                       | 885,023           | 955,661          | 922,984           |
| <b><u>Less</u></b>                                    |                   |                  |                   |
| Pension Payments                                      | (881,745)         | (935,477)        | (880,000)         |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>                                | <b>3,278</b>      | <b>20,184</b>    | <b>42,984</b>     |
| <b><u>"Spanish Account"</u></b>                       |                   |                  |                   |
| Opening Balance                                       | 458,054           | 379,852          | 458,537           |
| <b><u>Add</u></b>                                     |                   |                  |                   |
| Receipts from DFID                                    | 460,000           | 400,000          | 970,000           |
|                                                       | 918,054           | 779,852          | 1,428,537         |
| <b><u>Less</u></b>                                    |                   |                  |                   |
| Pension Payments                                      | (538,202)         | (321,315)        | (940,000)         |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>                                | <b>379,852</b>    | <b>458,537</b>   | <b>488,537</b>    |
| <b><u>Fund Account –<br/>Closing Balance</u></b>      | <b>383,130</b>    | <b>478,721</b>   | <b>531,521</b>    |

ORAL

**NO. 719 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**OPEN/CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what transfers have been made from the Open/Long-Term Benefits Fund to the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund giving the amounts and the month of each transfer for April, May and June 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No 720 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 720 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**OPEN/CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what transfers have been made from the Open/Long-Term Benefits Fund to the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund giving the amounts and the month of each transfer for July, August and September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question Nos 719 and 720 of 2002**

**TRANSFERS FROM THE OPEN/LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND TO THE CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

| <b>MONTH</b>   | <b>AMOUNT (£)</b> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| April 2002     | 1,235,000         |
| May 2002       | 340,000           |
| June 2002      | 920,000           |
| July 2002      | 810,000           |
| August 2002    | 950,000           |
| September 2002 | 900,000           |

ORAL

**NO. 721 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state the number of persons giving a breakdown by age and sex receiving social assistance for the months of April, May and June 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 722 to 725 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 722 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state the number of persons giving a breakdown by age and sex receiving social assistance for the months of July, August and September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 721 and 723 to 725 of 2002.

**ORAL**

**NO. 723 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many persons were in receipt of a disability allowance under the social assistance arrangements in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2001 giving a breakdown for each month, their sex and age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 721, 722, 724 and 725 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 724 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many persons were in receipt of a disability allowance under the social assistance arrangements in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 giving a breakdown for each month, their sex and age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos 721 to 723 and 725 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 725 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many persons applied for disability allowance under the social assistance arrangements in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 and how many of these applications were not successful, giving a breakdown for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question Nos 721 and 722 of 2002**

| <b>PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE BY MONTH, SEX &amp; AGE</b> |              |                |              |              |              |              |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>2002</b>                                                            | <b>MALES</b> | <b>FEMALES</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>18/25</b> | <b>26/35</b> | <b>36/45</b> | <b>46/60</b> |
| <b>April</b>                                                           | 113          | 195            | 308          | 56           | 99           | 90           | 63           |
| <b>May</b>                                                             | 112          | 201            | 313          | 57           | 99           | 94           | 63           |
| <b>June</b>                                                            | 112          | 194            | 306          | 57           | 96           | 88           | 65           |
| <b>July</b>                                                            | 120          | 211            | 331          | 63           | 98           | 104          | 66           |
| <b>August</b>                                                          | 120          | 213            | 333          | 66           | 94           | 104          | 69           |
| <b>Sept</b>                                                            | 122          | 215            | 337          | 66           | 95           | 108          | 68           |

**Answer to Question Nos 723 and 724 of 2002**

| Month                     | 0-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | Total | Males | Females |
|---------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| Jan 01                    | 23   | 25    | 15    | 12    | 13    | 10    | 1     | 99    | 68    | 31      |
| Feb 01                    | 23   | 25    | 15    | 12    | 14    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| Mar 01                    | 23   | 25    | 15    | 11    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| Apr 01                    | 21   | 27    | 15    | 11    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| May 01                    | 21   | 27    | 15    | 11    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| Jun 01                    | 21   | 27    | 15    | 11    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| July 01                   | 21   | 27    | 15    | 11    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| Aug 01                    | 21   | 27    | 14    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 101   | 68    | 33      |
| Sept 01                   | 21   | 27    | 15    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 102   | 69    | 33      |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| Oct 01                    | 21   | 27    | 15    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 102   | 69    | 33      |
| Nov 01                    | 20   | 28    | 15    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 102   | 69    | 33      |
| Dec 01                    | 20   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 103   | 70    | 33      |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| Jan 02                    | 20   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 103   | 70    | 33      |
| Feb 02                    | 20   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 103   | 70    | 33      |
| Mar 02                    | 20   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 103   | 70    | 33      |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| Apr 02                    | 22   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 105   | 72    | 33      |
| May 02                    | 22   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 105   | 72    | 33      |
| June 02                   | 22   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 105   | 72    | 33      |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |         |
| July 02                   | 22   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 105   | 72    | 33      |
| Aug 02                    | 22   | 28    | 16    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 105   | 72    | 33      |
| Sept 02                   | 22   | 28    | 17    | 12    | 15    | 11    | 1     | 106   | 73    | 33      |

**Answer to Question No 725 of 2002**

The following persons applied for disability allowance under the Social Assistance Arrangements in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters of 2002:-

| <b>Disability Allowance Applications</b> |                 |                 |                   |                |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b>            | <b>Received</b> | <b>Approved</b> | <b>Disallowed</b> | <b>Pending</b> |
| April                                    | 2               | 2               | 0                 | -              |
| May                                      | 0               | -               | -                 | -              |
| June                                     | 1               | -               | -                 | 1              |
|                                          |                 |                 |                   |                |

| <b>Disability Allowance Applications</b> |                 |                 |                   |                |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b>            | <b>Received</b> | <b>Approved</b> | <b>Disallowed</b> | <b>Pending</b> |
| July                                     | -               | -               | -                 | -              |
| August                                   | -               | -               | -                 | -              |
| September                                | 1               | 1               | -                 | -              |
|                                          |                 |                 |                   |                |

ORAL

**NO. 726 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

Can Government state how many children are held in care giving a breakdown by age and sex at the end of September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

As at the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, twenty-seven children (27) and young persons were in care with the Social Services Agency.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 726 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Does that also include the children that are placed in foster homes?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes, when I refer to children in care in the social in the Social Services Agency it includes all categories.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

From the figure that the Minister has just given it appears that there has been an increase in care during the last 12 months, is that the case?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes. An increase of two.



ORAL

**NO. 727 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**DR GIRALDI HOME**

Can Government state how many individuals applied for respite facilities at Dr Giraldi Home and how many were accommodated giving a breakdown for each month of April, May, June, July, August and September of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list of the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 727**

|                | <b>Application</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| April 2002     | 9                  | 8          |
| May 2002       | 10                 | 8          |
| June 2002      | 9                  | 8          |
| July 2002      | 12                 | 9          |
| August 2002    | 10                 | 7          |
| September 2002 | 11                 | 8          |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 727 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Those applications that were not met, was it because there were not enough facilities in the Home, enough facilities to provide the persons that were not successful?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes. Over the summer months there is usually more demand and there are only four beds available so it all boils down to demand really.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Who makes the decision of the applicants that apply for facilities, on who is or is not successful?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Certainly not me. The Management of the Dr Giraldi Respite Unit.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I have no intention of indicating that it was the Minister otherwise I could have asked her why she has made that, so it is the Management of the Home, is there any set criteria on who is given preference or is it just that the decision is taken by the Management and there is no laid down criteria?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

If there is I am not aware of what that criteria is.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

But the facilities are there to help the family in a certain way, more than to help the disabled person it might be that the family requires to go somewhere or needs the rest and that is what the facility is there for is it not?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes that is the whole ethos of respite, giving respite to the family who cares after the disabled person.

ORAL

**NO. 728 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**DR GIRALDI HOME**

Can Government state if the managerial posts for Dr Giraldi's Home have now been filled?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No 729 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 729 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**DR GIRALDI HOME**

Can Government state if the post of Manager and Deputy Manager for Dr Giraldi Home have already been filled?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Both the Manager and Deputy Manager posts of the Dr Giraldi Home have now been filled.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 729 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Have they been filled by seconding civil servants or is it that they have gone out?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

The Deputy Manager post has now been filled by the promotion of a senior support worker from the Dr Giraldi Home who is not a civil servant, she was a Milbury employee. The appointee is at present on attachment at a similar Home in the United Kingdom with a view of enhancing her knowledge and experience in the field of challenging behaviour

care at a managerial level. There has been a need to recruit a Manager from the UK with specialist experience in very severe challenging behaviour to be able to assist in the setting up of the new 'Challenging Behaviour Unit'. The appointee is a qualified and experienced person in residential care and most specifically on challenging behaviour.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

In essence, what the Minister is saying is that no one locally met the criteria that she has just laid down?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Not for the Manager post.

ORAL

**NO. 730 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**DRUG REHABILITATION PROGRAMME**

Can Government state if they have introduced any new measures to assist persons who have completed a Drug Rehabilitation Programme to find employment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I am delighted to inform the House that a new Wage Subsidy pilot scheme has just been approved under ESF, which will assist, not only persons who have completed a Drug Rehabilitation Programme but can also include ex-offenders and in a broader sense, those persons recovering from other forms of addiction that is substance abuse. Having now received final approval the scheme is to be publicised shortly.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 280 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

What the Minister has just said is that a wage subsidy will be offered to private sector employers to employ these persons that fall under the category that she has just said.

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Have Government enquired if employers are willing to take that offer up?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

The final approval from the European commission only came a week ago. Nothing has been done to sound the market.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does this scheme have any restriction on the length of time the person has to be unemployed as is the case of other schemes?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

All details will be announced shortly but what I can say is that the subsidy will only last for 12 months alike other subsidy schemes in existence.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the Minister not know if a person has to be unemployed for six months before they qualify, or is it the case that in these circumstances they become eligible straightaway as it were?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I do not know the answer to that but I will find out for the hon Member.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Will it also be open to persons who are under the age of 25 years?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes.

ORAL

**NO. 731 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED**

Can Government give a breakdown of male and female unemployed Gibraltarians aged 18 and over for the months of April, May and June 2002 receiving:-

- (a) Unemployment Benefits;
- (b) Social Assistance;
- (c) No Payments?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No 732 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 732 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED**

Can Government give a breakdown of male and female unemployed Gibraltarians aged 18 and over for the months of July, August and September 2002 receiving:-

- (a) Unemployment Benefits
- (b) Social Assistance;
- (c) No payments?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question Nos 731 and 732 of 2002**

The following is a breakdown by month, sex and age of male and female unemployed Gibraltarians ages 18 and over from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002:-

A. Unemployment Benefit

| 2002          | Males | Females | Total | 18/25 | 26/35 | 36/45 | 46/60 |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>April</b>  | 37    | 16      | 53    | 23    | 9     | 11    | 10    |
| <b>May</b>    | 41    | 19      | 60    | 25    | 11    | 11    | 13    |
| <b>June</b>   | 33    | 18      | 51    | 20    | 13    | 8     | 10    |
| <b>July</b>   | 29    | 17      | 46    | 12    | 19    | 9     | 6     |
| <b>August</b> | 23    | 24      | 47    | 16    | 14    | 10    | 7     |
| <b>Sept</b>   | 24    | 22      | 46    | 21    | 14    | 6     | 5     |

B. Social Assistance

| 2002          | Males | Females | Total | 18/25 | 26/35 | 36/45 | 46/60 |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>April</b>  | 75    | 20      | 95    | 31    | 29    | 24    | 11    |
| <b>May</b>    | 72    | 23      | 95    | 30    | 28    | 26    | 11    |
| <b>June</b>   | 70    | 21      | 91    | 29    | 26    | 24    | 12    |
| <b>July</b>   | 76    | 31      | 107   | 33    | 24    | 38    | 12    |
| <b>August</b> | 74    | 28      | 102   | 32    | 22    | 37    | 11    |
| <b>Sept</b>   | 68    | 20      | 88    | 27    | 29    | 26    | 6     |

C. No Payments

| 2002          | Males | Females | Total | 18/24 | 25 & Over |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-----------|
| <b>April</b>  | 74    | 65      | 139   | 42    | 97        |
| <b>May</b>    | 75    | 70      | 145   | 52    | 93        |
| <b>June</b>   | 77    | 75      | 152   | 52    | 100       |
| <b>July</b>   | 80    | 68      | 148   | 67    | 81        |
| <b>August</b> | 91    | 88      | 179   | 83    | 96        |
| <b>Sept</b>   | 102   | 124     | 226   | 77    | 149       |

ORAL

**NO. 733 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND**

What category of unemployed persons are covered by the payment of £3.1 million to GHA?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

The category of unemployed persons covered by the contribution from SAF to the GHA is the same as that covered by the policy of the previous administration. In essence these are persons who are not in employment, whose income exceeds that which would grant them exemption under the Regulations, and are not covered by virtue of being dependants of a contributor.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 733 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

So therefore a person who is unemployed and receives no payment does qualify?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

What does the hon Member mean by that, unemployed but receiving no payments?

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

The Minister just answered the question on unemployment benefit, people who are receiving unemployment benefit and people who are on Social Assistance, I suppose those are covered. What I am now asking is if the person who is receiving no payments either from the Social Assistance or from the unemployment benefits but is unemployed would qualify to be covered under that scheme, is that it?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes, as long as they are not covered by virtue of being dependants of a contributor.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I suppose if there is such a person in such a category she would have to go to the Minister's department, because they are the payee, the other side is just a recipient, so that something is given for the Health Authority to know that they are covered under that payment. How is it that the person goes about and in the GHA, for example, if they want to go to the Health Centre one needs a card and people are covered either by being someone's spouse or a contributor to the Social Insurance scheme. Obviously if the person is unemployed and receiving unemployment benefit they will have a form saying that he is receiving unemployment benefit and therefore if he takes it to the GHA the GHA will then know that the contribution from that person will be paid by the Minister's department, equally is the social assistance. Now the person that is receiving no payments which has nothing from the Minister's department to take to the GHA saying that he is unemployed, is there a form which the Minister's department gives that person so that he does not have to make a contribution to the GHA because the Minister's department is making that contribution?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I cannot illuminate the hon Member as to the exact mechanism but from my experience as Minister for Health there are mechanisms which allow those people, I imagine what he is asking is what if there is someone employed who then becomes unemployed is not receiving benefits after the end of the period during which time he would have received the unemployment benefit, what happens then? How does the Authority know that that person is covered. I know that there are mechanisms but I cannot explain to the hon Member across the floor of the House what exactly those are but they exist I am assured.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The people operating the mechanism which I do not know exactly how it is structured, have never brought to me any problems in that respect as if there was a certain uncertainty on their part. Apparently there is a process whereby they can establish the category of the individual person whether they are employed, unemployed, covered by the dependant on a contributor but they seem to be quite happy that the mechanism or the process works fluidly but I can find out exactly how they operate at counter level.

ORAL

**NO. 734 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8A SUBHEAD 23**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8A Subhead 23 in respect of the £119,000 forecast out-turn for the Year 2001/2002 being National Day?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I hand the hon Member a list giving the information requested

**Answer to Question No 734 of 2002**

- |     |            |                    |
|-----|------------|--------------------|
| (a) | £ 2,870.90 | Publicity Material |
| (b) | £42,972.20 | Events             |
| (c) | £63,102.85 | Works/Equipment    |
| (d) | £ 4,257.30 | Receptions         |
| (e) | £ 2,466.40 | Security           |
| (f) | £ 3,768.82 | Miscellaneous      |

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 734 OF 2002**

### **HON DR J J GARCIA:**

With respect to the two largest items in the breakdown being about £43,000 for events and £63,000 for works and equipment, could the Minister clarify further what those figures relate to exactly?

### **HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I can give the hon member a couple of examples in what they relate to, for example under events, it would relate to the holding of a classical concert, the Gibraltar Philharmonic Society, the fireworks display, the Gibraltar Photographic Society Exhibition and things of that nature. With regards to works and equipment I can say for example, the hire of tables and chairs for the fair, several works that had to be undergone on the electricity poles, the hire of equipment and labour to transfer men and equipment to the Detached Mole during the fireworks display, the renting of skips for the fair and things of that sort.

**NO. 735 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS**

Can Government explain why persons with missing social insurance contributions in respect of the year 2001 have been told that if they wish to pay such contributions, the payment will not be accepted after 30<sup>th</sup> June this year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

The law stipulates that the arrears in relation to any contribution year have to be paid by the 30<sup>th</sup> June of the following year. The Director may in his discretion extend the period in which the arrears of contributions may be paid. I am advised by the Director that due to technical reasons related to the new computer system, the issuing of letters of notification of arrears in respect of contribution year 2001 was delayed. In view of the short notice given to those insured persons who may still wish to pay arrears in respect of 2001, I can confirm that the Director will be extending the time limit for payment to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2003. An advert to this effect will shortly appear in the press.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 735 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am glad that that decision has been taken. Is it the result of the question that brought it to the notice of the Government?



**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

No, we had realised the error of our ways before it was brought to our attention.

ORAL

**NO. 736 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS**

How many persons have been sent letters informing them of their social insurance contribution record for the year 2001, in each month of this year, giving a breakdown by employment sector as follows:-

- (a) MOD
- (b) Gibraltar Government
- (c) Government owned and joint venture companies
- (d) Private employers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No 737 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 737 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS**

As a result of the letters sent to employed persons in the private sector regarding their insurance contribution record for 2001 how many have informed the department of missing contributions and how many employers are involved?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

I can confirm that individual annual statements for the year 2001 have been sent to 15,638 insured persons. This is broken up as follows:-

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| MOD                                          | 1,114  |
| Government owned and Joint Venture Companies | 962    |
| Private Sector Employers                     | 13,562 |

The issue of statements to employees in the Gibraltar Government have been delayed due to technical reasons. No records have been kept, or are kept, of how many persons have informed the department of missing contributions. In those instances where the Department has been informed proper follow-up action has been taken with the employer concerned.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 736 & 737 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am at a loss to understand how proper action is being taken with the employers concerned and the department does not know how many employers are taking action.

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I am informed that most of the employees who have informed the department because it is the employees on receiving the letters that call to inquire, ".....what is this?" basically, ".....why are some of my contributions missing?" have been in respect of employers who have not returned the contribution schedules. I can say that on average throughout the four quarters of 2001, 822 private sector employers totalling 3,291 insured persons have not returned the schedules.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

A total of 822 have not returned the schedules?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes, 822 private sector employers have not returned the schedules.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That means that something like three quarters of the employers have not returned the schedules.

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

That seems to be the case.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That I am afraid is in conflict with the information we have been provided in answer to the question we did not put this time but put the last time which was provided a few days ago in writing by her department as to the number of schedules returned for 2001 were in fact from memory I think it was something in the order of 900 had returned it and there cannot be 900 who return it and 800 who do not because that is more than there are employers in Gibraltar, perhaps the Minister would go back and get confirmation whether that figure is accurate?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I will certainly do that.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In terms of the follow-up action as I understood from having seen one of these letters the purpose of this exercise was to give employees the opportunity to notify the department when there are missing contributions because obviously the department has got no way of knowing whether the missing contributions are because the person was not working or the missing contributions are because the money has been deducted and not paid. Given that this seems to be an important initiative on the part of the department would it not be useful to record what success it is having in getting a response?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I would not know whether the department would consider it useful to record the number of employers or employees who approach the department but I will certainly suggest it to them.

ORAL

**NO. 738 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CAMMELL LAIRD**

Can Government state how many persons were employed by Cammell Laird or alternatively in the Shipping Industry as at the end of April, May, June, July, August and September 2002 and how many of these were Gibraltarians giving a breakdown for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

As the hon Members know my Colleague the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs Mr Hubert Corby has recently undergone a knee replacement operation and is under doctor's orders not to attend the House. I am therefore answering his questions as best as I can in his absence.

Answered together with Question No 739 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 739 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**CAMMELL LAIRD**

Can Government give a monthly breakdown of the vacancies for Casual Workers opened with the Employment Agency by Cammell Laird or alternatively in the Shipping Industry in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002, and of these how many have been taken by Gibraltarians?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

The factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I now had to him.

In drawing up statistics to this question, it has been noted that a Company within the Shipping Industry (namely Cammell Laird) chooses to include in its "Notice of Terms of Engagement" forms the word 'casual' when (as confirmed by the company) they really mean "probationary period" safeguard.

The Company has been informed, and has agreed, that in future they will only include the word "casual" when they mean real casual work, and "probationary period" when the work requires such a period of employment. The low number of Gibraltarians may be explained by the fact that most of the vacancies were for specialist/skilled trades, not available in the local labour market. Some vacancies were for labourers and have been

taken up by both Gibraltarians and other EU Nationals. Selection remains the employer's prerogative.

The number of persons employed in the shipping Industry in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters 2002 is as follows:-

|                  | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|------------------|-------|-----|------|
| <b>Gibraltar</b> | 123   | 119 | 111  |
| <b>Other</b>     | 112   | 113 | 75   |
| <b>Total</b>     | 235   | 232 | 186  |

|           | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|-----------|-------|-----|------|
| Gibraltar | 113   | 107 | 109  |
| Other     | 95    | 81  | 94   |
| Total     | 208   | 188 | 203  |

**Answer to Question No 739 of 2002**

Breakdown of vacancies for Casual Workers opened with the Employment Agency in the Shipping Industry in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters of 2002, showing Gibraltarians employed.

|                        | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter |     |      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter |        |      |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----|------|-------------------------|--------|------|
|                        | April                   | May | June | July                    | August | Sept |
| <b>Total Vacancies</b> | 15                      | 19  | 1    | 26                      | 16     | 21   |
| <b>Gibraltarians</b>   | 2                       | 3   | 1    | 4                       | 4      | 4    |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 738 AND 739 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Do Government have any knowledge because it appears if we take the September figure for employed Gibraltarians it has gone down to 21 and it is going down all the time



in the shipping industry is it that people are being made redundant, is the department being informed of that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No I do not think so. The hon Member will see that it is also going down for the others for the non-Gibraltarians as well. I think the reason is that 11<sup>th</sup> September did have an effect on shipping movements and curiously also on shipowners willingness to have ships in port at that time and I think that there is or there was a downturn at that stage, there has been a downturn in the amount of activity generally in shipyards and ours is no exception and this simply reflects the fluidity of their workforce generally. We are not aware of any redundancies, more than five would have had to be notified.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

If the Chief Minister takes the casual workers together with the people in permanent employment if one can call them that which has gone down not just by Gibraltar but every other that has been employed there, as a matter of fact in the first quarter there was no casual work while now there are being more people being employed as casual workers and this is where I understand what the Chief Minister has said that if the work was going down it might have been going down for the reason that the Chief Minister has given therefore casual workers would not have been employed either.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

In accordance with the agreed language formulated in this question I am steering a careful line between answering questions generally about shipping and specifically about the business of one company. If the hon Member is particularly keen as it would not surprise me that he would be in the particular statistics relating to Cammell Laird, I am sure if the hon Member writes to the Minister I am certain that the Minister will give him the analysis that he seeks and the particular reasons.

ORAL

NO. 740 OF 2002

THE HON J L BALDACHINO

**EMPLOYMENT – NUMBER OF GIBRALTARIANS**

Can Government state of the Gibraltarians employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2002 how many were registered with the Employment Agency giving a breakdown for each month by age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)

Answered together with Question Nos 741 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 741 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED**

How many Gibraltarians joined the Unemployment register during each month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 giving a breakdown by age and sex?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 and 742 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 742 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT**

Can Government state how many Terms of Engagement were registered with the Employment Agency on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 31<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002:

- (a) including directors;
- (b) excluding directors?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740, 741 and 743 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 743 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT**

Can Government state how many Terms of Engagement were registered with the Employment Agency on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 31<sup>st</sup> August and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002:

- (a) including directors;
- (b) excluding directors?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 742 and 744 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 744 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – VACANCIES FILLED**

Can Government state of the vacancies filled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 how many were for part-time employment giving a breakdown by sex and age for each month as follows:

- (a) Gibraltarians;
- (b) Other nationals?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 743 and 745 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 745 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – CONTRACTS TERMINATED**

Can Government give a breakdown by nationality and industry giving the total for each month for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 in respect of employment contracts terminated?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 744 and 746 to 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 746 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**WORK PERMITS**

Can Government state the number of Work Permits issued in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 giving a breakdown by occupation, sex and nationality for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 745 and 747 to 749 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 747 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**DETACHED WORKERS**

Can Government state the number of workers that were registered with the Employment Agency as "Detached Workers" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002, giving a breakdown for each month, their trade and nationality?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 746, 748 and 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 748 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED**

Can Government state how many Gibraltarians registered unemployed with the Employment Agency as at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002 were registered as looking for part-time jobs giving a breakdown by sex and age for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 740 to 747 and 749 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 749 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – NUMBER OF GIBRALTARIANS**

Can Government state of the Gibraltarians employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 how many were registered with the Employment Agency as unemployed giving a breakdown for each month by age and sex?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

As all of the information sought by the hon Member in all of these questions is actually factual and statistical and that it is extensive, I set it all out for him in the written schedule that I now hand to him.

**Answer to Question No 741 of 2002**

Gibraltarians who joined the Unemployment Register during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

| <b>April</b>   | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 4           | 5             | 9            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 30          | 13            | 43           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 36          | 20            | 56           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>70</b>   | <b>38</b>     | <b>108</b>   |

| <b>May</b>     | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 7           | 12            | 19           |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 24          | 21            | 45           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 32          | 27            | 59           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>63</b>   | <b>60</b>     | <b>123</b>   |

| <b>June</b>    | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 6           | 7             | 13           |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 26          | 15            | 41           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 30          | 23            | 53           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>62</b>   | <b>45</b>     | <b>107</b>   |

| <b>July</b>    | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 7           | 8             | 15           |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 41          | 23            | 64           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 35          | 26            | 61           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>83</b>   | <b>57</b>     | <b>140</b>   |

| <b>August</b>  | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 1           | 4             | 5            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 39          | 31            | 70           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 37          | 23            | 60           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>77</b>   | <b>58</b>     | <b>135</b>   |

| <b>September</b> | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>    | 5           | 14            | 19           |
| <b>18 – 24</b>   | 29          | 28            | 57           |
| <b>25+</b>       | 53          | 50            | 103          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>87</b>   | <b>92</b>     | <b>179</b>   |

**Answer to Question No 742 and 743 of 2002**

Notice of Terms of Engagement registered with the Employment Service during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

|                                       | <b>April</b> | <b>May</b> | <b>June</b> | <b>July</b> | <b>August</b> | <b>September</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| Including directors and self-employed | 18721        | 18734      | 18723       | 19033       | 18918         | 19042            |
| Excluding Directors & self-employed   | 16023        | 16025      | 16012       | 16310       | 16203         | 16328            |

**Answer to Question No 744 of 2002**

Part-time vacancies filled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

| <b>April</b>   | <b>Gibraltarians</b> |               | <b>Other</b> |               | <b>Total</b> |               |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
|                | <b>Male</b>          | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> |
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 2                    | 2             | 1            | 1             | 3            | 3             |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 14                   | 15            | 8            | 16            | 22           | 31            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 4                    | 17            | 12           | 35            | 16           | 52            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>20</b>            | <b>34</b>     | <b>21</b>    | <b>52</b>     | <b>41</b>    | <b>86</b>     |

| <b>May</b>     | <b>Gibraltarians</b> |               | <b>Other</b> |               | <b>Total</b> |               |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
|                | <b>Male</b>          | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> |
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 0                    | 2             | 4            | 1             | 4            | 3             |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 8                    | 10            | 4            | 24            | 12           | 34            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 7                    | 10            | 16           | 27            | 23           | 37            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>15</b>            | <b>22</b>     | <b>24</b>    | <b>52</b>     | <b>39</b>    | <b>74</b>     |

| <b>June</b>    | <b>Gibraltarians</b> |               | <b>Other</b> |               | <b>Total</b> |               |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
|                | <b>Male</b>          | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> |
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 1                    | 0             | 0            | 3             | 1            | 3             |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 3                    | 5             | 6            | 9             | 9            | 14            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 6                    | 2             | 6            | 9             | 12           | 11            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>10</b>            | <b>7</b>      | <b>12</b>    | <b>21</b>     | <b>22</b>    | <b>28</b>     |

| <b>July</b>    | <b>Gibraltarians</b> |               | <b>Other</b> |               | <b>Total</b> |               |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
|                | <b>Male</b>          | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b>  | <b>Female</b> |
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 2                    | 5             | 1            | 1             | 3            | 6             |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 14                   | 30            | 16           | 28            | 30           | 58            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 6                    | 6             | 11           | 26            | 17           | 32            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>22</b>            | <b>41</b>     | <b>28</b>    | <b>55</b>     | <b>50</b>    | <b>96</b>     |

| August       | Gibraltarians |           | Other     |           | Total     |           |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|              | Male          | Female    | Male      | Female    | Male      | Female    |
| <18          | 2             | 1         | 0         | 2         | 2         | 3         |
| 18 – 24      | 6             | 3         | 5         | 14        | 11        | 17        |
| 25+          | 2             | 8         | 6         | 21        | 8         | 29        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>10</b>     | <b>12</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>49</b> |

| Sept         | Gibraltarians |           | Other    |           | Total     |           |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|              | Male          | Female    | Male     | Female    | Male      | Female    |
| <18          | 2             | 0         | 2        | 0         | 4         | 0         |
| 18 – 24      | 4             | 5         | 5        | 7         | 9         | 12        |
| 25+          | 7             | 23        | 1        | 18        | 8         | 41        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>13</b>     | <b>28</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>53</b> |

### Answer to Question No 747 of 2002

Detached Workers registered with the Employment Service in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

#### April 2002

| Nationality   | Professional | Semi-Skilled | Skilled   | Manual   | Total     |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Spanish       | -            | 1            | 26        | 3        | 30        |
| British       | -            | -            | 3         | -        | 3         |
| Other EEC     | -            | -            | 5         | -        | 5         |
| Other Non EEC | -            | -            | 17        | -        | 17        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>1</b>     | <b>51</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>55</b> |

#### May 2002

| Nationality   | Professional | Semi-Skilled | Skilled   | Manual   | Total     |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Spanish       | -            | 5            | 13        | -        | 18        |
| British       | 6            | -            | -         | -        | 6         |
| Other EEC     | -            | -            | -         | -        | -         |
| Other Non EEC | -            | -            | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b>     | <b>5</b>     | <b>13</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>24</b> |

#### June 2002

| Nationality   | Professional | Semi-Skilled | Skilled   | Manual   | Total     |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Spanish       | -            | 4            | 6         | -        | 10        |
| British       | 1            | -            | 4         | -        | 5         |
| Other EEC     | -            | -            | -         | -        | -         |
| Other Non EEC | -            | -            | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1</b>     | <b>4</b>     | <b>10</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>15</b> |

**July 2002**

| <b>Nationality</b>   | <b>Professional</b> | <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | <b>Skilled</b> | <b>Manual</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Spanish</b>       | -                   | 1                   | 17             | -             | 18           |
| <b>British</b>       | -                   | -                   | 7              | -             | 7            |
| <b>Other EEC</b>     | -                   | -                   | 3              | -             | 3            |
| <b>Other Non EEC</b> | -                   | -                   | -              | -             | -            |
| <b>Total</b>         | -                   | 1                   | 27             | -             | 28           |

**August 2002**

| <b>Nationality</b>   | <b>Professional</b> | <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | <b>Skilled</b> | <b>Manual</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Spanish</b>       | -                   | -                   | 28             | -             | 28           |
| <b>British</b>       | 3                   | 2                   | 13             | -             | 18           |
| <b>Other EEC</b>     | -                   | -                   | -              | -             | -            |
| <b>Other Non EEC</b> | -                   | -                   | -              | -             | -            |
| <b>Total</b>         | 3                   | -                   | 41             | -             | 46           |

**September 2002**

| <b>Nationality</b>   | <b>Professional</b> | <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | <b>Skilled</b> | <b>Manual</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Spanish</b>       | -                   | -                   | 17             | 2             | 19           |
| <b>British</b>       | -                   | 1                   | 12             | -             | 13           |
| <b>Other EEC</b>     | -                   | -                   | -              | -             | -            |
| <b>Other Non EEC</b> | 1                   | -                   | -              | -             | 1            |
| <b>Total</b>         | 1                   | 1                   | 29             | 2             | 33           |

**Answer to Question No 748 of 2002**

Unemployed Gibraltarians registering for part-time work in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002

| <b>April</b>   | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 0           | 0             | 0            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 0           | 4             | 4            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 0           | 19            | 19           |
| <b>Total</b>   | 0           | 23            | 23           |

| <b>May</b>     | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 0           | 0             | 0            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 0           | 4             | 4            |
| <b>25+</b>     | 0           | 14            | 14           |
| <b>Total</b>   | 0           | 18            | 18           |

| June         | Male     | Female    | Total     |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <18          | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| 18 – 24      | 2        | 1         | 3         |
| 25+          | 0        | 13        | 13        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>16</b> |

| July         | Male     | Female   | Total    |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <18          | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 18 – 24      | 0        | 1        | 1        |
| 25+          | 0        | 8        | 8        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>9</b> |

| August       | Male     | Female    | Total     |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <18          | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| 18 – 24      | 1        | 3         | 4         |
| 25+          | 0        | 10        | 10        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> |

| September    | Male     | Female    | Total     |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <18          | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| 18 – 24      | 1        | 3         | 4         |
| 25+          | 1        | 20        | 21        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>25</b> |

**Answer to Question Nos 740 and 749 of 2002**

Registered Unemployed Gibraltarians employed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

| April        | Male      | Female    | Total     |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <18          | 1         | 3         | 4         |
| 18 – 24      | 13        | 13        | 26        |
| 25+          | 12        | 8         | 20        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>50</b> |



| <b>May</b>     | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 3           | 3             | 6            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 16          | 8             | 24           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 15          | 10            | 25           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>34</b>   | <b>21</b>     | <b>55</b>    |

| <b>June</b>    | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 3           | 1             | 4            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 14          | 7             | 21           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 7           | 2             | 9            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>24</b>   | <b>10</b>     | <b>34</b>    |

| <b>July</b>    | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 2           | 3             | 5            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 21          | 8             | 29           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 22          | 12            | 34           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>45</b>   | <b>23</b>     | <b>68</b>    |

| <b>August</b>  | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>  | 2           | 2             | 4            |
| <b>18 – 24</b> | 26          | 4             | 30           |
| <b>25+</b>     | 13          | 5             | 18           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>41</b>   | <b>11</b>     | <b>52</b>    |

| <b>September</b> | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>&lt;18</b>    | 4           | 2             | 6            |
| <b>18 – 24</b>   | 20          | 10            | 30           |
| <b>25+</b>       | 21          | 14            | 35           |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>45</b>   | <b>26</b>     | <b>71</b>    |





**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 749 OF 2002**

**Answer to Question 746**

Work Permits issued in the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2002.

| April 02      | Malasian |           | Swiss |          | H Konese |          | S African |          | Mexican |          | Cypriot  |   | Totals    |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|---|-----------|
|               | M        | F         | M     | F        | M        | F        | M         | F        | M       | F        | M        | F |           |
| Managerial    |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   |           |
| Professional  |          |           |       | 1        |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   | 1         |
| Medical       |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   |           |
| Clerical      |          |           |       |          |          |          | 2         |          |         |          |          |   | 2         |
| Semi-Skilled  |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   |           |
| Domestic      |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   |           |
| Catering      |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          | 1       |          |          |   | 1         |
| Skilled       | 5        | 19        |       |          |          | 1        |           |          |         | 3        |          |   | 28        |
| Director      |          |           |       |          |          |          |           |          |         |          |          |   |           |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>19</b> |       | <b>1</b> |          | <b>1</b> |           | <b>2</b> |         | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> |   | <b>32</b> |

| May 02        | Malasian |          | Slovak |          | American |   | Bulgarian |   | Yugoslav |   | Russain |          | Australian |   | Totals    |
|---------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------|---|-----------|---|----------|---|---------|----------|------------|---|-----------|
|               | M        | F        | M      | F        | M        | F | M         | F | M        | F | M       | F        | M          | F |           |
| Managerial    |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| Professional  |          |          |        |          | 1        |   |           |   |          |   |         | 1        | 1          |   | 3         |
| Medical       |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| Clerical      |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| Semi-Skilled  |          |          |        | 1        |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   | 1         |
| Domestic      |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| Catering      |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| Skilled       |          | 6        |        |          |          |   | 3         |   | 3        |   |         |          |            |   | 12        |
| Director      |          |          |        |          |          |   |           |   |          |   |         |          |            |   |           |
| <b>Totals</b> |          | <b>6</b> |        | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b> |   | <b>3</b>  |   | <b>3</b> |   |         | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b>   |   | <b>16</b> |

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 749 OF 2002**

**Contd Answer to Question 746**

| June 02      | Korean |   | Cypriot |   | Totals |
|--------------|--------|---|---------|---|--------|
|              | M      | F | M       | F |        |
| Managerial   |        |   |         |   |        |
| Professional |        |   |         |   |        |
| Medical      |        |   |         |   |        |
| Clerical     |        |   |         |   |        |
| Semi-Skilled |        |   |         |   |        |
| Domestic     |        |   |         |   |        |
| Catering     |        |   |         |   |        |
| Skilled      |        | 1 | 1       |   | 2      |
| Director     |        |   |         |   |        |
| Totals       |        | 1 | 1       |   | 2      |

| July 02      | Korean |   | Chinese |   | Canadian |   | Russian |   | Polish |   | Pakistani |   | S. African |   | Cypriot |   | Totals |
|--------------|--------|---|---------|---|----------|---|---------|---|--------|---|-----------|---|------------|---|---------|---|--------|
|              | M      | F | M       | F | M        | F | M       | F | M      | F | M         | F | M          | F | M       | F |        |
| Managerial   |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Professional | 2      |   |         |   | 1        |   |         | 1 |        |   | 1         |   | 1          |   |         |   | 6      |
| Medical      |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Clerical     |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Semi-Skilled |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Domestic     |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Catering     |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Skilled      |        | 2 |         | 1 |          |   |         |   | 1      |   |           |   |            |   | 2       |   | 6      |
| Director     |        |   |         |   |          |   |         |   |        |   |           |   |            |   |         |   |        |
| Totals       | 2      | 2 |         | 1 | 1        |   |         | 1 | 1      |   | 1         |   | 1          |   | 2       |   | 12     |

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 749 OF 2002**

**Contd. Answer to Question 746**

| August 02    | Moroccan |   | Cypriot |   | S.African |   | Korea |   | Totals |
|--------------|----------|---|---------|---|-----------|---|-------|---|--------|
|              | M        | F | M       | F | M         | F | M     | F |        |
| Managerial   |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Professional |          |   | 1       | 1 |           | 2 |       |   | 4      |
| Medical      |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Clerical     |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Semi-Skilled |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Domestic     |          | 1 |         |   |           |   |       |   | 1      |
| Catering     |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Skilled      |          |   | 1       |   |           |   | 1     |   | 2      |
| Director     |          |   |         |   |           |   |       |   |        |
| Totals       |          | 1 | 2       | 1 |           | 2 | 1     |   | 7      |

| Sept 02      | Israeli |   | Chinese |   | American |   | S. African |   | Argentinian |   | Polish |   | Isle of Man |   | Total |
|--------------|---------|---|---------|---|----------|---|------------|---|-------------|---|--------|---|-------------|---|-------|
|              | M       | F | M       | F | M        | F | M          | F | M           | F | M      | F | M           | F |       |
| Managerial   |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   |       |
| Professional | 1       |   |         |   |          |   | 4          | 2 |             |   |        |   |             |   | 7     |
| Medical      |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   |       |
| Clerical     |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             | 1 |        |   |             |   | 1     |
| Semi-Skilled |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   |       |
| Domestic     |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   |       |
| Catering     |         |   | 1       |   |          |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   | 1     |
| Skilled      |         |   |         |   |          |   |            |   |             |   | 2      |   | 1           |   | 3     |
| Director     |         |   |         |   | 1        |   |            |   |             |   |        |   |             |   | 1     |
| Totals       | 1       |   | 1       |   | 1        |   | 4          | 2 |             | 1 | 2      |   | 1           |   | 13    |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 741 TO 749 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

In Question No 746 of 2002 on work permits is it that these are new issued or is it that it could also be renewed included?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

They are new work permits. Does he mean whether it is somebody that has just arrived in Gibraltar as opposed to somebody changing jobs? My understanding is that these are new work permits issued.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In answer to Question No 747 of 2002 where we have got the figures for detached workers are these in a particular industry, for example, are they in shiprepairing or would they be in construction which are the two most obvious areas which might be using detached workers?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Judging from memory I would daresay shipbuilding.

ORAL

**NO. 750 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS (OFFENCES) ORDINANCE**

Can Government state how many fixed penalties have been imposed on employers, in respect of how many employees for the month of April, May and June 2002 under the Employment Regulations (Offences) Ordinance, and under which section of the Ordinance. Furthermore, whether the penalties have been paid or the matter is being pursued through the courts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question No 751 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 751 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS (OFFENCES) ORDINANCE**

Can Government state how many fixed penalties have been imposed on employers, in respect of how many employees for the month of July, August and September 2002 under the Employment Regulations (Offences) Ordinance, and under which section of the Ordinance. Furthermore, whether the penalties have been paid or the matter is being pursued through the courts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

The extensive factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I now hand to him.

**Answer to Question No 750 of 2002**

**April 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 11.  
1 Fixed Penalty Notice was issued.  
1 Fixed Penalty Notice was paid.  
No pending cases with the Attorney General.

## **May 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 13.  
6 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued.  
No Fixed Penalty Notices were paid.  
No Pending cases with the Attorney General.

## **June 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 13.  
2 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued.  
2 Fixed Penalty Notices were paid.  
No pending case with the Attorney General.

## **Answer to Question No 751 of 2002**

## **July 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 20.  
4 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued.  
3 Fixed Penalty Notices were paid.  
2 pending cases with the Attorney General.

## **August 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 23.  
2 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued.  
5 Fixed Penalty Notices were paid.  
1 pending case with the Attorney General.

## **September 2002**

Number of inspections carried out was 18  
5 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued.  
3 Fixed Penalty Notices were paid.  
2 pending cases with the Attorney General.

The provisions are as follows:-

- (1) Regulations 8(2A) of the Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) Regulations 1989 (Duty to Register).
- (2) Regulation 3 of the Employment Injuries (Contributions) Regulations (Duty to Register).

- (3) Regulation 3 of the Employment Injuries (Contributions) Regulations as applied by Regulation 4(1) of the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations (Duty to Register).
- (4) Regulation 3 of the Employment Injuries (Contributions) Regulations as applied by regulation 3(1) of the Social Security (Open Long Term Benefits) (Contributions) Regulations 1997 (Duty to Register).
- (5) Regulation 4 of the Employment Regulations 1994 (Duty to notify Director of vacancy).
- (6) Regulation 6 of the Employment Regulations 1994 (Duty to notify Director of intention to engaged an entitled worker).
- (7) Regulation 7 of the Employment Regulations 1994 (Duty to apply to the Director for a permit in relation to a non-entitled worker).
- (8) Section 3 of the Business Trades and Professions (Registration) Ordinance 1989 (Duty to Register).

ORAL

**NO. 752 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**JOB CLUB**

Can Government state how many persons have used the facilities provided at the Job Club in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2002, giving a breakdown for each month, by sex and age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

The extensive , factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I now hand to him.

Total number of persons using the Job Club facilities for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters of 2002 by month, sex and age.

**Answer to Question No 752 of 2002**

| <b>April</b>  | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>   | 10              | 11           | 9                  | 30           |
| <b>Female</b> | 3               | 7            | 9                  | 19           |
| <b>Total</b>  | 13              | 18           | 18                 | 49           |

| <b>May</b>    | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>   | 5               | 7            | 12                 | 24           |
| <b>Female</b> | 1               | 9            | 9                  | 19           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b>        | <b>16</b>    | <b>21</b>          | <b>43</b>    |

| <b>June</b>   | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>   | 4               | 6            | 9                  | 19           |
| <b>Female</b> | 0               | 7            | 4                  | 11           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>4</b>        | <b>13</b>    | <b>13</b>          | <b>30</b>    |

| <b>July</b>   | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>   | 6               | 9            | 16                 | 31           |
| <b>Female</b> | 3               | 11           | 10                 | 24           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>9</b>        | <b>20</b>    | <b>26</b>          | <b>55</b>    |

| <b>August</b> | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>   | 4               | 10           | 14                 | 28           |
| <b>Female</b> | 3               | 13           | 17                 | 33           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>7</b>        | <b>23</b>    | <b>31</b>          | <b>61</b>    |

| <b>September</b> | <b>Under 18</b> | <b>18-24</b> | <b>25 and Over</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Male</b>      | 6               | 9            | 13                 | 28           |
| <b>Female</b>    | 6               | 17           | 14                 | 37           |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>12</b>       | <b>26</b>    | <b>27</b>          | <b>65</b>    |

ORAL

**NO. 753 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – NON EEC NATIONALS**

Can Government state how many non-EEC nationals employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 were new entrants to the Local Labour Market giving a breakdown by nationality and job title, for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 754 to 756 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 754 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – MOROCCAN NATIONALS**

Can Government state how many Moroccan nationals employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 were new entrants to the Local Labour Market?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 753, 755 and 754 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 755 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – SPANISH NATIONALS**

Can Government state of the 297 Spanish nationals employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter how many were new entrants to the Local Labour Market giving a breakdown for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question No 753, 754 and 756 of 2002.



**NO. 756 OF 2002****THE HON J L BALDACHINO****EMPLOYMENT – OTHER BRITISH NATIONALS**

Can Government state of the 300 other British employed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 how many were new entrants to the Local Labour Market giving a breakdown for each month?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

The extensive, factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I now hand to him.

**Answer to Question Nos 753 to 756 of 2002****British Nationals**

|              | <b>April</b> | <b>May</b> | <b>June</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| New Entrants | 52           | 56         | 36          | 144          |

**Spanish**

|              | <b>April</b> | <b>May</b> | <b>June</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| New Entrants | 40           | 65         | 44          | 149          |

**Moroccans**

|              | <b>April</b> | <b>May</b> | <b>June</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| New Entrants | 0            | 0          | 0           | 0            |

### Other Non-EEC Nationals

| April               | Malaysian | Greek/<br>Cypriot | Swiss    | Mexican  | S African | H.Konese | Total     |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>Managerial</b>   | -         | -                 | -        | -        | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Professional</b> | -         | -                 | 1        | -        | -         | -        | 1         |
| <b>Medical</b>      | -         | -                 | -        | -        | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Clerical</b>     | -         | -                 | -        | -        | 2         | -        | 2         |
| <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | -         | -                 | -        | -        | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Domestic</b>     | -         | -                 | -        | -        | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Catering</b>     | -         | -                 | -        | 1        | -         | -        | 1         |
| <b>Skilled</b>      | 24        | 3                 | -        | -        | -         | 1        | 28        |
| <b>Director</b>     | -         | -                 | -        | -        | -         | -        | -         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>24</b> | <b>3</b>          | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>32</b> |

| May                 | American | Bulgarian | Yugoslav | Slovak   | Russian  | Aug      | Malaysian | Total     |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Managerial</b>   | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Professional</b> | 1        | -         | -        | -        | 1        | 1        | -         | 3         |
| <b>Medical</b>      | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Clerical</b>     | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | -        | -         | -        | 1        | -        | -        | -         | 1         |
| <b>Domestic</b>     | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Catering</b>     | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Skilled</b>      | -        | 3         | 3        | -        | -        | -        | 6         | 12        |
| <b>Director</b>     | -        | -         | -        | -        | -        | -        | -         | -         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>16</b> |

| June                | Korean   | Greek/Cypriot | Totals   |
|---------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| <b>Managerial</b>   | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Professional</b> | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Medical</b>      | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Clerical</b>     | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Semi-Skilled</b> | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Domestic</b>     | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Catering</b>     | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Skilled</b>      | 1        | 1             | 2        |
| <b>Director</b>     | -        | -             | -        |
| <b>Totals</b>       | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b>      | <b>2</b> |

ORAL

**NO. 757 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EU DIRECTIVE – PROTECTION OF YOUNG WORKERS**

Can Government state when they intend to transpose to our National Law EU Directive on the Protection of young workers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

As the hon Member will know, parts of the Directive on the Protection of Young People at Work have already been transposed into our national law incorporated in the Working Time Ordinance (which itself transposed the Working Time Directive). Government hope to be in position to review and transpose, as appropriate, the remaining provisions of the Protection of Young People at Work Directive as soon as possible.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 757 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I have asked this question because during the debate that we had on the Ordinance that the Chief Minister has just stated I raised the question that when there is an age gap of persons that are 17 years old who are not protected but were protected by the old Ordinance that we had. At the time I was told by the Government that that size age which was 17 would be protected when they brought the Protection of Young Workers Ordinance Bill or Directive to the House, this was about three years ago.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I accept that the matter was first raised by him some time ago, it would not be true that the Working Time Ordinance as it presently stands leaves a gap for 15 to 18 years.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

No, 17.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Persons aged between 15 and 18 include 17 year olds. Many of the provisions of the Working Time Ordinance makes specific provision to people or to workers under the age of 18, for example, Sections 8(2), 9(3), 10(3), 12 and to Young Workers which is a defined term in Section 17. The exercise that is presently being done but I cannot tell him at what stage it is in terms of the drafting work is to make sure that all the references that there have been to these young workers under 18 in the Working Time Directive as transposed constitutes full transposition of the Protection of Young People At Work directive. The answer to that question is probably that it does not completely transpose the latter directive and an exercise is being done to see if there are any lacunae have been left and those will be filled by an amendment. That exercise is taking place but I regret that I cannot tell him exactly at what stage the drafts people are in. I can ask Mr Corby to contact him and bring him up to date with the timings of that exercise.

ORAL

**NO. 758 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – WAGE SUBSIDY**

Can Government state what was the expenditure by the Employment Agency on Wage Subsidy in each month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 and the number of people and of employers involved in each of these months?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 759 to 761 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 759 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – WAGE SUBSIDY**

Can Government state what was the expenditure by the Employment Agency on wage subsidy in each month of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2002 and the number of people and of employees involved in each of these months?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 758, 760 and 761 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 760 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – WAGE SUBSIDY**

Can Government state what was the expenditure by the Employment Agency on wage subsidy in each month of 2001 and the number of people and of employers involved in each of these months?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

Answered together with Question Nos 758, 759 and 761 of 2002.

**NO. 761 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EMPLOYMENT – WAGE SUBSIDY**

Can Government state what was the expenditure by the Employment Agency on wage subsidy in each month of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2002 and the number of people and of the employers involved in each of these months?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)**

The extensive, factual and statistical information is set out in tabular form in the schedule that I now hand the hon Member.

**Supplementary to Question No 760 of 2002**

In total, the number of employees assisted is 35.

**Supplementary to Question No 761 of 2002**

In total, the number of employees assisted up to end of September 2002 is 13.  
The number of employers is 7.

The numbers of wage subsidised employees may, to the Opposition, appear low, and certainly so in comparison with numbers of the sort during their term of office.



As the Hon Mr J J Netto pointed out in his 1999 Budget Speech –

*“Government spending this year in terms of wage subsidies, as was the case last year and the year before, for that matter, has been prudent and contained in an effort to maintain wage subsidy levels in tune with real demand and long term sustainable employment; in difference to the pattern set by the previous administration of wage subsidies at whatever cost, totally uncontrolled and irrespective of employment sustainability, simply in an effort to reduce the unemployment figures. This Government is not prepared, never has been, to subsidise, at the tax payer’s cost, employment of the latter sort.”*

Employers benefiting from a wage subsidy today have to demonstrate real commitment by way of real and sustainable employment opportunities.

The 52 week wage subsidy period is split into two blocks. The first 26 weeks of wage subsidy are claimed by and paid to the employer at, normally four week periods. The second 26 weeks of wage subsidy are claimed by and paid to the employer only after the end of that 26<sup>th</sup> week in a lump sum.

This means that during the second 26 weeks the employer would have had to pay the full wage to his/her employee (already having to show extra commitment to keep on the employee beyond the first 26 weeks), and wait to have had that employee in employment for a total of 52 weeks before claiming the second half chunk of wage subsidy.

This wage subsidy scheme would also then have ensured that the employee remained in continuous employment for a minimum period of 52 weeks (if the employer wants to make certain of getting back his/her own second 26 week period wage subsidy/investment already paid out to him/her).

Additionally, the 52 week continuous employment will entitle the employee to have recourse to an industrial tribunal should he/she be dismissed for no good cause (as often used to happen before, just short of 52 weeks employment).

**Answer to Question Nos 758,759 and 761 of 2002**

|                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter |     |       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter |       |       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter |     |       |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------|-----|-------|
|                        | Jan                     | Feb | March | April                   | May   | June  | July                    | Aug | Sept  |
| <b>Year 2002</b>       |                         |     |       |                         |       |       |                         |     |       |
| <b>Expenditure £</b>   | 5,396                   | 360 | 778   | 935                     | 4,968 | 6,080 | 975                     | 900 | 4,700 |
| <b>No of Employees</b> | 2                       | 1   | 2     | 2                       | 6     | 6     | 3                       | 3   | 5     |
| <b>No of Employers</b> | 2                       | 1   | 2     | 2                       | 5     | 3     | 3                       | 3   | 3     |

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 758 TO 761 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can Government say whether the employers that are listed here are all private sector employers or are there any instances of people working in these schemes working for either the Government or a Government company?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I would need to obtain confirmation of the answer that I am about to give the hon Member. I believe that it is all private sector employers, I have a doubt which I would want to just eliminate by asking about whether some of the people engaged in the Cammell Laird apprenticeship scheme and placed, for example, in the Electricity Department where they get placed for work experience whether they are the subject of ....some of these people are placed in private sector others are placed elsewhere whether they are included under this wage subsidy scheme some are placed in the Electricity Department others are placed in the Garage what I do not know if it is in those cases the Government benefit from the wage subsidy scheme, probably not because is there not a rule, he may remember this from his days that wage subsidy is not available for Government employees I seem to remember that there was something actually.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

All these employees are people who are 25 or over are they?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

In the Cammell Laird Electrical and Mechanical training centres. The ones that are placed in Cammell Laird the ship yard those are private sector.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If we look at the figure for 2001/2002 nearly every month 2002 is well below 2001 the only month that seems to be fairly close is in the second quarter of 2002 we have got 6,006 people and June last year we had 2,004 people but in the earlier part of the year we have got less people and less money being spent, is it that we are likely to be underspending on the money in the estimates this year?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have not received any indication that there is going to be an underspend it is being indicated to me that these are just ordinary fluctuations. I am not aware that there is any programmed underspend.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Maybe the Chief Minister can clarify, for example, in January 2001 expenditure was £5,689 for 10 employees but in the first quarter of this year in January the expenditure is £5,396 for two employees. A wage subsidy cannot be £2,500.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am almost certain there is nobody on wage subsidy earning £2,648.50 a month, the most likely explanation is that in respect of the figure entered in the expenditure column it relates to wages from a previous month to others but I agree that there would then not be a correlation between the number of employees and the number of employers and the figure. It is expenditure, employees, and employers but if the explanation that I am suggesting is correct there is no marriage between the figures in the three boxes, for example, in February it is one employee and one employer and earning £360.00, in March two employees £778.00, so it is obviously about £360.00 per employee per month so if it is £5,396 in January for two employees there has to be an element of arrears in respect of previous.....

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

December?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I was just looking at the December figure, the December figure is itself £3,575 for eight employees I do not know whether that is up or whether it is still on the high side.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It is still on the high side.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I will find out for the hon Member and let him know.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The actual numbers it is difficult to know whether the expenditure is as budgeted if there are these fluctuations because in fact it does not necessarily follow that the expenditure for any given month refers to the actual people covered by the scheme in that month but the numbers if we look at this year we start the year with only two persons on a wage subsidy for two employers one each presumably and then in January there is one so in fact if we compare that with the preceding year the year started with 10, in August there were 13 and 12, this is why I am saying that even if the sums of money and the

expenditure are difficult to relate to the budgeted amount of money the numbers of people covered by the scheme seem to be running at about half the level of the previous year.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That is apparent from the figures. Certainly the rules relating to the eligibility for wage subsidy have tightened considerably it was not quite as easy as in days gone past where we used to have sustained schemes. Those schemes are still possible but certainly the rules have been tightened up quite considerably. I do not even know whether the hon Member speaks of underspend it may not be that there is a particular vote for wage subsidy it may just be general ESF Funds the hon Member has the answer there to a previous question. I am not sure if the ESF allocation is subdivided into wage subsidy, training and other things I think it is not so if that is right the fact that one is not spending it on wage subsidy presumably does not mean that it is not being spent on other things, training and other such schemes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But the estimate this year was Wage Subsidy, £150,000 of which EU Projects was £130 and other was £20,000 in appendix b of the approved estimates now given that the forecast out-turn for the preceding year was £55,000 .....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I beg your pardon I misunderstood him when the hon Member spoke of underspend I had not appreciated that he was talking about underspend as against our budget, I thought he was meaning underspend as against the EU time during which one is allowed to spend the money I thought he meant underspend as against the ESF Programme document where as he actually means underspend as against what we voted in the estimates in this House we thought we were going to spend.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I believe the ESF unlike the Regional Fund has to be spent on an annual basis. If one does not spend it in one year one cannot carry it over so the amount that the Government were intending to spend in the current financial year was based on an assumed contribution from the European Social Fund of £0.5 million of which £130,000 is shown under Wage Subsidy. The point that I am making is that the actual spend in the preceding year the forecast out-turn is shown as £33,000. If we have actually spent £33,000 we have had an average of eight or nine persons in receipt of the subsidy every month and in the first nine months of this year we have an average of three or four then irrespective of the sums of money we are looking at it would seem to me that we are half-way through and we seem to be unable or unlikely to be spending the amount that the House provided in the estimates and therefore if there has been a tightening, is it that the tightening has been between 2001 and 2002?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

As to whether it is likely or unlikely that we will spend the Government are at this moment in time considering one significant application for Wage Subsidy which will certainly mop up that figure from the estimates. It is not a matter that I would like to mention extensively today because it is sensitive and still under discussion but I did mention it once, a large food retailer, we did have a brief exchange across the floor, that is under active consideration now and if we can find a way of approving it it would certainly consume those funds as to how much more demand there is that is the one case that I am aware of as to whether there are in the pipeline any other applications or whether simply there is just not a demand for this within the parameters permissible under the rules I do not know. I know for a fact, for example, that one of the few parameters left one of the few criteria left for wage subsidy is protecting jobs that would otherwise be lost through redundancies whereas when the wage subsidy scheme was first introduced in Gibraltar there was much more latitude in the reasons. That is as much light as I can shed on it the numbers are self evident as he is analysing, the numbers were not terribly large anyway but within that they are down by anything between 20, or 30, very significantly the current numbers are in most months less than a quarter of the numbers last year.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I think it would be useful to know whether the change between this year and the last is as a result of the rules being more demanding in terms of the criteria that has to be met or the fact that the private sector is not approaching the service offering places.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not like businessmen not to apply for funds that is open to them but certainly I will have this matter looked into and give the hon Member the full explanation.

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HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Wage subsidy is available for anybody over the age of 18 not 25 and that is the reason why there is the apparent discrepancy between the size of the monthly payment and the number of employees to which it purports to relate is the explanation that I offered him but not limited to one month's arrears but to more. Employers send in invoices at the end of a lengthy and varying period depending on what arrangement suits them and they get paid in the month in which the invoice gets received rather than in the period to which the subsidy relates. That is why there is no correlation in time or amount between the amount paid and the number of employees appearing under that month.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I take it that the age group then is 18 to 25, over 18 irrespective. Can I ask is there an indication of the question of the numbers, the fact that it looked as if the numbers were down compared to last year that was the other point that was going to be looked at?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is entirely a matter of demand.

HON J L BALDACHINO:

Can the Chief Minister say when the policies were changed because I remember having an exchange of views with the then Minister for Employment, why limited to 25 and over and he said that that was the policy of the Government when I was arguing that it should be 18?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know the answer to that question but I do not think it is a matter of policy of the Government I think it is a question of the rules attaching to the ESF but in any event if it were policy of the Government I would not now be able to tell him when the policy was changed if it has been changed.

ORAL

NO. 762 OF 2002

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EMPLOYMENT - INSURANCE INDUSTRY

What are the total number of people employed in the insurance industry as at 30th June 2001 and 30th June 2002, giving a breakdown by company and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

(On behalf of the Minister for Employment and Consumer Affairs)

In June 2001 it consisted of 25 employers with a total of 165 registered employees of which 121 are Gibraltarians, 42 British and 2 are Spanish. The same figures for 2002 as of June is 27 employers with a total of 176 employees of which 124 are Gibraltarians, 48 are other British, 2 are Spanish, one is Portuguese and one is Czech.

ORAL

NO. 763 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

HOUSING – REFERENDUM AND CONSTITUTION BLOCKS

Are Government aware that there have been a number of complaints from tenants at both Referendum and Constitution Blocks about the eroded state of the exterior water stopcocks?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Government are aware that there have been a number of complaints from tenants regarding the eroded state of the exterior water stopcocks. Several have been replaced and there are requisitions to carry out several others. It is our intention to carry a comprehensive survey of the water supply system and, if deemed necessary, replace all of them.

ORAL

NO. 764 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT

Can Government state whether they have resumed negotiations with the TGWU over the Government's proposals to move employees out of the Buildings and Works Department?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question No 765 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 765 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT

Can Government state whether they have now concluded the recruitment of new managerial posts for the Buildings and Works Department, and if so, has this now been agreed with the union Prospect which holds the negotiating rights for these grades?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Formal negotiations have not been resumed. Government have now finalised the recruitment of the new management for Buildings and Works. The union Prospect is aware of such new recruitment.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 764 AND 765 OF 2002

HON J C PEREZ:

We know that the union Prospect is aware of it and we know that when they saw the notice wrote to the Minister, copy to the Chief Minister, telling him not to put out the adverts. He is not answering the question by telling me that they are aware of it, I am asking whether they have agreed to it now, whether there is any sort of agreement for the people that they represent and for the people that they need to negotiate for whether there is any agreement for the employment of this post?

HON J J NETTO:

There is no such agreement between Prospect and the Government in relation to the new Management post, the union is aware, the union is in discussion with them in normal day to day activities but there is no agreement. They are aware that the recruitment is taking place, we heard their objections, we explained our position, we never had an agreement it would have been ideally better in all circumstances to have had an agreement but that never took place and there is not one at the moment. Having said that that does not stop the union as such from on a daily basis getting in contact with the various managers in Buildings and Works and sorting out whatever problems there might be.

HON J C PEREZ:

The problem is not held by the union or by the managers, the problem is with the Government. The union wrote to the Minister on the day that they saw the adverts objecting to the adverts coming out without the Government or the Minister having cleared the jobs and the job description with the union and I am asking whether that problem has been resolved, or is the union still in dispute with the Government over the employment of those managers?

HON J J NETTO:

There is no such dispute. The union wrote to me and at the end of the day we were not able to have an agreement with them but there is no such dispute they are aware of the new management post and there may be disagreement but it is not an issue where there is a dispute.

HON J C PEREZ:

So, the fact that the union is not taking industrial action is considered by the Minister that they are not in dispute, there is no agreement, they have objected to what the Government are doing but the Minister does not consider that to be a dispute?

HON K AZOPARDI:

Yes, they did write, but the Minister wrote back. There is no agreement but the Government's view as we said last time is that no agreement is necessary. There is no dispute because no agreement is necessary and that is our position.

HON J C PEREZ:

So what the Minister is saying is that the normal negotiating rights of all unions have been altered by this Government unilaterally without discussion with them because from time immemorial every new post that came out internally or externally had to be agreed

with the union beforehand. Was the Minister saying that that is now not the case, not only in this instance, but across the Government employees?

HON K AZOPARDI:

We explained last time that our view is that they do not apply in this case but that we do not concede that we have created a precedence ?

HON J J BOSSANO:

If the Government do not consider that this is the first time can they inform the House when was the first time they introduced this philosophy?

HON K AZOPARDI:

I cannot tell him when the first time was but I, for example, did not seek the consent or the so called agreement of the unions pursuant to fictitious negotiating rights when, for example, we created the post of Chief Executive of the Health Authority.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Could that be because the post of Chief Executive of the Health Authority is one in respect of which no union has a negotiating right, and is it that the Minister is so ignorant of the established practice in the Government of Gibraltar that he does not know that obviously the consultation process only applies in respect of posts which are part of the negotiating rights with the union. That is where the union is consulted is where there is a grading within the post which forms part of the collective agreement with the union. If the Chief Executive is one where no union represents that position then obviously no union is consulted.

HON K AZOPARDI:

I am not going to accuse the hon Member of ignorance. I am not going to go there on that basis but let me say I see no difference between the post of Chief Executive of the Health Authority which was a new post which no union could possibly hold negotiating rights in respect of and new posts that exist in the Buildings and Works Department. They are also new, they have not been carried forward, there are no rights that accrue to them because they are new. They are precisely in the same category as the other example I gave.

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, I will explain to the Minister and try and put it in the form of a question. Does the Government not distinguish between a situation, for example, where the negotiating rights of ACTSS is for PTO posts and then the number of PTOs have been agreed with

the union and if Government believe that there should be one more or one less they discuss that with the union and the creation of the Chief Executive of something where it is not a grade or a post in which there is a collective agreement. A negotiating right recognition agreement between the Government and the union which presumably there are for the posts in the Building and Works?

HON K AZOPARDI:

I distinguish between them because I understand that they fall into slightly different scenarios in the sense that one may have five PTOs and if one wants to create a sixth that is one example, but if one wants to create a completely new post that is a different example but I do not see a huge amount of difference between them, that is the first point, secondly I would say that both examples arise in the case of the Buildings and Works Department, there are more posts being created of grades that already exist but there are also completely new managerial posts and the Government as a matter of principle do not see that if we are giving additional resources to the Buildings and Works Department in accordance with recommendations of a review, why the union has to agree the increase of staff and why the Union needs to be what someone could perceive to be an obstacle to the additional human resources being deployed to the Department. We do not as a matter of principle concede that, we do not think it is precedent and we explained our position last time.

HON J C PEREZ:

Can the Minister state whether these employees have been taken on directly by the Government of Gibraltar or whether they are employed by the Development Corporation or some other entity and if they are employed by the Government of Gibraltar have they gone through the Public Service Commission Board and are they permanent and pensionable and what will happen to these grades if the Government are not successful in convincing the rest of the staff to move to an Authority.

HON J J NETTO:

I think some of the supplementary questions there will be asked by your hon Colleague later on in terms of the management whether they are pensionable, on contract et cetera, et cetera. I think it would be more relevant really to allow when he arrives at his number and we can have a discussion then as opposed to having a discussion now.

MR SPEAKER:

It is not a question of a discussion, it is a question of answering the question if you want to answer.

HON J J NETTO:

As I say I do not mind answering the question but I do not want to have to repeat it later on.

MR SPEAKER:

You are not answering? All right.

ORAL

NO. 766 OF 2002

THE HON DR R G VALARINO

BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT

Can Government say whether any workers employed by Buildings and Works who are entitled to bonuses previously agreed on, have not been paid on time?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

There have been very few occasions in which payment of a bonus has not been effected within the agreed period of two weeks. In such few occasions it has been for administrative reasons. That said, there has also been some other occasions upon which individuals have queried that a payment has not been made, only to find out that indeed the payment was made but the individual concerned had not realised that. However, to put things in perspective, since the introduction of the current bonus scheme from August 1997, there have been literally thousands of payments made.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 766 OF 2002

HON J C PEREZ:

How is it that the Minister says that on very few occasions they have been paid late and everybody is complaining all the time that they are not paid in time, surely there is something wrong here the complaint on a weekly basis is that they are not being paid on time and the Minister comes here and says that they are, the line of communication must be wrong somewhere?

HON J J NETTO:

When I receive a question I check the answer with my senior executive officer who tells me that when there is a complaint that the payment has not been effected within a period of two weeks he looks into the matter either with individual consent or in some occasions with the shop stewards and the reality is that there has been very few occasions where the department administration has not made the payment within the agreed period of two weeks and there are many, many occasions for which individuals claim that the payment has not been made without realising that the payment had been made. Probably this is due to the fact that sometimes a small payment of a bonus is part of another payment which is done within the following days and the person concerned has not realised the payment or a number of payments being made within the period but the reality is that I am told by Administration that the vast majority are made within the allocated time and the union shop stewards are aware of this and they are satisfied that this is working right. This is information that has been brought to me.

HON J C PEREZ:

Given that the occasions are so very few can the Minister say out of the 1,000 odd bonuses that have been paid on how many occasions do the Government agree that it has been paid late?

HON J J NETTO:

I do not have that information the hon Member would have to give me notice of it?

ORAL

NO. 767 OF 2002

THE HON DR R G VALARINO

POST OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE – HOUSING

Can Government state whether the new post of Chief Executive in Housing, Buildings and Works is permanent and pensionable or is the post on a contract basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos 768 and 769 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 768 OF 2002

THE HON DR R G VALARINO

POST OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE - HOUSING

Can Government state how the present occupant of the new post of Chief Executive in Housing, Buildings and Works was chosen?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos 767 and 769 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 769 OF 2002

THE HON DR R G VALARINO

POST OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE – HOUSING

Can Government state what is the salary of the new post of Chief Executive in Housing, Buildings and Works at present?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answer to Question No 767 of 2002

The recruitment of the Chief Executive, Buildings and Works, is on a contract basis as stated on numerous occasions in the House.

Answer to Question No 768 of 2002

In relation to his selection for the post, was done by being the preferred option of the Selection Board.

Answer to Question No 769 of 2002

The salary of the Chief Executive, Buildings and Works, is £55,000 annually, as shown in the approved Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2002/2003.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 767 TO 769 OF 2002

HON J C PEREZ:

Can the Minister state whether when he refers to the Selection Board he means the Public Service Commission and whether they are Government employees and (2) can the Minister state what he intends to do with this post if eventually he is not successful in moving the workforce into the proposed authority?

HON J J NETTO:

There are a number of permutations there and I will try to remember some of them. First of all they are employed by the Government, secondly it is a Selection Board, I am not quite sure that it is a full Public Service Commission, I do not think it is a Public Service Commission, in this particular case but I am a bit sketchy on those details but it is not the Public Service Commission it is a full board by senior management and the third question where the hon Member makes a link as to long term the post being linked to whether the people move to the Authority or not, that is not necessarily the yardstick so to speak that the Government will adhere to. Whether the department moves the Authority or not is one issue the other issue as far as I am concerned is whether these people who are on contract not just the Chief Executive but the Project Co-ordinator and the Unions Manager all of them are on contract whether they are performing well and whether to the satisfaction of the Government regardless whether the department had gone to an Authority, the reforms in either case are sufficiently good enough to make the Government satisfied that the department is giving a much better service for the tenants in the future. So I do not see necessarily the link as for long term employment being linked with whether the department goes to the Authority or not, that may or may not be the case.

HON J C PEREZ:

Is the contract for two years or more?

HON J J NETTO:

You are referring to the three posts?

HON J C PEREZ:

Yes you have said they are all on contract.

HON J J NETTO:

I would need notice of that question to be able to answer it. I do know that the Chief Executive was already in the employment under contract in Technical Services Department and the period that he has served which I think is more or less a year and a half has been taken into account in terms of the new period for the contract. As regards to the other ones they have an initial one year followed by three years but as I have said to the hon Member I am talking without having the information readily available and I would need notice of that question.

HON J C PEREZ:

Does the Minister realise that if he cannot agree with himself that they have been employed by the Public Service Commission as is normal for all civil servants, they are not Government employees as he states?

HON J J NETTO:

No, my understanding is that when people are employed on contract as opposed to permanent and pensionable it is not the rules that the full Public Service Commission does the interviews, that is my understanding. My understanding is that when it is on contract basis it is a selection board and not the Public Service Commission.

HON K AZOPARDI:

It very much depends whether the contract officers are employed by the Government or for example, by the GDC, in either case my understanding is that it is not done by the full PSC they are done by much smaller selection boards but if they are employed by the Government as required by the legislation it would have to be what is I think sometimes called a departmental PSC or a PSC which is a smaller selection.

HON J C PEREZ:

I am not asking whether they have been employed by a full PSC I am asking (a) whether they are Government employees and if so whether they have gone through the right procedure and been employed by a Selection Board of the Public Service Commission and what I am getting is if they are members of the Development Corporation or whether they are Government employees or whatever the Minister should make up his mind, what is it?

HON K AZOPARDI:

The answer to the question is yes of course the Government will have followed the proper procedure in this case because the recruitment process and procedures are not done in-house by the Buildings and Works Department, of course they are done always under advice with the Personnel Department so the proper procedure as required by law

in either case would have been followed it would depend strictly on whether they are Government Employees or Gibraltar Development Corporation employees but if they are Crown employees obviously any requirements of the law would have been followed. I am completely sure that that is the case.

HON DR R G VALARINO:

The figure of £55,000 mentioned by the Minister is here, is there likely to be any increase as the years go by and is the salary the same as that of the Chief Executive in the Health Authority?

HON J J NETTO:

I would need notice to answer that supplementary question.

HON K AZOPARDI:

All I would say is that the Chief Executive of the Health Authority is a senior officer as he well knows.

HON J L BALDACHINO:

According to what the Minister has just said on the provision of the contract there is nothing on that there will be increases of the wages on the three years is there?

HON J J NETTO:

What I am trying to say to the hon Members is that I have not got the contract in front of me and that is why we need notice to be able to actually answer those particular supplementary questions.

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**HON J J NETTO:**

If I can go back to Wednesday's session where the Hon Mr Perez sought clarification on Question Nos 765 and 768 of 2002, namely on two issues, one of them was if the new senior management in Buildings and Works are Government employees or GDC employees and two whether the new management were selected by the Public Service Commission. I can confirm as I did say on several occasions on Wednesday that the new management in Buildings and Works are employees of the Government and obviously this was approved in the House of Assembly at budget time and is shown in the establishment figure of Head 3 of the estimates of revenue and expenditure on page 41.

With regard to the latter point I am informed by the Personnel Department that contract officers do not go through the Public Service Commission , instead they are selected by a Government Board, however, if at a later date the officer concerned were to be retained on a permanent basis the matter would then be referred to the Public Service Commission for approval or endorsement.

**NO. 770 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HEAD 101 – HOUSING**

Can Government state how much of the amount provided in Head 101 Housing, has been spent to date as from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 and on what projects?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand over to the hon Member the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 770 of 2002**

The total amount of £2,297,371 has been incurred to date this financial year under Head 101 Housing. The analysis of the total amount spent in the Head is as follows:-

**Head 101 – 1 Major Remedial Works and Repairs to Housing Stock**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Miscellaneous Works | £292,721 |
| Window Replacements | £162,540 |
| Scaffolding         | £ 86,173 |
| Laguna Estate       | £611,577 |
| Heathfield House    | £ 30,878 |
| Anderson House      | £195,391 |
| MacMillan House     | £ 33,657 |



|                                                                                       |          |                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Reconversion Works for Disability purposes/<br>Edinburgh House & Bishop Canilla House | £ 22,842 |                    |
| Demolition & Construction of Retaining Wall –<br>Tankerville & Prison Quarters        | £366,797 |                    |
| Schomberg (Repairs Drainage)                                                          | £ 39,315 |                    |
| Coelho House                                                                          | £378,340 |                    |
| MacFarlane House (Footbridge)                                                         | £ 41,634 | £2,261,865         |
| Head 101 – 2 New Housing for Senior Citizens                                          |          | £ 3,757            |
| Head 101 – 3 Consultants Fees                                                         |          | £ 31,749           |
|                                                                                       |          | <hr/>              |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                                                    |          | <b>£ 2,297,371</b> |
|                                                                                       |          | <hr/>              |

ORAL

**NO. 771 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING - PRE/POST-WAR HOUSES**

Can Government state how many pre and post-war housing units which have been allocated since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002, have been on a do-it-yourself basis?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 772 and 773 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 772 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – POST-WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many post-war housing units have been allocated since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002, broken down by month to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 771 and 773.

ORAL

**NO. 773 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – PRE-WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many pre-war housing units have been allocated since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002, broken down by month to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 771 of 2002**

A total of 25 housing units have been allocated on a do-it-yourself basis.

**Answer to Question No 772 of 2002**

A total of 70 post-war housing units have been allocated since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002.

**Answer to Question No 773 of 2002**

A total of 11 pre-war housing units have been allocated since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 771 TO 773 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

The question that has been asked by my hon Colleague has not been answered, my Colleague is asking, "Can Government state how many post-war housing units have been allocated since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2000 broken down by month to date?" and what we have got is a total figure. I understand that the Ministers when we make a mistake like that they say it is we have not asked but this time we have asked and we have not got the answer.

**HON J J NETTO:**

Yes, the hon Member did ask by month and the information has not been supplied so hopefully later on during the course of the day I will try and bring that extra bit of information to the hon Member.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I would be grateful if he would give the answer to that one and to the previous question on the contract of the new Chief Executive Officer on the increase.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

On the question of the 70 post-war and the 25 do-it-yourself basis and the 70 that have been allocated, do the 25 form part of the 70?

**HON J J NETTO:**

No.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Then my question is have they all been allocated under the pointage system or some of them have been allocated on a decanting basis?

**HON J J NETTO:**

I presume whether it is in relation to the 70 of post-war or in relation to the 11 of pre-war obviously a vast majority of them will have been allocated to people who are in the waiting list but as the hon Member knows there are occasions where there are medical cases that get some allocations and there are also social cases that get some allocations.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

On the post-war there cannot be any social cases?

**HON J J NETTO:**

No that is right.

ORAL

**NO. 774 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – POST-WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many post-war flats are vacant giving the area, room composition and the date they became vacant?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No 775 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 775 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – PRE-WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many pre-war flats are vacant giving the area, room composition and the date they became vacant?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand the hon Member a table with the data sought.



**Answer to Question 775 of 2002**

**Answer to Question 774**

There are 52 post-war flats currently vacant; 10 in the Town, 10 in the South; and 32 in the North as follows:-

1RKB - 10/05/01  
27/05/02  
22/07/02  
08/08/02  
04/09/02  
07/09/02  
23/09/02  
03/10/02

2RKB - 08/11/01  
14/11/01  
05/02/02  
08/05/02  
22/05/02 x 2  
29/05/02 x 3  
07/06/02  
12/06/02  
26/06/02  
08/07/02  
08/08/02  
12/08/02  
14/08/02  
04/09/02  
27/09/02

3RKB - 14/06/00  
07/12/01  
03/04/02  
20/04/02  
10/05/02  
13/05/02  
20/05/02  
22/05/02  
11/06/02  
28/06/02  
05/08/02  
12/08/02  
26/08/02  
29/08/02

**Contd Answer to Question 775 of 2002**

**Contd Answer to Question 774**

04/09/01 x 2  
16/09/02  
27/09/02  
03/10/02

4RKB - 11/04/02  
13/06/02  
14/08/02  
05/09/02  
16/09/02 x 2

5RKB - 17/09/02

**Answer to Question 775**

There are 32 pre-war flats currently vacant in the Town area as follows:-

1RKB - 14/03/98 X 2  
22/01/01  
19/08/02

2RKB - 11/05/98  
22/01/01  
20/06/01  
26/11/01 X 3  
27/05/02  
05/08/02  
26/08/02  
05/09/02  
27/09/02

3RKB - 08/10/00  
15/11/00  
01/02/02  
07/03/02  
27/05/02  
04/09/02  
06/09/02  
23/09/02  
29/09/02

2.

Contd Answer to 775 of 2002

4RKB - 11/06/01  
12/02/02 X 2  
10/05/02  
05/08/02

5RKB - 19/08/02  
05/09/02

6RKB - 21/06/02

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 774 AND 775 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

Some of these flats are going back quite some time, is there any likelihood that they can be allocated within the next three to four months at least?

**HON J J NETTO:**

This is a recurring question that the hon Member asks and the Government on every occasion basically says that there are a substantial number of empty flats around Gibraltar awaiting to be refurbished and this is the reason why we are not content in terms of the re-let times to refurbish those empty flats. The hon Member would have noticed that there has been in fact an increase in the period concerned or in relation to the previous question of the amount of flats that have been refurbished by the Buildings and Works which is obviously to be noted and to be appreciated but the fact remains that there are still a substantial number of empty flats in Buildings and Works awaiting refurbishment and I would not like to repeat on every single occasion the same argument but this is one of the reasons why the Government are seeking further reforms in Buildings and Works not just in relation to the category of refurbishing flats but indeed any type of repairs which are outstanding for a considerable period of time beyond what is reasonable and this is the whole point of the process to reform Buildings and Works.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I thank the Minister, I did not know, I just noticed that apart from that answer that there is still 32 pre-war flats currently vacant in the town area some of these I am sure could well hold the answer for one of the following questions on social cases but we will come to that when the time comes.

ORAL

**NO. 776 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

Can Government state how many applicants are in the Housing Waiting Lists giving a breakdown of their flat requirements and the date they became eligible for rehousing?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 777 to 781 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 777 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – PRE-LIST**

Can Government state how many applicants are in the pre-list for housing, giving a breakdown of their flat requirements?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 776 and 778 to 781 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 778 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – PENSIONER EXCHANGE LIST**

Can Government state how many housing applicants are at present in the Housing Pensioner Exchange List giving a breakdown of those who are Government tenants and private sector?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 776,777, and 779 to 781 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 779 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – APPLICANTS MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED**

Can Government state how many housing applicants are medically recommended and their medical category recommendation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 776 to 778, 780 and 781 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 780 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – APPLICANTS SOCIALLY RECOMMENDED**

Can Government state what is the number of housing applicants who are socially recommended, their requirements and how many are classified as homeless?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 776 to 779 and 781 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 781 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING WAITING LIST**

Can Government state on how many occasions has the Housing Waiting Lists been published since the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question 776 of 2002**

There are 224 applicants in the Housing Waiting List. The breakdown of the flat requirement is as follows:-

|       |   |     |
|-------|---|-----|
| 1 RKB | - | 113 |
| 2 RKB | - | 29  |
| 3 RKB | - | 48  |
| 4 RKB | - | 29  |
| 5 RKB | - | 4   |
| 6 RKB | - | 1   |

**Answer to Question No 777 of 2002**

There are 445 applicants in the pre-list. The breakdown of the flat requirement is as follows:-

|       |   |     |
|-------|---|-----|
| 1 RKB | - | 272 |
| 2 RKB | - | 29  |
| 3 RKB | - | 98  |
| 4 RKB | - | 38  |
| 5 RKB | - | 8   |

**Answer to Question No 778 of 2002**

There are 284 applicants in the Housing Pensioner Exchange List of which 202 are Government tenants and 84 are private sector tenants.

**Answer to Question No 779 of 2002**

There are a total of nine applicants medically categorised as follows:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A | - | 3 |
| B | - | 4 |
| C | - | 2 |

**Answer to Question No 780 of 2002**

There are nine housing applicants socially recommended as follows:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A | - | 4 |
| B | - | 2 |
| C | - | 3 |

Their requirements are as follows:-

1 RKB - 6 ; 3 RKB - 3

One is classified as homeless.

**Answer to Question No 781 of 2002**

The waiting lists have been published on three occasions since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 776 TO 781 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I thank the Minister. Those figures correspond more or less with the last answer that he gave. Medical were 14 last time but on the Housing Waiting List the Minister said it had been published three times?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Yes.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I imagine that from now until the end of the year it will be published once more?

**HON J J NETTO:**

That is correct.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

One last point, since there were so many figures the Minister does not have a breakdown that he could hand me to compare?

**HON J J NETTO:**

What I can do is prepare something later on and give it to him this afternoon.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

Fine.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

On the question of the Medical categories on the last answer that the Minister gave in this House forgetting the A's there were B – 5 and C – 5, that is the answer that the Minister gave, what I am asking is as there is less in B's and C's is it that they are being allocated?

**HON J J NETTO:**

The hon Member would have to give me notice to that supplementary question I do not have that information available with me right now.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

If they have been allocated is it that the Government have now changed their policy that they had before that only people in the category 'A' would be allocated under medical grounds?

**HON J J NETTO:**

On the latter part there has been no change of policy.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Therefore if there have been allocations will the Minister give us the answer if they are being removed because there have been allocations or why is there a decrease in 'B's' and 'C's' today than what there was the last time that we asked?

**HON J J NETTO:**

The hon Member will also have to take into account and I am not saying that this is exactly the situation but there have been meetings of the Medical Advisory Board and it could very well be the case that some of the 'Bs' and 'Cs' are perhaps 'As' or have been 'As' and could have been categorised, it needs to be taken into account. I am not saying that is the case but it would need to be taken into account as well.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

We would be grateful when the Minister finds out if he could give us the reasons why these applicants have been removed or have been allocated .....

**HON J J NETTO:**

Could the hon Member give me the Question No on the previous occasion so that I can .....

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Question No 413 of 2002.

**ORAL**

**NO. 782 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**SOCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Can Government state on how many occasions the Social Advisory Committee has met since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 783 and 784 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 783 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Can Government state on how many occasions the Housing Medical Advisory Board has met since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 782 and 784 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 784 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING ALLOCATION COMMITTEE**

Can Government state on how many occasions the Housing Allocation Committee has met since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 782 of 2002**

The Housing Advisory Committee met on three occasions.

**Answer to Question No 783 of 2002**

The Medical Advisory Committee met on four occasions.

**Answer to Question No 784 of 2002**

The Housing Allocation Committee met on five occasions.



**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 782 TO 784 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

Considering that this is since May can the Minister confirm that there was a break in the meetings during the month of August therefore they must have met twice in a particular month?

**HON J J NETTO:**

In relation to the Housing Allocation Committee, yes they have met twice in May and twice in June.

**ORAL**

**NO. 785 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – POST –WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many tenants of post-war housing units are on rent relief and how much has been spent from the £445,000 provided for in the Social Assistance Fund Appendix 'H' to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 795 and 801 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 786 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – EDINBURGH HOUSE**

Can Government state how many tenants allocated flats at Edinburgh House have subsequently exchanged their flat for one in another building estate?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No 787 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 787 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**EDINBURGH HOUSE**

Can Government state how many tenants at Edinburgh House are on rent relief?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 786 of 2002**

A total of 25 original tenants who had been allocated a housing unit in Edinburgh House have subsequently exchanged their flats with tenants elsewhere.

**Answer to Question No 787 of 2002**

At present a total of 22 tenants are on rent relief at Edinburgh House.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 786 AND 787 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

It seems that the number of tenants on rent-relief is going up, is there any idea why, is it that they cannot make the payments?

**HON J J NETTO:**

That would depend on the circumstances of the particular family in any given moment in time. There has been unemployment in a particular family a drop of income those would be the circumstances that would alter a variation of whether one is entitled or not entitled to rent-relief but obviously beyond that I cannot give a more definitive answer to the hon Member.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

What is the reason for those tenants moving from those flats at Edinburgh House to another building estate, do they have to notify a specific reason before approval is given by the Housing Agency?

**HON J J NETTO:**

At the end of the day it has to be approved by the Housing Allocation Committee but for various family circumstances many tenants in Edinburgh House have chosen to move out of Edinburgh House between two sitting tenants mutually agreeing to a change and they fill the relevant forms and then obviously that form goes to the Housing Allocation Committee to be looked into and ratified. All I can say perhaps given that the excellent standards of accommodation and services provided in Edinburgh House some people have then subsequently decided to move to other particular places giving the huge demand that there is to move into Edinburgh House.

ORAL

**NO. 788 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – DEVIL’S TOWER ROAD**

Can Government state the planned date for works on site and completion date of the new housing scheme at Devil’s Tower Road (Site 1)?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 793 and 794 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 789 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – COELHO HOUSE**

Can Government state when it is likely that all remedial works will be completed at Coelho House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

The contractor's completion date is 20<sup>th</sup> December 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 790 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – BISHOP CANILLA HOUSE**

Can Government confirm that all repair work has been undertaken at Bishop Canilla House and that there is no longer any problem with water penetration and/or dampness?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No 791 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 791OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – BISHOP CANILLA HOUSE**

Can Government state whether there are any non-occupied flats at Bishop Canilla House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 790 of 2002**

Following the advice provided by the two consultants engaged by the contractor, the contractor undertook the recommended work in all the flats that had been affected by water penetration and/or dampness. In addition, work on the replacement of the lead flushing within the valley gutters was also completed. During the recent rains, no reports have been received in respect of further water penetration via the valley gutters. We therefore, believe that this problem is likely to have been solved by the works undertaken although we would wish for this to be subjected to further rain before we can confidently state this. Of the numerous flats previously affected by dampness and/or water penetration, only one such flat, has now experienced such a problem. The flat in question is an easterly facing flat, which had not previously suffered from water penetration via the balcony door. This problem is currently being investigated by the contractor and remedial action will be taken along the lines of that undertaken in other flats which had previously suffered from this same problem but which have now been successfully repaired.

**Answer to Question No 791 of 2002**

One housing unit is vacant at the moment and another one will become vacant shortly.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 790 AND 791 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Can the Minister say how many flats were affected by water penetrations in total whether they have been repaired or not, how many were affected?

**HON J J NETTO:**

The hon Member would have to give me notice of that.

ORAL

**NO. 792 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – CANTON HOUSE**

Can Government state when the replacement aluminium windows at Canton House were installed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

There is no specific programme to change the aluminium windows at Canton House. However, it is the Government's policy to replace the windows, if required, when reported to the Reporting Office.

ORAL

**NO. 793 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – NORTH MOLE SITE**

Can Government state the planned date for works on site and completion date of the new housing scheme at the North Mole Site (Sands)?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 788 and 794 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 794 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – DEVIL’S TOWER ROAD HOSTEL**

Can Government state the planned date for works on site and completion date of the new housing scheme at Devil’s Tower Road Hostel?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

No. Government will make more detailed announcements in relation to these important projects in due course.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 788, 793 AND 794 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

These dates came out on the tender documents which I have with me so how can he say that they are not public?

**HON J J NETTO:**

I do not know whether it is appropriate or not for him to discuss across the floor tender documents which are the subject of [Interruption] all I want to say is that those particular dates are very preliminary dates which are obviously subject to change. They are not

fully detailed dates taking into account all the circumstances so what I have said at this stage, I am not prepared to give formal details of dates until such a time hopefully towards the summer of next year when I have detailed designs being done by whoever is the successful consultant and then I will be in a much better position to more accurately and firmly give those particular dates but given at the stage we are in now it is only the very initial stage to try and appoint a consultant this is a process which can change and I am not prepared to be held to ransom here in this particular House for dates which are very preliminary and which might be the subject of further change in the light of circumstances.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Without wanting to hold anybody to ransom can we take it then that the general opinion expressed by the Government that the first of these houses will not see the light of day until five years time is still the position independent of the tender procedures that need to take place?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Generally speaking the hon Member is correct.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

What he is saying is that possibly in five years time he will finish the first ones but once we go to tender and we look at the problems it might be six, seven or eight years time?

**HON J J NETTO:**

No I have not said that.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

It might be less than that the hon Member will have to bear with the Government whilst the Government make these preliminary assessments, we are committed to these housing schemes that is why we announced them but obviously a lot of work has to be done to be able to fine-tune the time-scale and when we are ready we will make the announcements.

ORAL

**NO. 795 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many tenants of pre-war housing units are on rent relief and how much has been spent from the £445,000 provided for in the Social Assistance Fund Appendix 'H' to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 785 and 801 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 796 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – LAGUNA ESTATE**

Can Government state when it is now likely that all remedial works and beautification scheme will be completed at Laguna Estate?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 797 and 798 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 797 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – VARYL BEGG ESTATE**

Can Government state when it is now likely that remedial works and beautification of Varyl Begg Estate will start?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 796 and 798 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 797 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – VARYL BEGG ESTATE**

Can Government state when it is now likely that remedial works and beautification of Varyl Begg Estate will start?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos 796 and 798 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 798 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – VARYL BEGG ESTATE**

Have Government now decided on a date when the installation of lifts in Varyl Begg Estate is likely to start?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 796 of 2002**

The embellishment works at Laguna Estate are expected to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2003 due to extra works and the installation of new ducts and cabling for street lighting.

**Answer to Question No 797 of 2002**

Remedial works are scheduled to start this month. As far as beautification works are concerned, this will be carried out at a much later date, as stated on numerous occasions to this House.

**Answer to Question No 798 of 2002**

The contractor will commence with installing lifts as from this month in connection to the remedial works in Phase 1, as stated on numerous occasions to this House.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 796 TO 798 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

Especially on the last question I beg to differ from the Minister, in fact he said that this would start as from the end of 2001 if I remember correctly if one looks at Hansard. I am glad it is going to start in the near future. There is I think quite a delay on Laguna Estate for remedial works and beautification. Is there any reason at all why the delay is as planned?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Firstly, there is no confusion as to the last question, the question asks when the date for installation of lifts in Varyl Begg is likely to start and that is as I have stated on numerous occasions under phase 1 so there is no misconception there. As to the delay why the works will start in Varyl Begg phase 1 this is basically driven by the .....

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

In Laguna Estate.

**HON J J NETTO:**

I have already said what the delays were.

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I asked about the delays in Laguna the thing is that if one answers three questions in one, one has difficulty to follow each of them.

**HON J J NETTO:**

That has been as a result as I said due to extra works in Laguna Estate and also the installation of new ducts and cabling for street lighting which was not part of the original contract and hence the reason for the extension.

ORAL

**NO. 799 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – KING’S BASTION**

Can Government provide the total cost to date of the hire, inclusive of the initial installation and monthly inspection specification of the scaffolding at King’s Bastion?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No 800 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 800 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOUSING – KING'S BASTION**

Can Government provide details of the contractual arrangement with Haymills who are providing the scaffolding at King's Bastion?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No 799 of 2002**

The total all-inclusive cost to Government for the hire of the scaffolding at King's Bastion was £32,805.60.

**Answer to Question No 800 of 2002**

As a result of the time that this scaffolding has been on hire and the fact that the scaffolding contractor is Government's appointed term contractor for this type of work and consequently undertaking substantial other work for Government, the contractor has agreed not to levy any further charges against Government for the indefinite continued use of this scaffolding. Payment for the hiring of this scaffolding ceased in May 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 801 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**HOUSING – SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND**

Can Government state what has been the payments made out of the £420,000 from the Social Assistance Fund, sub-head Rent Relief up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question Nos 785, 795 and 801 of 2002**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, there were 533 tenants of post-war housing and 61 tenants of pre-war housing on rent relief. This figure fluctuates on a daily basis in line with new applications and review of existing ones. For this same reason it is impossible to quantify (split up) the amounts spent on both categories of housing units. It should be clarified that the figure mentioned by the hon Member of £445,000 is the actual spend of the previous financial year. Subsequently, this sum is used as a gauge for this year. Therefore, as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, the sum of £333,748.97 has been spent. I would like to clarify to the hon Member that the figure estimated for the financial year 2002/2003 is £445,000 and not £420,000 as asked in the question.

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 785, 795 AND 801 OF 2002

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

This is a Social Assistance payment and therefore it is under the department of the hon Lady that passes the money over to the Minister and therefore by the answer that he has given how is it that the transfer takes place, is it on a yearly basis or is it monthly, how is money passed from one department to the other?

**HON J J NETTO:**

My understanding is that the transfer is done through the Treasury Department.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I understand that the money is passed on from the Treasury but the money is being passed from one department to another because the one that is not collecting the rent, the Housing Department has to collect the amount of rent that is stipulated in the tenancy, it is a Social Assistance payment therefore as it is a Social Assistance payment Housing has to collect the money that is given in rent relief. The rent relief is not given by the Housing Department it is given by the Social Services Department and therefore what I am asking is that there must be a transfer from one department to another, is there such a thing or not and if so how is it passed, monthly, yearly, six monthly, quarterly?

**HON J J NETTO:**

I cannot answer the question how it is passed, all I can try to attempt to give an answer from the information that I have received from my staff is that the figure that is an actual figure spent in the previous financial year is the figure that is moved forward to the following financial year as an estimate and as we are making the payments throughout the year at the end of the financial year or before the financial year this is actually reconciled I believe with Treasury and DSS. That is the information that I have but I cannot answer the first part of his question on how it is transferred. All I know is that it is an estimate which used to be the actual figure spent in the previous financial year and then it is monitored and used as we go along but the problem that we have and I actually tried and attempted to provide the information to the hon Member in terms of trying to split up the money spent both on post-war and pre-war but even my clerical staff actually showed me that the answer that was provided for this particular question the following day had already changed as a result of information that I had given here which is new applications, review existing applications, which is in other words a figure which is on a daily basis constantly changing and I can only give that information as it is on the day that I am answering the question and unfortunately I am not able to give the hon Member that split up between post-war and pre-war and as the hon Member would know from many years when he used to be Housing Minister that has always been the case and it is only now, perhaps innocently as I suppose that the current shadow spokesman for Housing has requested this information but the answer is that it cannot be done I wish I could.



**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

The question that I am trying to ask is, the Housing Agency who is the landlord on behalf of the Government for Government flats is entitled to collect its rent in full, therefore when we have rent relief the rent relief is a Social payment and therefore it is paid by the hon Lady's department to the Housing Department, if there is £5 million to be collected in rents then at the end the Housing Department is the recipient of £5 million in rent for the sake of mentioning a figure. Therefore what I am asking is, seeing that it is a social payment and rent relief is given by the DSS because the DSS is the one that has the formula which says how much rent relief each person gets, when is that money out of the £445,000 which is an estimate, when the actual figure of how much has been spent on rent relief is then passed from the DSS to the Housing Department therefore it would show a payment made out of the DSS to the Housing Department who would get it as revenue and that is my question?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Payments are regularly made from one department to the other through Treasury. As to the frequency of the payments I will not be able to confirm precisely but it is either monthly or quarterly.

ORAL

**NO. 802 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**(Question asked by the Hon Dr J J Garcia)**

**VOLUNTARY YOUTH WORKERS**

Can Government state what was the cost of running the course for part-time and voluntary Youth leaders?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Answered together with Question No 804 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 803 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**(Question asked by the Hon Dr J J Garcia)**

**YOUTH CENTRE**

Can Government confirm that letters have been sent to individuals and groups who traditionally have used facilities at the Youth Centre stating that they will have to find alternative facilities elsewhere?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Yes. Such letters have been sent to those individuals, and groups that are not considered to be delivering youth work in their use of Youth Centre facilities. However, all such groups have been likewise informed in writing that they will not be stopped from using the Youth Centre facilities, nor requested to vacate these, until suitable alternatives are secured. Assistance has also been offered by the Senior Youth and Community Officer to these groups in applying/seeking suitable alternatives facilities.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 803 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Does the Minister have a list of the various groups or individuals concerned?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes. There are eight groups affected:-

- The Lourdians Athletic Club;
- The Taikwondo Association
- Weight Training/Body Building Club
- Leit Motif
- Danza del Sur
- Mediterranean Dance Group

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In what sense are these groups not delivering youth facilities are youth not involved in the activities of these groups, are these groups not open to young people getting involved?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

It is an obvious question but not an easy one to answer, it comes down to the definition of what is and what is not youth work and I have to admit that when I first took over ministerial responsibility for youth my idea of youth work was a little more restricted than what it is now and in the way that I have been advised. One tends to think that the provision of discotheque facilities was youth work. The views being taken by the people who are leading the youth service is much more academic, much more in line with the narrower definitions of youth work and therefore they see things like weight training and bodybuilding as not providing that youth work. It is a sporting facility and not the providing of youth work because the youth themselves are not involved in doing anything from the grass roots up and I choose that one with no particular accent on it. My point applies to all the groups concerned, they are run by outsiders from the youth service. They are run for the benefit of a cross section of the community no doubt there are some youth involved but there are also people over 21 involved and therefore the youth service today is taking a narrower view and saying, " these are the youth facilities and we want to maximise the use of these facilities for the use of youth work and therefore they are seeking to move out the groups that are using the facilities for other purposes taking it in general terms rather than primarily youth work. I stress what I said before that no one is being evicted or forced out until such time as adequate arrangements are secured and my suspicion is that this will take a little bit of time because obviously it is not easy to provide alternative facilities.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The alternative presumably has to be an alternative provided by the Government because the Minister said that assistance would be given to them in finding alternatives but it is not that they are expected to compete in the market for property in order to find places?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, the Government continue to seek and provide suitable premises for clubs and associations and it is through that venue that we will try to accommodate them.

**NO. 804 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**(Question asked by the Hon Dr J J Garcia)**

**VOLUNTARY YOUTH WORKERS**

Can Government state who conducted the course for part-time and voluntary leaders that started on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2001 and what are the qualifications held by those who conducted it?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The course to train part-time and voluntary youth workers and leaders was conducted jointly by the Gibraltar Youth Service and the British Forces Youth Service in Gibraltar. The course was attended by members of local entities and individuals. The training programme, which was jointly approved, was led by Mr Dan Richmond, Senior Youth Worker for BFYS Gibraltar assisted by Mrs Lorraine Richmond and fully qualified members of the Gibraltar Youth Service staff, Mr Jaime Felices and Mr Mark Zammit. Mr Richmond is a professionally qualified and well experienced Youth and Community worker, enabled and trained to deliver such training programmes, which he often does. All other persons involved in the delivery of that training were also suitably professionally qualified and enabled to deliver such training. The actual qualifications are as follows:

Mr Dan Richmond – BA (Hons) Community & Youth Work Studies (Plymouth University)

Mrs Lorraine Richmond – Trainer's Qualification in Adult Education and Diploma in Counselling

Mr Jaime Felices – Certificate in Community and Youth Work Studies (Reading University)

Mr Mark Zammit – BA (Hons) – Community and Youth Work Studies (Derby University)

The courses led to locally validated certificates issued jointly by the Gibraltar Youth Service and British Forces Youth Service. The total cost of running and resourcing the training courses for part-time and voluntary youth leaders and workers was £6,200.

**NO. 805 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**SCADA CONTROLLER LINK PROJECT**

Do Government still consider that the SCADA controller link project could be ready by February 2003 as the Minister indicated in answer to Question No 438 of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The equipment which was damaged as the result of the flooding had to be replaced, the suppliers had to re-engineer the software and hardware since these are items made specially for Gibraltar and are not available "off the shelf". Regrettably, due to supplier's staff changes and considering the specialist nature of the equipment, they incurred slippages in their works programme. The new components have to undergo a new Factory Acceptance Test, which are expected to take place in late November 2002. Assuming that the equipment is found to perform satisfactorily, and this is not certain that it will, it will have to be shipped to Gibraltar with delivery just before Christmas, and this will leave the Department with little time to meet the initial objective and it will be extremely difficult for it to achieve completion of the installation of the control equipment before the end of February 2003. The building at Orange Bastion, which will house the major components of the equipment, is currently being totally refurbished and an inner shell is being constructed to prevent further ingress of water or dampness.



## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 805 OF 2002

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the Minister is saying that there is now a further delay. Has he got now a new estimated date of completion, the last time I asked him he says the workforce permitting, that is to say if there was sufficient labour in the department permitting he would be able to finish the project by February 2003 now he says that there are delays in the actual supply of the equipment because it is done on the basis that it is only for Gibraltar and that it needs to be tested and that there have been more seepages there still, has he now got a date by which he can guarantee that this project which has been slipping for four or five years will be terminated?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No. Regrettably I have not because until the equipment meets its factory acceptance test and is delivered to Gibraltar, until we know that date we cannot forecast what the date for the installation of the control equipment can take place until the equipment is remade, tested, we have to go there and accept the standard that it is at and then it is shipped and until it actually arrives here we cannot forecast the date of completion.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Minister state whether he has investigated the possibility of taking legal action against the company given their part of the responsibility on the delay of the project, I think the contract was awarded five or six years ago, I know that there have been problems here on this side but getting the answers that we are getting from the Minister it seems to me that the manufacturer has a lot to blame for the delay that is certainly what the Minister is indicating, is there any recourse against the manufacturer for these delays?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I have not been advised of any recourse being available but in fact the delay that we are experiencing now is directly linked to the flooding. We were at the stage when the controller equipment was about to be installed and then it got flooded and damaged and the whole project was pushed back a year or a couple of years. This present delay is not attributable to the manufacturer.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If the Minister cannot give an estimated completion date because it does not know when the equipment will arrive in Gibraltar can he say how long after the equipment arrives in Gibraltar will be needed for the completion so as to have an idea of how many extra months we have to add to the arrival date or whatever?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I do not have this information in front of me, I am trying to see whether in previous answers that information has been given, I need notice of that question.

ORAL

**NO. 806 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WATERPORT DISTILLER**

Are Government now able to provide the Opposition on a confidential basis with the comparative costs of a ton of water produced by the new Reverse Osmosis Plant and that produced by the Waterport Distiller?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The position remains the same as given in answer to Question No 433 of 2002, that is to say that this information is commercially sensitive and therefore cannot be made public. In supplementaries to this question I undertook to consult our commercial partners in Lyonnaise Northumbrian Water whether this information could be supplied to the Opposition on a commercial 'in confidence' basis. This matter was discussed at the Board Meeting held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2002 and the Board decided that, and I quote, "The Chairman should not provide information deemed to be commercially sensitive to the Opposition even on a confidential basis." I should point out that the information requested belongs to the Company of which the Government are only on a minority shareholder and not to the Government, and that I am not technically accountable for it in this House.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 806 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Government state whether they have any problems in giving this information to the Opposition on a confidential basis or whether it is only the commercial partner in the company that has the problem in doing so?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I have not considered it from that point of view to be perfectly honest because as I have just said the information belongs to the company and therefore at the Board Meeting the Government have asked the board for permission to do what was being requested. I am not in a position to assess the confidentiality or otherwise of the information but it would seem to me that there is perfect logic on the basis of future developments that could happen in the production of water in Gibraltar that there is perfect logic for the company not wanting to release this information.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Minister said in the last Question and Answer that it was deemed by the company to be commercial in confidence and that he would have to go back to the company to check whether the partner agreed to give it to us on a confidential basis or not. I am trying to establish whether the Government are accepting the view that the Opposition in Gibraltar should not have this information when the Opposition ought to have information at least on a confidential basis that would allow it to plan for the future of the basis of what the cost of the water to the people of Gibraltar is going to be, I would think that on a commercial in confidence basis that information should be available to the Opposition but I am trying to establish whether these are the partners of Lyonnaise alone that think that it is something very sensitive that an Opposition should have commercial in confidence information on a confidential basis or whether the Government agree with the partners in the company that it is so. We want to know who it is that thinks that it is dangerous that the Opposition should have commercial in confidence information by the Water Company on a confidential basis?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I find it amusing the tendency to dramatise this but the short answer is that the opinion of the Government is irrelevant because the information does not belong to the Government, the information belongs to the company as I have already mentioned, the company has considered it, the Government are in a minority in the company, the Board of the company has decided that the information should not be released and I have a copy of the minutes here, from which I have just quoted and the hands of the Government are tied it is an unavoidable fact, we live in a commercial world, that water could become as competitive as telecommunications in the near future and therefore the company justifiably in my mind wants to protect information which it considers confidential.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

.....and the company thinks that it is not protected by giving it to the Opposition on a confidential basis, that is to say, they do not trust that the Opposition will keep it on a confidential basis otherwise they would not have any problems in doing it and the Minister is saying that it is irrelevant what the position of the Government is. Well, it is as relevant as the position of the other shareholder in the company, either there are two views in the company and the majority one prevails or there is unanimity within the company and I would want to know whether the Government agree with the company that the Opposition should not have this information or they do not agree with the company, that is all I am trying to discover?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not in a position to answer that because the Government have not considered the question from the point of view that the hon Member is asking. This is purely a commercial matter within Lyonnaise in which the Government have not taken a view as a government because it has not been discussed as a Government. I undertook at the last meeting to ask our commercial partners whether the information that they considered commercially sensitive and could not be made public could be released on a commercial in confidence basis, the Board discussed it, the Board on which the Government are in a minority, the decision of the Board is as I have quoted that it should not be released to anybody including the Opposition because it is commercially sensitive and that is the position of the board and that is the position of the company. As I have said before the opinion of the Government is not only irrelevant but it has not been formulated because the Government have not had the occasion or the need to consider the position.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Does the Minister not find it strange that a company that holds a monopoly situation should find that giving details of the cost of production of water is a sensitive situation more so given that it is subsidised by this House of Assembly every year that the water the company provides the public goes with a public subsidy voted by this House every year and given that that public subsidy is voted in this House every year does he not think that we should all be able to have the same information that the Government have in order to judge whether that public subsidy is justified or not.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

A number of irrelevant factors have been introduced into the matter which I am not going to take up. The question is whether the information can be provided, I have given the answer, the company says that it cannot be provided and that is the basis in which I am answering the question.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister say whether the cost of producing water by the reverse osmosis plant is higher or lower than that by the water distiller, without giving the figure?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

It is lower.

ORAL

**NO. 807 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WATERPORT DISTILLER**

Can Government state whether the report commissioned by Lyonnaise des Eaux into the future of the Waterport Distiller, post 2005, has now been completed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Yes. The study has been completed.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 807 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is the Minister in a position to state whether the company would be prepared to share the conclusions of that report with the Opposition on a confidential basis?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

This was not discussed at the last Board Meeting so I am not in a position to give a categorical answer but I can tell the hon Member that the indications that I have from Management are that the conclusions and the recommendations of the report are

commercially sensitive at this stage but I can also indicate that the report is being studied and looked at and that no decisions have been made on the way forward.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Minister state whether the report envisages that the Waterport Power Station has still got a long or a short life to go?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not aware of the contents of the report I have not read the report.



ORAL

**NO. 808 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**EUROPA INCINERATOR**

Can Government state how many employees there are presently in the Government owned company, Europa Incinerator Ltd, and how many employees there were when the company was set up?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Europa Incinerator does not have, nor has it ever, had any employees.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 808 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can Government state how many employees there are employed by the Gibraltar Development Corporation that work in the incinerator company?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

None.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Where are the employees of the incinerator employed by because the Minister said in the House that they were employed by the Europa Incinerator Limited that is why I am asking this question?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I cannot remember on my feet when I said this but if I did I was wrong.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

In the estimates there is a figure saying that that is paid to Europa Incinerator Limited for the wages of the employees.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That is a different thing altogether we pay to the Europa Incinerator Limited to pay to the contractor for the wages of the employees but the hon Member has asked me how many employees there are in Europa Incinerator the answer is none, how many employees there are in GTC the answer is none. To clarify the situation, there is no secret, the employers at the incinerator were originally employees of Krugger and they were subsequently transferred to a firm called Onyx when Krugger's contract with the Government was terminated and Onyx took over the responsibilities of running the incinerator from them. They are employees of Onyx Limited.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Why is it that the company Europa Incinerator Limited exists, what does it own, what is its function?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The legal position goes back when that was established going back a couple of years and I was not directly involved in setting it up so not that it is a secret but I do not have that information with me now. I suspect, I think rather than suspect, that the hon Member is right and that the incinerator plant is owned by Europa Incinerator Limited but I am speaking from memory subject to that information being wrong.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the Minister is saying that the Europa Incinerator Limited pays Onyx for the running of the incinerator which is not running, how many employees have Onyx got employed now and how many employees did it have at the commencement of this arrangement?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That is correct I think speaking from memory and subject to correction when the deal was struck the incinerator became the property of Europa Incinerator Limited and Europa Incinerator Limited contracted Onyx to carry on running it which it did for a short period of time until it broke down and since then the contract has been maintained, not the same contract a different contract has been maintained with Onyx for keeping the incinerator in moth balls until such time as a decision was made whether to refurbish it or to replace it. The number of employees, I thought I had the information here with me but I do not, again from memory we are talking of I think around 15 but that figure is not exact, as far as I am aware it is the same I do not think that there has been any change from the moment that Onyx took over to today.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Minister knows nothing whatsoever about any possible deployment from Onyx Limited into Government departments of employees there?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

If by deployment the hon Member means a change of employer that is a situation that is being looked at at the moment because Government have given notice to Onyx that its contract will terminate at the end of this year and it is in the context of that termination that the future of the employees is being studied at the moment.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So what the Minister is telling me now is that the intention of the Government is to shut down the incinerator completely and it is trying to re-deploy the workforce that has been keeping the incinerator on moth balls for the last two years into other positions within the public sector, is that the situation?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That is the substance of the next question, No 809 of 2002 which I will answer then.

ORAL

**NO. 809 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**INCINERATOR**

Can Government state whether they have now taken a decision over which of the proposals for the refurbishment and operation of the existing incinerator they will opt for, and if so, when do they expect to sign the contract and when is the incinerator expected to be fully operational again?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Government have studied the two proposals for the refurbishment of the existing incinerator plant, and having considered the advice being provided by their appointed consultant, have now concluded that it is not economically viable to proceed with the refurbishment and upgrading of the existing plant. Government are currently considering all their options for the future disposal of domestic refuse and will shortly be making an announcement in this respect.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 809 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is the Minister suggesting that the Government are content with the situation it now has of disposing the refuse in the Los Barrios dump and that they are not looking at an alternative in Gibraltar so that our refuse disposal could be at least 75 per cent self-sufficient?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Government are not suggesting that it is content with their present arrangements or that they are not looking at alternative local arrangements.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

How is it that they can be studying the proposals for the reopening of the incinerator and the refurbishment for over two years and then come back and conclude that after studying proposals to refurbish and reopen the incinerator it is now not economically possible to do so, they have actually been doing this for two long years and after two long years they say that although they have got two proposals to do it it is now not economically feasible to do so. Economically feasible against what cost, the cost of disposal refuse in Los Barrios or the cost of building a new incinerator?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

There are two questions in one there, firstly it is not a simple question of having two proposals to refurbish and taking two years to look at it I would have to research the history of it but again speaking from memory when this started we asked for proposals to refurbish or to replace, some came in they were not adequate, we had to go back and eventually we narrowed it down to two proposals to refurbish and the decision seemed to be going down the road of refurbishing. We then appointed independent consultants who are the ones who have advised us recently and it is on the basis of that advice that a decision has now been taken and the advice of the consultants was that in a nutshell, to answer the second question, the cost of refurbishment now which has been increasing as time has gone by, because of the introduction mainly of new EU directives, the cost of refurbishment now is almost the same as the cost of a new incinerator so it is on the basis of the comparison of the cost of refurbishment against the cost of the new incinerator that the Government have now made the decision of not to refurbish and is now looking at the cost of the new incinerator against the other options.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is it still looking at incineration as the preferred method of refuse disposal or is it that the Minister is saying EU directives and exigencies on plants are making it economically unfeasible to continue with the incineration as an option, is that what the Minister is saying?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No I am saying that the cost is so high that it is discarding incineration, on the contrary the Government's preference is to be like in all other essential services to be self-sufficient and not dependent on neighbouring countries for services and therefore the Government's preference is for incineration but it would be irresponsible of the Government not to look and study all the options.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

When does the Minister expect to be in a position to state what the Government intend to do about it and obviously the intention I take it is to redeploy everyone which is today in Onyx and start afresh with whatever replaces what there is today?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not in a position to give dates as I speak, the main reason being that the decision is not one which I will be taking on my own as indeed all matters to now have been taken with the involvement of other ministers and therefore it is not possible for me to give an indication. We are back to the SCADA question, until such time as the decision is made one cannot then plot the way forward. It is then not a question of issuing a contract assuming the decision is to go for incineration we then have to look at going out to tender again and looking at the various ways of funding the project, whether it is going to be a Government let project, we are not talking about weeks and I suspect we are talking more than a few months.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In answer to the previous question the Minister said that they had given notice to Onyx of termination of the contract at the end of the year, are we talking at the end of the calendar year or the financial year?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The calendar year.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So that would mean that in fact the 15 employees or whatever the number is would have to be given notice of redundancy by the company in order to comply with the law?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes I assume so.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it in that context then that the Government are looking to provide alternative employment to those employees from January?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I have already met with representatives of the employees and the unions and I have given assurances on behalf of the Government that the Government will seek to find the best solution possible for the employees but the interest of the employees are safeguarded by the terms of the contract with Onyx which allows for the employees to be transferred into employment of Europa Incinerator Limited if and when Onyx exit the market. I am using words loosely but we are now in the stage of negotiating what that can mean or will mean in practice with a built in possible gap of relative length before a new incinerator can be in place.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact it would mean that in terms of the position of the employees they could become the employees of Europa Incinerator and presumably do whatever they have been doing for Europa Incinerator as part of the contract with Onyx because in fact it is Europa Incinerator through the payment we vote in this House that has been meeting their wages.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, indirectly but we are also looking at other options like providing or offering alternative work or jobs to the workforce.

ORAL

**NO. 810 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WELLINGTON FRONT**

What action have Government taken to avoid a repetition of the flooding of Wellington Front since it occurred last winter?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

All gullies and drains within Wellington Front and the surrounding areas have been inspected and cleansed to ensure that there are no foreign matters that will reduce the discharge capacity of the system. The complete system continues to be periodically and continuously inspected and action is immediately taken to deal with any obstructions that may be identified. In addition, cleansing works within the Trunk Sewer have been resumed, from Victoria House at Rosia Road downstream towards Scud Hill, the object of which is to remove silt accumulations within the same thus improving the Trunk Sewer's own carrying capacity which in turn, reduces the occurrence of overflows.



ORAL

**NO. 811 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WELLINGTON FRONT**

Can Government state whether their insurance managers accepted all claims for damages arising out of the flooding of Wellington Front last winter, and if not, which were not accepted?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

No. I am advised by the Treasury that all reports on the matter were submitted to the Government's Public and Products Liability Insurers who handle all such claims on behalf of the Government. After careful consideration, the Insurers concluded that there was no liability on the part of Government. They believe that there are no grounds whereby Government can be blamed for what can only be described as extreme weather conditions.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 811 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Minister confirm that some cash payment has been made to entities occupying buildings in Wellington Front and that this has not been the case with vehicles parked in the area, is the Minister aware that some entities that were housed in Wellington Front are said to have received some indemnity whereas cars parked in the area have not?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I cannot answer that question with a clear 'yes' or 'no' because I simply do not know. I can tell the hon Member that I am told by the Treasury that no claims have been paid by the Government insurance. I am not aware of any other payments having been made by anybody else but I do not know if they have or have been but they have certainly not been paid by the insurance managers as the hon Member asked me in the question.

ORAL

**NO. 812 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**ROSIA ROAD – SEWERS**

Will Government state when it is now envisaged that the works on the sewer in Rosia Road will be completed and when is it expected that the unacceptable stench in the area will disappear?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The actual repair works to the main sewer were completed on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2002. The Contractor is currently completing the works above ground, involving the reinstatement of the retaining walls and parapets in the area. It is expected that the gravity flow in the repaired section of the sewer will be restored shortly once the area immediately upstream and downstream of the repaired section is desilted. Desilting works commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2002 and it is estimated that it will take 13 weeks to cleanse the section of main sewer from North Jumpers to Cumberland Steps. However, to reduce this contract period, improve performance and minimise the inconvenience to the public, two vehicles will be used, the second vehicle will be arriving shortly. As part of the repair works to the main sewer, it was necessary to drive a new shaft down to the area of the collapse. While such works were on going, this shaft naturally acted as a vent to the system. In addition, there was a need to have a number of manholes opened both to ventilate the system to allow personnel to enter the same to undertake the repairs as well as to provide access for the over-pumping operation. This regrettably resulted in the release of foul smelling gases and it is this that has caused an inconvenience to the public, something that is regretted but was unavoidable was the consequence of having undertaken this very difficult and risky operation within such a confined area. Once gravity flow is re-established and the over-pumping operation removed and all manhole covers replaced, it is expected that the foul smells will no longer be present. In addition old gullies in the area have been replaced with new

gullies that incorporate traps to prevent the release of gases and the whole drainage system in this area is being inspected to ensure that any defects that may contribute to the emission of foul smells are rectified.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 812 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So what the Minister is saying is that once the desilting is over we expect the foul smell to go away, that the desilting was expected to take some 13 weeks but there are two vehicles coming and there might be a possibility of cutting down that time. So we can safely say that by the end of the year the foul smelling gases will not be there anymore?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes the hon Member has grasped what I have said essentially and yes, I expect that by the end of the year the foul smells will have disappeared.

ORAL

**NO. 813 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**DUDLEY WARD TUNNEL**

Can Government state whether the Geotechnical Engineering Consultants engaged to inspect the cliff face in the area of Dudley Ward Tunnel have now finalised their work, and if so, can Government disclose what are the recommendations made by the Consultants?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The consultants engaged by Government to inspect the cliff faces in the area of the Dudley Wad Tunnel entrance submitted their report in May 2002. Very extensive recommendations have been made on the works required in the area and these are still being considered by Government.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 813 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Minister is saying that the report was given to Government in May and that the Government are still considering what to do about it and in the meantime the road is still closed and works have still not commenced, and does the Minister believe that there is a sense of priority to these matters and that traffic flow in Gibraltar is a big problem and that whatever there is a need to do needs to be done rapidly given that that road is closed and it is a major roadway particularly in the summer? If the Minister had got the

report last month it would be excusable but if the report is there since May and the Government have still not decided whether to accept or not those recommendations and works have not commenced, for how long is Dudley Ward Tunnel going to be closed to the general public?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I will take the first question first, for a considerable period of time.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is it that the recommendations are very expensive and the Government need to weigh what is to be done or is it that the Government are going to take a second opinion on them?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The report makes a number of recommendations and a number of options. As I have indicated in the main answer the Government have not yet given it enough consideration to make decisions on which option to take. Let me stress because of what he said originally as I also said in relation to a previous question that this is not a decision because of the extensive scope of the works and the considerable costs involved, this is not something that is my decision alone, and it is something in which other ministerial colleagues are involved. Having said all that I repeat what I have said. The dates cannot be established because we are in the 'catch 22' situation, we have to decide first what we have to do, cost it, contract it out at a considerable cost and then be in a position to forecast the date. Taking all the options into account of both costs and the extent of the work involved as I indicated earlier we are talking about a considerable period of time.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The emphasis on considerable is indicative of what, a number of years?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes I think we are talking in years we are certainly talking between a year and two years from the beginning of the works if my memory serves me rightly from the report.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Has it not been possible to look at a method by which the road remains open, surely there must be some method where one can do work on a cliff face and keep the road opened?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Unfortunately there is not, once again I am trusting my memory so I may be subject to correction but if the hon Member thinks of the topography of the location there is a very high sheer face cliff just above the entrance to the tunnel where the fall occurred and the fatal accident occurred and the report identified that the rock that hit the ground was only a small part of a very much, much larger rock of I think it was 70 tonnes estimated, that was dislodged from the very top. It broke up on the way down and there are still identified pieces of the original rock caught on the cliff and the report categorically says that it is unsafe to use that road and allow traffic through it. If the hon Member thinks once more of the layout of the area there is just no alternative that does not do what the options recommend which is to cover up the access to the entrance in a more effective and safe way.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Would the Minister consider approaching the MOD to see whether the tunnel of the Communication Centre could be used as an alternative for the summer, that is to say the tunnel that runs across what used to be the old dockyard to the entrance to Sandy Bay because that is an alternative?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not sure whether the Communication Centre tunnel is suitable for traffic?

**HON J C PEREZ:**

It is suitable for one way traffic definitely.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

If the hon Member is talking purely about the width of the tunnel there are matters of ventilation et cetera but the answer is that Government have not taken this option but I am sure that my Colleague the Minister with responsibility for transport and roads who is avidly listening to the advice coming from the Opposition benches will take due heed and consider whether it is possible or not possible. It is a matter for the MOD but I know that that tunnel is sensitive from an MOD point of view.

ORAL

**NO. 814 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**CEMETERY**

Are Government taking any action about the state of neglect of the Cemetery?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Government do not think that the cemetery is in a state of neglect, although Government constantly consider ways of improving and embellishing it. Apart from the Superintendent of Cemeteries, the Cemetery Keeper and gravediggers, there is a squad of seven men on permanent detachment from Community Projects Ltd and who work full time on a day-to-day basis primarily cleaning and weeding the Cemetery. Government have invited the two horticultural contractors (Greenarc and Gibraltarflora) to make proposals and provide quotations for different systems for embellishing approved sites within the Cemetery during a trial period. At the end of the this trial period Government will assess which of these systems is considered most appropriate and financially viable and award a contract for the on-going and permanent embellishment and maintenance of the Cemetery. One quotation has already been received and the trial period is expected to start shortly. At Government's suggestion, Lyonnaise des Eaux is currently installing at their own expense, a fresh water supply system in the north west sector of the Cemetery where no such infrastructure exists at present.



ORAL

**NO. 815 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**LINE WALL ROAD – BRIDGES**

Will Government state when was the last time that structural inspections of Smith Dorrien Bridge and other bridges in Line Wall Road were carried out?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Smith Dorrien Bridge was last inspected in April 2002. The other bridges on Line Wall Road are the Fish Market Road Bridge (last inspected in December 1999) and the Orange Bastion Bridge (last inspected in June 2000).

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 815 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Minister confirm that the inspections found at the bridge were safe or did the inspection find that any work needed to be done to the bridges to stabilise them in any way?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I believe that Smith Dorrien Avenue when it was last inspected in April 2002 was carried out as a result of possible damage that may have been caused to the bridge by a large vehicle that was jammed underneath the same. However, the inspection found that there was no serious damage recorded. In addition to that I believe that the Orange Bastion bridge structure was last inspected as I have said in June 2000 and as a result of this the walkway along the eastside of the bridge was completely demolished and reconstructed so obviously what was found has been addressed. Within the next few weeks a further inspection of the structure is scheduled to be undertaken following the vacating of the Electricity Department at the Orange Bastion depot and this will now provide better access to this structure that had been available in the past. So that is the position as it stands today.

ORAL

**NO. 816 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**REFERENDUM HOUSE**

Can Government state what action has been taken about the nesting of pigeons in the chute at Referendum House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

The problem was reported by one of the tenants on the 19<sup>th</sup> September and a requisition marked 'Urgent' was issued by the North Depot on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2002. The ducts will be covered with mesh from the inside to prevent the pigeons from nesting in the future. I can also inform the hon Member that apart from the mesh the Environmental Agency has been in touch with the Animal Welfare Centre in order to try and carry out a cull of pigeons in the area as well but I believe that has not taken place yet.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 816 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I would presume that there would be no objection to the, for example, planting of poison within the chute itself given that the pigeons that are there and those nests need to be removed as a health precaution to the tenants?

**HON J J NETTO:**

All I can say is that this will be monitored by the Environmental Agency and those considerations which the hon Member has stated will obviously hopefully be taken into account.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The hon Member perhaps might wish to inform the Health Department that there is quite a lot of concern in the block about the health hazard that this represents to the tenants and frankly if the report reached the department on the 9<sup>th</sup> September and we are today on 16<sup>th</sup> October they do not think that nothing is being done. The Minister has replied that measures will be taken to avoid a repetition of this but the chute is full of pigeons and some of them get into the corridors in the Tower Blocks and I would think that the Health Department should take appropriate steps to try and deal with this matter as a matter of urgency.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

On the exterior water stopcocks are they now being fixed or is it in the process of being fixed?

**HON J J NETTO:**

As I said, some have been fixed, some are scheduled to be fixed but the department is also going to carry out a survey of all the system in the area and depending what the survey tells us it may even produce a situation where we have to replace all of them but some have been fixed, some will further be fixed, and then we will carry out a survey later on as well.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I suppose this is an urgent job to be done because if there is a breakage, if I understand, what the exterior water stopcock does is that if one has a breakage where one cannot close it in the dwelling or in the flat one is required to do that otherwise the whole block is going to be flooded, that is an urgent job?

**HON J J NETTO:**

That is correct.

ORAL

**NO. 817 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**VARYL BEGG ESTATE – GARAGES**

Can Government state what is the problem regarding the supply of electricity to garages at Varyl Begg Estate, which the Minister said over a year ago did not exist?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

In answer to Question No 68 of 2001, which sought similar information, I said and I quote, “ Government are now in a position to provide a supply to garages on the north part of the Estate.....the garages on the south-east side of the estate are still awaiting the installation of the mains supply cable and meters.” Regrettably, however, the reply to Question No 927 of 2001 appears to have been drafted by the department on insufficiently accurate information because the answer and the supplementaries assumed that the five applications then pending were all from the north part of the estate and the information given in this House implied that they could be connected as soon as the applicants supplied the necessary certificates of completion and wiring diagrams as required by BS 7611. The vast majority of garages are located in the northern part of the estate in the proximity of the main thoroughfare and these had the incoming distribution cables laid through new infrastructure provided at the time of the construction. The garages in the south-east did not have any infrastructure provided at the time of construction and depended on utilising existing infrastructure which had to be intercepted by way of excavations. This represents major works because the ducts are very deep and, due to other exigencies of the service requiring higher priority, has never been done. I am now advised that two of the applicants mentioned in answer to Question No 927 Of 2001 who have indeed been waiting for quite some time are located in the south-east side of the estate. Urgent measures are now being implemented to correct this anomaly and to provide a supply to these two garages in the south-east of the estate as soon as possible.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 817 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I can safely presume that the name that I left with the Minister in his office is one of these two applicants?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes indeed, I should in fact apologise to the hon Member for not actually coming back to him with the information which was not available to me until very recently. That is the reason why I did not come back to him directly but yes, the name indeed was one of the two applicants and the department is putting into place urgent measures to get them supply without having to do the excavations at least on a temporary measure until such time as permanent supplies can be laid.

ORAL

**NO. 818 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WATERPORT POWER STATION**

Can Government state what will be the total additional electricity generating capacity once the proposed new engines have been installed at Waterport Power Station and could it give a breakdown of the number of engines with the output of each?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Answered together with Question No 826 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 819 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GIBTELECOM - CHARGES**

Given that a new provider of telecom services has made known publicly its intention of offering free local calls, can Government state whether Gibtelecom intends to reduce its charges for local calls?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

No. The level of charges for local calls is now a matter for the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority which has been appointed to regulate the telecommunications industry and determine the tariffs charged by Gibtelecom. The Telecommunications Ordinance implementing EU directives was brought into operation over a year ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2001. Under the provisions of this Ordinance and the subsidiary Regulations, Gibtelecom has been designated by the Regulator as having Significant Market Power (SMP). Any future changes they may wish to make to local call tariffs are now subject to regulatory clearance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 819 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister clarify whether he is actually saying that if Gibtelecom wishes to reduce it they need to go to seek the permission of the Regulator or that in fact the level at which they are charging at the moment they are charging more which are two different things?



**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I think if one distinguishes between one and the other the actual situation is probably a third option which is that they are charging at a level agreed to by the Regulator. We are back to the cost related formula and the fact that Gibtelecom having SMP is not allowed to charge below the cost related level specified by the Regulator.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

When the explanation was given originally and we were unable to obtain again for commercial in-confidence reasons information on the structure of the income of the company the argument that was being put was that what GNC was not permitted to do was to cross subsidise. Given that in the report that has been tabled in this House we are told that last year there were 6.65 million international calls and 37.8 million local calls it is peculiar that the argument should be that the 37 million is being provided at undercost but we are unable to establish how the cost of the 37 million needs separating from the cost of the 6 million in the company's accounting process.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The costings have been more than identified and discussed with the Regulator. It has been a considerable accounting exercise that has been carried out by the company's auditors and by independent consultants and that is the subject which is then referred to the Regulator in order to justify the costs and has then got to be approved by the Regulator.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But it seems to me that if the company is trying to justify a cost increase it goes to the Regulator and produces figures to substantiate what it is doing but if the argument is in fact the position of the company which is half-owned by the Government that it is actually loosing money on the 37 million making a profit on the 6 million and covering the loss on the 37 million because that is the only way a cross subsidy can be understood.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

It is not just a question of cross subsidy it is also a question of the tariff having to be cost orientated even if the implication of the subsidy is that if the cost of the local call is not cost orientated then and the company is not loosing money then obviously it has been subsidised from somewhere else so the criteria is dual but I am now delving into Regulatory matters which I do not want to do but my understanding of it is is that the Regulator decides or accepts the company's argument or does not accept the company's argument of what their costings are and if it does not accept the company's argument has power to stipulate what the cost of the call is.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, but the company is making a profit and we are seeing that in the dividends that are shown as Government revenue so is it in fact the argument in relation to not being able to bring down the cost obviously they would not make a profit if the calls were free but the Regulator talks in this as the increase in local calls being the first stage in an exercise that is to last 18 months of rebalancing tariffs and given that there is now a competitor that is offering or intends to offer the public of Gibraltar free local calls how can it be sustained whatever information the company has provided to the Regulator that Gibtelecom loses money on 37 million local calls because it must lose money if we are being told that the other side is that it cannot charge less than it costs. If it charges less than it costs it loses money so what we are being told is that it loses money on 37 million calls.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That is the assessment that is why the Regulator is saying that the costs have to go up.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, but it is the company that is telling that to the Regulator.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

It depends how one defines who is telling who. The company has an obligation to declare its tariffs to the Regulator, it is not making a price claim or claiming an increase, it has an obligation that we have gone through in the last two years, it has been an accounting exercise that has been extensive and costly and based on that is the basis of the company's desire for tariff changes. That has to be accepted or not accepted by the Regulator and I am not a Regulator neither do I have any connection with the Regulatory process. If the hon Member feels that the Regulatory process should be working differently then he should take it up with the Regulator not with me and I mean that in a nice way it is entirely outside the company's control, the way the Regulatory System is set up as it is in the rest of Europe is that the Regulator has overriding powers over the company and it leads to what some may think is a slightly absurd situation but it has its logic in EU terms where a new comer is allowed to provide free calls, I am told for a period of time which the Regulator will decide the length of but is allowed to provide free calls whereas Gibtelecom because they have substantial money power are not allowed to go anywhere near never mind provide free and anywhere near to compete because the whole logic of allowing the newcomer to compete as I may have mentioned before is to allow the newcomer to eat into the share of the market now enjoyed by the monopoly provided and my understanding of it is that when the Regulator decides that that level has come to what he considers the correct level he then will require the new entrant to start charging cost orientated tariffs but what that market share is is a matter for the Regulator not a matter for either of the companies.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

When the original thing was looked at I think it was before the actual merger took place, the charges were looked at, and in fact Nynex was charging Gibtel for the local call element of international calls a rate which was not the same as they were charging their own landline customers, has that changed as a result of the merger?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not sure that that is absolutely accurate but the two companies are now under common ownership so the situation no longer arises. The local services and the line services are now provided entirely by Gibline and the Internet services are provided entirely by Gibconnect.....

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The cost of the switch .....

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

There is no longer an interconnect charge between the companies because there is no charging as there was before.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The international calls now, do we still have separate companies with separate accounts which can have different levels of profitability or is that no longer the case?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

We still have separate companies yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The revenue of international calls, does that go now to Nynex and is retained by Nynex or does Nynex pass a proportion of that to Gibtel as they used to do before?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

We are now getting into a level of technicality that is both outside my competence and also entering the area of commercial sensitivity.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If it was commercial sensitivity I happen to know about it without being commercial sensitivity in the past, all I am trying to establish is that in looking at the cost of international calls the previous situation was that the revenue that Nynex derived from international calls which they allegedly were using to subsidise loss making local calls was the revenue that they retained from what the subscriber paid and what they paid in turn to GIBTEL. Is that mechanism still there or not?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The short answer is that I would need notice of the question, I am not involved in the minor details of the company to that extent to be able to provide the information on my feet. It is not that I do not want to provide the answer, I simply do not know the answer at this stage.

ORAL

NO. 820 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

**GIBTELECOM**

Can Government state whether the long-term objective of Gibtelecom is to vacate its present offices and workshops in Europort?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH

Answered together with Question Nos 821 and 994 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 821 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

**GIBTELECOM**

Can Government state whether Gibtelecom intends to vacate the premises, or part of the premises known as Mount Pleasant?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH

Answered together with Question Nos 820 and 994 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 822 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GENERAL POST OFFICE**

Can Government state whether the refurbishment of the Central Post Office in Main Street is still now expected to be completed this month and could it state when it is intended to commence operating from there?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

GJBS who is the contractor involved in the refurbishment of the Central Post Office in Main Street, has informed the Government that the new estimated completion date is March 2003. As explained in early May this year in answer to Question No 436 of 2002, Government were, at that time, awaiting and I quote "new counter developments and designs that are being introduced in the UK and worldwide in 2002 prior to making any purchases." I also indicated that there was a process of consultation with the staff and that they had been involved in the development of the new counters and the new electronic point of sales system. The final plans for these counters have now been agreed and the order confirmed, but unfortunately, the UK supplier has indicated to GJBS that there is a further delay in actually supplying the counters themselves which are now expected to arrive in Gibraltar before the end of the year. These counters have to meet certain security standards and therefore GJBS has been obliged to use a specialist supplier in this field as counters like these are not easily available.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 822 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the works will be completed in March but when is it expected that the Post Office should be operating from there?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I would assume that shortly after March assuming that the counters arrive in time, assuming that the counters are the right counters, that the installation is done, assuming things proceed the way they are planned my understanding is that there is very little left apart from the counters so the Post Office should be in operation within a couple of months after that, certainly the public side of it.



ORAL

**NO. 823 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**POSTAL SERVICES**

Can Government state whether there has been any progress in the negotiations with the employees of the Post Office?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The situation remains as in answers to Question Nos 923, 924 and 925 of 2001 and Questions 89, 90 and 437 of 2002. As I said in supplementaries to Question No 437 of 2002, as long as negotiations are on-going, I am not prepared to discuss industrial relations publicly in this House whilst they are being discussed privately with the workforce.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 823 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the Minister confirm that without agreement with the Union they have employed extra bodies in the Post Office over the post of Commercial Director which they did last year?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No. I am tempted to answer this question despite of what I have said but there are no extra bodies in the Post Office and the Union is being consulted every step of the way.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Union has been consulted in every step but is it or is it not the case that there are people employed which are not employed by the Government and the attempt of the Government is to get those people to work side by side with Government employees doing the same thing and this has not been accepted by the Unions, is that the state of play?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

To the question “..are there people in the Post Office who are not Government employees?”, the answer is “No.”

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the Minister is saying that the new employees have been recruited into the Government but that the Government are attempting to take the rest of the other employees outside the Government?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No, this is getting us nowhere, the hon Member is now putting words in my mouth. I go back to my original answer and that is all I am prepared to say.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Fine. It is all very well for the Minister to be three years saying here that he does not want to conduct industrial relations across the floor of the House, but it is three years since he is negotiating and regrettably it seems he is getting nowhere.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I share the hon Member's regrets.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it the case that as far as the Government are concerned whether they employ somebody or do not employ somebody at public expense is that industrial relations is secret which the House is not entitled to know?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So then can irrespective of whether there is an industrial relations dimension or not have any extra persons been paid directly or indirectly from the Post Office head of expenditure?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I do not know the answer to that question because I do not know who has been paid from the Post Office head of expenditure but there are no workers in the Post Office working, have not been, and are not. There are no workers in the Post Office working there who are not Government employees.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The problem that we have is that it gives us the impression that there is information which the Minister knows we would like to have, he has, and is unwilling to share with us, perhaps I am wrong but that is the impression I get. We would like to know whether there are currently engaged in delivering mail more people than there were at the beginning of this financial year and if there are more people were are they paid from and in what capacity are they employed, are they temporary workers of the Government , or temporary workers of the contractor that is providing them to the Government?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No, there are no extra workers in the Post Office over and above the Post Office complement. The question has been whether there are any workers in the Post Office today.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

No the question has been whether there are people delivering mail, that has been the question?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No, there is nobody delivering mail in the Post Office that is not a Government worker.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If they do not deliver mail in the Post Office there are delivering mail to people's houses, there is nobody?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Not that I am aware of certainly not an employee of the Post Office.

ORAL

**NO. 824 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**DIRECTOR OF POSTAL SERVICES**

Can Government state whether or not they intend to fill the post of Director of Postal Services?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Yes. The Government intend to fill the SEO Post of Director of Postal Services. The post is presently being filled on an acting basis. Applications for the grade of SEO have been invited and are the subject of normal PSC procedures.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 824 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Will the Director of Postal Services be the top person in the Post Office, will he work side by side with the Commercial Director, will the Commercial Director be able to give the Director of Postal Services instructions or vice versa, how will that fit in with the new structure that the Minister is negotiating?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

There will be a Director of Postal Services and there is a Commercial Manager. The relation is a side by side relation but the details I would prefer not to go into because I do not want to cause people to think things that are not there. I do not want to make things more difficult than they already are.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Was the past incumbent in the post acting SEO or acting senior grade?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

From memory acting as SEO that is subject to correction, he was certainly acting, I can confirm that.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

My recollection was that Mr Dennis Figueras who was then moved to the House was chosen as Director of Postal Services, Senior Grade and that the post was senior grade and that the past incumbent was acting senior grade. That was my recollection of the situation that is why when the Minister said that the post of SEO was coming out as a vacancy I felt that they were downgrading the post, am I right that the post is being downgraded from that of senior grade to SEO?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I honestly need notice of that question I do not think that the post has been downgraded, I am practically certain that it has not been downgraded. If it has been it has been in consultation with the Union but I do not think it has. It is a sort of question that I would need notice of.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Who does the Director of Postal Services report to currently?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

In as far as the chain of management presumably to me as minister, there is no one in-between.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That continues irrespective of the other changes?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes.

ORAL

NO. 825 OF 2002

THE HON J C PEREZ

**GOVERNMENT LOTTERY**

Have the Treasury concluded their consultations and study into the Gibraltar Government Lottery and has it made any concrete proposal to the Government?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH

A total of eight submissions have been received from the public by the Treasury and there has also been further consultation with the existing lottery agents. The Treasury study is nearing completion and a concrete proposal is expected to be submitted to the Government shortly.

ORAL

**NO. 826 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**OESCO CONTRACT**

Can Government state whether or not it has now decided to terminate the OESCO contract by 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

At present Government are considering the requirements for additional generating plant but no decision has yet been taken in respect of the number of engines or their technical specifications. No decision has been made relating to the future of the OESCO Contract.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 818 AND 826 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Given that the Minister did say that a decision had been taken already to extend the present Waterport Power Station I would have expected him to know how many engines and what the capacity of those engines would be given the space that there is there and after he had confirmed to the Leader of the Opposition that there was no need for reclaiming land as the 1981 study had suggested, so, is the Minister saying that he has decided to install more engines at Waterport Power Station but he still does not know how many and what capacity they are?



**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

In broad terms I think that is the Government's position but the obvious implications of the OESCO contract have to be taken into account and that is what is being considered and that is where no firm decisions have been made. I think that the decision in principle subject to the electricity authority going ahead, the decision in principle has been made to install new generating capacity at Waterport but whether it is one or more engines or whether it is one engine now and another in the future or whether it is only one engine and I know that modifications need to be done to the building, certainly the building needs to be extended, and obviously if the building is extended then we will take into account the decision on the number of engines but as I have said the whole thing is still in the melting pot and I cannot give any firm indications at this stage.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Given the history and problems that the existing engines in Waterport Power Station have had can the Minister state whether the department is still looking at the same manufacturer for the extension or whether that is not a decision that has yet been taken?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No we are not at the stage of procuring the equipment, we are still at the stage of assessing the need.

ORAL

**NO. 827 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**DANGEROUS DOGS LEGISLATION**

Can Government state when they intend to bring to the House the Dangerous Dogs legislation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The Government have not yet decided whether it will bring the Dangerous Dogs legislation to the House or whether this will be enacted as regulations. The legislation has now been drafted and a consultation document is currently being finalised. Both documents will then be circulated and the legislation will subsequently be enacted following this process of consultation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 827 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

Has the legislation received approval by the Minister?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

In principle yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that if the Government decide to do it by regulation it will not be possible for us to have an input and given the fact that we originally submitted some proposals to the Government which the Government decided not to proceed with because they thought that it was deficient in some respects, will the Minister include us in that process of consultation?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes I have no problem in doing that.

ORAL

**NO. 828 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GIBRALTAR SPORTS AUTHORITY**

Can the Minister for Sport confirm whether an agreement has been reached with the Unions as to the transfer of staff to the Gibraltar Sports Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

All matters regarding the possible transfer of Sports Department Staff to the Gibraltar Sports Authority are under discussion with the Unions and final agreement has not yet been reached.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 828 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm when the Government officially approached the Union on the matter?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No I would need notice of that question.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister say whether there are at present any employees that have actually agreed to sign up with the Sports Authority?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

We are yet not at a point where anyone has agreed or disagreed we are still discussing principles.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

If I recall correctly during the budget session I believe that the Minister did say that there have been a few members of the staff that had actually voiced their agreement to going with the Health Authority, am I not correct?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

To be honest I cannot remember. If I did at that stage it may have been an indication of people saying it is a good idea or a bad idea but we are not at the point of anybody signing along the dotted line yet. I cannot really give any guidance because we are not at that point yet.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister say if there have been any meetings held with the Unions up to now or there has just been communications through post, for example?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

There have been meetings and there have been exchange of papers.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

How does the situation stand at the moment, that the Government are awaiting a reply from the Union or vice versa?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

If my memory does not fail me because I am involved in a number of similar processes, we have given certain documentation to the Union and we are awaiting reactions from them.

ORAL

**NO. 829 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**VICTORIA STADIUM**

Can Government confirm whether they are still paying for the services of AMCO (Gibraltar) Ltd for the upkeep of the water-based hockey pitch at the Victoria Stadium?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Yes.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 829 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm whether they are actually paying AMCO an average of about £3,000 to £4,000 per month for their services?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I do not have that information.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm whether the groundsmen have in fact considered that the upkeep of the water-based hockey pitch is indeed an additional work for them and that therefore they are not doing any work at the hockey based pitch at the moment?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

There was initial controversy because of some misunderstanding on the part of the workforce, the new hockey pitch is not part of the Victoria Stadium facilities, we have two distinct and separate pieces of sports facilities one is the existing Victoria Stadium at which the Government have employed staff, the other one is the new Bayside Sports facility which includes the new hockey pitch and that will be taken over by the Sports Authority who at this moment in time have no employees.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Are the Government looking at alternative arrangements for the upkeep of the hockey pitch if indeed they are spending this exorbitant amount of money a month?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

The reason why the Government still has AMCO in place is because there are certain problems with the watering system of the pumps which have not yet been satisfactorily completed and an extended period of loopholes and adjustments have been required. AMCO as a subcontractor are engaged in these works. What we have done is because theoretically the pitch should not have been handed over but in order to be able to provide the facility we have allowed AMCO to carry on and provide the service and therefore the facility can take place but in answer to the first part of the question, yes the Government are looking as part of the way forward at the new arrangements to look after all the new facilities at Bayside not just the hockey pitch.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I would have thought that that would entail perhaps employing more people for the maintenance of that pitch?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes obviously the new Sports Authority will need new staff to look after its facilities.

ORAL

**NO. 830 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**STREET MARKET**

Can Government say whether they still plan to move the street market from the Piazza?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Answered together with Question No 831 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 831 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**STREET MARKET**

Have Government received any applications or expressions of interest in the last twelve months from street traders interested in operating a market stall from the Piazza, and if so, how many and when?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Government intend to move the Street Market from the Piazza to the old Fish Market site at the Public Market in order to make way for the proposed redevelopment of the Piazza. There has been consultations with existing stall holders who have agreed to the proposed move which will take place as soon as certain necessary improvements have been carried out at the new site. There have been no applications in the last 12 months from street traders interested in operating a market stall from the Piazza, nor would any be favourably considered.

ORAL

**NO. 832 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT SEA OUTFALL STUDY**

Can Government say whether the first phase of the Wastewater Treatment Works Sea Outfall study is now complete?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

The first phase of the Sea Outfall Study has not yet been completed. The earliest that we envisage this phase being completed is now December 2002 although this is likely to extend into the first quarter of 2003.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 832 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister elaborate on the reasons for the delay in completion of the first phase?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, as the study evolved and the optimal route for the new outfall became apparent it was considered prudent to undertake supplementary survey work along the line of the preferred route. The scope of the original study was therefore extended to include the following additional studies:-

- Dye Tracing
- Sport Racing
- Magnetometer Survey

in addition to the foregoing and as a related issue to the study Government decided to extend the scope of the study but as a separate although inter-related study to cover the requirements of the Blue Flag designation of our beaches. Consequently additional and more rigorous on site surveys have been undertaken in this respect. The undertakings of all the additional surveys that I have mentioned have extended the study completion date between the original envisaged date of September 2002.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it correct to assume that the extra study work will involve extra cost as well and if so how much?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I need notice of that question but I suspect that the answer is probably yes.

ORAL

**NO. 833 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**DEVELOPMENT APPEALS TRIBUNAL**

Have any new appeals been lodged before the Development Appeals Tribunal since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

Answered together with Question No 834 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 834 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**DEVELOPMENT APPEALS TRIBUNAL**

Can Government say at what stage are the ten appeals which were lodged before the Development Appeals Tribunal at the end of April this year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

No new appeals have been lodged before the Development Appeals Tribunal since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002. In respect of the 10 appeals which had been lodged before the Development Appeals Tribunal as at the end of April this year, the position is as per details on the list which I hand to the hon Member.

| <b>Ref</b> | <b>Proposal Refused</b>              | <b>Date of Appeal</b> | <b>Hearing Date</b> | <b>Remarks</b>              |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1</b>   | Erection of corporate sign           | 15.6.01               | 6.2.02              | DPC decision upheld         |
| <b>2</b>   | Fitting of an air-conditioning unit  | 29.11.01              | 16.10.02            |                             |
| <b>3</b>   | Construction of 3 No terraced houses | 6.11.01               | 30.10.02            |                             |
| <b>4</b>   | Erection of double glazed partition  | 28.12.01              | Pending             | Pending Appellants Comments |
| <b>5</b>   | Conditional Permit for redevelopment | 25.10.01              | Not applicable      | Withdrawn                   |
| <b>6</b>   | Construction of wider shopfront      | 9.1.02                | Pending             | Pending DPC Comments        |

|    |                                   |          |                |                      |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------------|
| 7  | Extension                         | 25.10.01 | Pending        | Pending DPC Comments |
| 8  | Re-roofing                        | 18.2.01  | 16.9.02        | Pending information  |
| 9  | Residential development           | 26.2.02  | Not applicable | Withdrawn            |
| 10 | Construction of a toilet building | 8.3.02   | Pending        | Pending DPC Comments |

For the benefit of the hon Member because he has asked over the past a number of related and progressive questions on the subject I have now tabulated the answer giving the projects a reference number. The only other option was to give the name and the address which obviously I did not think was appropriate. What I intend to do is to follow that sequence of numbers so in a subsequent list those projects that he sees on the list that I have given him have been withdrawn may disappear but the new list will still, for example, if project No 5 should disappear from the list the next time he asks me a similar question but I will not replace the No 5 with a new project, the current numbers will continue for ease of reference.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 834 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Just looking down the list, for example, project No 2 where somebody was appealing against the DPC in relation to the fitting of an air-conditioning unit in November 2001 and the hearing has been set for October 2002 which is nearly a year since the original appeal was made and the similar situation in relation to project No 3 is there a particular reason why the appeals are taking so long to be heard?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I have tried to explain this before. Let me start by saying that the Tribunal itself has not delayed any appeal and I say that and I suddenly realise that there is one exception to that and that is project No 2 which the hon Member will realise should have been held today and has had to be postponed because this House should have been held at three o'clock this afternoon and we obviously had to postpone it because the House is sitting. With that caveat the delays are in general terms due to one of two things, firstly the process is such that when the appellant makes the appeal in the first place the appeal goes to DPC and then the Tribunal has established the process once it is notified of the appeal then the appellant is asked to state its case and given a period of time the DPC is then asked to comment and given a period of time and then each side has a second chance and in theory at that stage the appeal should take place. In practice what has happened is that this exchange between them has taken considerably longer than the periods that we originally envisaged but we cannot force them to be faster than they

want to be. That is one aspect that is causing delays the other aspect is that in most cases appellants tend to involve lawyers on their behalf and when that happens DPC sometimes also involves lawyers and in many cases in parallel to the information provided by either side there is also side and parallel discussions between the lawyers and that of course adds to the volume and the time taken but I reiterate what I said at the beginning, it is the process between the parties and those involved on behalf of the parties that is causing the delay the moment so far anyway, there is no waiting list is what I am trying to say, so far anyway when an appeal has been ready to be heard it has immediately been once a suitable date was identified suitable to everybody a date has been chosen and so far we have heard two project No 1 as one can see the original DPC decision was upheld and in the case of project No 8 that has also been heard and one can see they are pending information that the Tribunal has deferred its decision pending further information from one of the parts. Once that information is received then the Tribunal should, I hope, make a decision in that case. We were due to hear another one today and it has been postponed and project No 3 is scheduled for the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. All things being equal those two should be heard fairly soon. We tried to bring in the date of project No 2 to be heard tomorrow but because we only cancelled it two or three days ago it was impossible so we will now reschedule it as soon as we can.

ORAL

**NO. 835 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**TRANSPORTATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE**

Have Government entered into any contract for the collection and transportation of sewage sludge with a private contractor?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT & YOUTH**

No, Government have not entered into any contract for the provision of this service.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 835 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that there was recently an application for a licence to carry out such a service which appeared in the Gazette would it be possible to do this for anybody other than the Government, presumably the only client for this kind of thing would be the Government?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Not necessarily. Firstly, let me say that I am not familiar with the notice that the hon Member refers to, there is already a licenced private facility that provides a service to the Government although not on contract as and when required and there are other potential clients apart from the Government, the MOD is one, through sewage sludge that comes



off ships for example and I am trying to think if there is anybody else. Not that I can think of that is the only one that comes immediately to mind. The MOD that have their own sewage system and as the hon Member knows and ourselves.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

As I understand it, would the need for the licence arise out of EU requirements that the transportation of this kind of material is considered to be hazardous waste?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That is correct. The Environmental Agency must license any contractor engaged in the transportation of this contaminated material.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Currently therefore the only one operating this field if I have understood the previous answer correctly is that there is a contractor who occasionally does work of this nature for the Government as and when required but the Government are not in a position to say whether anybody is doing it currently for the MOD or any other customer, is that the case?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I honestly need notice of that question because I am speaking without being properly briefed but certainly I am aware of one company that provides a service and has provided a service through the Government when there has been a need to transport such material that has not been impossible to decontaminate and dispose of locally. What I am trying to say is that I do not know how many licences are in existence that is what I need notice of but I suspect that there are other people licensed. One firm that specialises in the clearing of sewers, a local firm, is licensed and has taken such material to Spain. In the case of the works at the Rosia Road sewer there has as far as I understand, there has been no need to take any of this sludge out of Gibraltar because the vehicles and equipment that the Government have brought into do the work is capable of recycling and decontaminating what comes out of the sewer and diluting it with water and then drying it up to an extent that it is then possible to dispose of locally under permission from the Environmental Agency. If the contractor, for example, of the Rosia Road project, had not been able to achieve those thresholds then they would have been required to transport it out of Gibraltar to be properly disposed but my understanding is that that has not happened.

ORAL

**NO. 836 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRANSPORT REGULATIONS 2000**

Can Government state why they have decided, under the Transport Regulations 2000, to penalise taxi drivers with a higher fine than would be the case for any other driver, for the same offence?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 837 and 838 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 837 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GIBRALTAR TAXI ASSOCIATION**

Can Government state when they intend to call a meeting with the Gibraltar Taxi Association as they offered publicly in Government press release No 174/2002 of 25<sup>th</sup> September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 836 and 838 of 2002.

**NO. 838 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GIBRALTAR TAXI ASSOCIATION**

Can the Minister for Traffic and Transport confirm that in a letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 he made an offer to the Gibraltar Taxi Association guaranteeing the use of a number of taxis for every cruise liner related to the number of arriving passengers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I believe that the Opposition Member is referring to the fact that Fixed Penalty tickets can be issued under the Transport Regulations to licensees under the Transport Ordinance, and that the fixed penalty is £50. This is covered by Regulation 124 of the Transport Regulations which allow a person the opportunity of any liability to conviction of an offence on payment of a fixed penalty. It is up to the individual to choose whether or not to accept the fixed penalty; there is no question of taxi drivers being penalised. With regard to the proposed meeting with the GTA, this has been on the basis that the Association terminates the so-called selective industrial action, which the President of the Association says he is not prepared to do. If the GTA were to accept this, then Government would be willing to meet and explain their position on the current dispute. I turn now to the issue of the guarantee that Government will provide GTA members with a specific number of tours for a cruise ship dependent on its size. As hon Members will understand the Government cannot issue such guarantee as the Government do not hire taxis for tours for cruise ships. It is up to the ship to ask its Shore Excursion Agent to source the transport it requires for tours, and if no taxis are used or fewer taxis than the quota for that vessel, then the Shore Excursion Agent has to pay a penalty of £25 for every unused taxi. This in itself, is a disincentive for Shore Excursion Agents to use less than the quota of taxis. What the Government guaranteed was that a certain number of taxis would be used for each call and would either pay the full fee for a tour or the standby fee if it was not required.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 836,837 AND 838 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Minister first tells me he cannot guarantee it and then he goes on to tell me that he did guarantee it, either he cannot guarantee it or he can guarantee it, one of the two. I am asking him whether it is true that on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 he gave that guarantee in writing to the Taxi Association? He first tells me that it is not for him to guarantee it, that he cannot guarantee it because it has nothing to do with him and finishes up the answer saying that he did guarantee something. Secondly in respect of the first answer I am not referring to what the Minister said, I am referring to the fact that if the taxi driver abandons a taxi on a taxi stand he is liable to be fined £50 and if a motorist abandons his vehicle in a taxi stand he is liable to be fined £25 only and I think that it is discriminatory against the taxi driver to be fined 100 per cent more for the same offence given that it is the same offence on the two occasions. As far as the Minister requests that the industrial action should be lifted before he meets the Association, I understand that there are days when there is industrial action and days when there is no industrial action and this is not the basis of the offer he made publicly in a statement he made to the press but definitely if what he is saying is, " I do not want to meet when there is industrial action," he can meet when there is no industrial action.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I will deal with I believe the three issues that have been raised by the hon Member. In the first place let me say that on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 I did write to the President of the Gibraltar Taxi Association and there is a point where I actually say in the letter, " there will be a guaranteed use of taxis in respect of each cruise call at Gibraltar for passengers.." and then I go on to actually qualify under which terms the use of taxis was guaranteed. The use of taxis were guaranteed in the sense that every cruise ship would have a quota attached to each depending on its size and therefore the guarantee was that there would be a use of taxis and if those taxis were not used then they would be paid for by a penalty by the Shore Excursion Agent in order to discourage him from actually not making use of the taxis. So, therefore I think the letter has to be read in the contents of the qualifications that come under the actual explanation that is given and in any case subsequent to the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 and I think it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1999, legislation was published where it is clearly pointed out what exactly the terms and conditions were which were based on this and there is no difference between what is said in the letter and what is said in the regulations and there was therefore the fact that the taxis keep on harping on about the fact that there was a guarantee given to us for the use of taxis that guarantee has to be qualified and is qualified in the letter and is qualified in the legislation. So I do not think that there is any question of the Government having guaranteed anything that is not delivering on.

If I can deal with the second point, the fact that there are fixed penalties. These fixed penalty scheme applies to licensees under the Transport Ordinance and the Transport Regulations and these Regulations stipulate what the penalties are if one is a licensee and operator be it a taxi or be it a bus or be it a coach, any form of transport operator that holds the licence. So therefore there is no discrimination amongst those that have

licences under the Transport Ordinance. People in the public highway do not qualify for that because we come under a completely different, we do not form part, we do not hold the licence and therefore we are not subjected to the Transport Regulations so the idea of discrimination I think is totally irrelevant. The fact that I made a statement to the press on the fact that I was willing to meet the Taxi Association, I actually met the Taxi Association President prior to the industrial action being accelerated and I actually tried to see whether we could try and find the way forward which would avoid the present conflict. The present conflict is doing no good to Gibraltar. It is damaging our reputation as a cruise destination and the results are that we will suffer the consequences of our actions today in the months to come and there is no getting away from that whether we like it or not damage is being caused and our reputation is going down the chute and that is their fault. I tried to mediate by trying and bringing them to a meeting which they refused to do because they were unwilling to break their selective industrial action. The Government are not willing to sit down with the Taxi Association or any other sector for that matter under duress and while industrial action is taking place and that is Government policy and actually we stand by it so long as this Government are in office.

#### **HON J C PEREZ:**

I think that the Minister should recall that the Chief Minister qualified at the last meeting of the House in answers to Questions on whether to lock out people in certain instances and not in others, he would remember that it depends on the strength of the workshop and the effect of the action whether the Government would do one thing or another but let me say to the Minister that if there is a difference of interpretation in what the Taxi Association claim he offered or he guaranteed in a letter and what the Minister says he has later legislated and there is grounds there to try and break the ice and try and come to a sort of agreement given the damage the Minister says this can cause the industry, and given the offer of the meeting I do not see why on the basis of trying to clarify that the Minister does not meet the Association. Obviously the Association is not going to give up their right to take selective industrial action at any given time but my understanding is that there is no permanent industrial action. There are some days when there is industrial action and some days when there is no industrial action, the Minister can choose to call a meeting on a day when there is no industrial action and then he can argue that there is no industrial action and have the meeting. Given the damage that the Minister claims that this can do to the industry long-term and given the differences of interpretations that there are to the guarantee that the Minister gave and given his absolute powers under the law to legislate and regulate because he gave himself absolute powers which is something I criticised on this side of the House of Assembly when the legislation came up. I believe that the obligation of the Minister is to sit down with the Taxi Association and try and find mileage in the differences over that guarantee which I think in my view looking at it from the outside is what can break or make an agreement. On the other aspect let me say that I do not agree with the Minister that a licenced operator has to have a higher fine for the same offence from an ordinary motorist when the offence is exactly the same one, parking or leaving an unattended car in a taxi rank. If I leave an unattended car in a taxi rank I am fined £25 if a taxi driver does it he is fined £50 well, either we are both fined £50 or both fined £25 I do not see why there should be a difference between one and the other.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

He has not asked any questions?

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Should I ask does the Minister not agree?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Well he made a statement, he has not really asked any questions.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

If I finish by the statement saying "Do you not agree Minister?" I might get a reply?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not agree.

ORAL

**NO. 839 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**BUS SERVICE**

Can Government state whether the tender for the supply of public service vehicles has now been awarded, and if so, will they state the number of tenderers and the respective bids?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No 840 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 840 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**BUS SERVICE**

Can Government state whether they have now resolved their problems with the existing bus operators, and if so, what are the terms of the agreement entered into?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The tender for new buses has not yet been awarded, nor has final agreement with the existing operators been achieved.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 839 AND 840 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is one dependent on the other, is the Minister trying to get agreement with the bus operators before he goes ahead in awarding the tender?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

In an ideal scenario that is the case and it has been made known to the two operators that an ideal situation might be that they should get themselves involved in the actual selection of the tender because at the end of the day we hope that they will be the ones who would actually be on the day to day running and therefore the selection would be

better done by those who know and have worked the industry before but at the same time they are also aware that should an agreement not be reached the Government will push ahead and continue with its own project. Having said that, I am quite optimistic that we will be able to reach an agreement because part of the stumbling block that we were getting was that some of the operators I do not want to qualify because there are only two and it is a bit difficult for me not to give away the actual situation but there were operators that were not willing to submit to the Government evaluations or accounts of the company for the sake of valuation and therefore we have overcome that difficulty and I am glad to say that both operators have now submitted the relevant information that we required for independent assessment in order to be able to value the companies and I think that once over that hurdle I think that by the end of October we should have those figures back and that would enable us to actually sit round and then, we are talking about figures rather than principles.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

The Minister said, both questions that my hon Colleague has asked are inter-linked in a certain way, but he said that were there is no agreement with the existing operator the Government would go ahead anyway, have the Government set themselves a deadline?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The tender process is now proceeding. There has been an initial submission being made by a number of bus suppliers, this list I believe has now been short-listed and the specific requirements are now being sent to successful first phase tenderers and therefore after that we should have a situation where we should be in a position to be able to select a supplier for these buses. I believe we are looking at a timescale of possibly before the end of the year early next year for the actual award of the tender and I think supplies after that should come within a period of between six and nine months depending on the manufacturer concerned, some can supply earlier and some can supply later I do not want to commit to any particular time-table, I do not really know who will be awarded the tender so it depends to who it is as to what the supply time-scale will be.

ORAL

**NO. 841 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**COACH PARK**

Can Government state whether they are satisfied that the pre-booking system for coaches at the coach terminal is not being abused?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Yes.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 841 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Government are completely satisfied that it is not being abused is that the case?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes. It is completely satisfied that it is not being abused.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Then why is it carrying out an investigation further to the complaint that they have received recently?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Well, there was a complaint and we have studied the details of this and therefore we referred the matter to the Attorney General's Chambers and their advice was that the matter ought to be reported to the Royal Gibraltar Police. It does not mean that the system is being abused or that this one incident can mean that the actual system does not work. It is an incident, let us hope that it is just the only incident and even though I know that the Gibraltar Taxi Association claim that this has happened before, we have carried out similar examinations of fact before and have found no evidence of this. In this case there was an element of evidence were there had been malpractice and therefore we take a serious view of this and therefore the matter has been reported to the police. I would not want to comment any further seeing that it is under police investigation.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So in fact there has been at least one incidence that it has been found to being abused and what the Minister is saying is that he is closing the door so that it should not happen again?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Absolutely but if one looks at the details of what was reported and what we are aware of as we speak today without being privy to the investigations that are being carried out by the RGP the reality is that the system actually is not at fault but I would not want to comment further. There were circumstances in that particular day which led to the abuse but not necessarily as a result of the system being flawed.

ORAL

**NO. 842 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**SIGNAL STATION ROAD**

Has Signal Station Road in the Upper Rock been re-opened to vehicular traffic?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 842 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Can the minister state whether the repairs that were envisaged have taken place now, the road was closed because according to the Minister I think the last time we raised it there were signs that there might be the possible collapse of part of the road and the Minister said that there were surveys being carried out and a possible repair to the road, can he give us an up-date?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes the hon Member is correct. The closure was effected due to some subsidence caused by the water tank under the road. Surveys have been carried out, we do have recommendations of what needs to be done, the cost is actually quite significant and the Government have not taken a view as to what sort of priority it wishes to give to the repair of that particular road.

ORAL

**NO. 843 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRAFFIC FLOW – TOWN RANGE**

Does Government not consider that changing the traffic flow in Town Range from Convent Place to King's Yard Lane and accessing southbound traffic via Kings Yard Lane would relieve somewhat the present daily congestion in the area?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 843 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

When the changes in traffic took place, this is how it was started, it was one way and down King's Yard Lane and the system used to work and the Gibraltar Chronicle would not be able to take photographs of traffic jams outside their window because they would not exist.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

If it was changed it was changed because we did not feel that that particular change warranted good traffic flow and therefore.....

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Although the Minister changed it I can tell him why he changed it even if he does not recall it.....

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, I think there are a number of issues the hon Member can tell me whatever he wants in respect of to why I changed it but I can tell him that there are a number of issues as to why the change is not good generally, I think a number of issues have to be balanced out to see what options are better. One has to take into account that if we were to actually change that traffic flow what would actually happen is that one would have the main thoroughfare going in front of St Mary's Junior School which would cause additional risk on children unnecessarily which can be avoided by actually having the traffic flowing the way it is today. The reality of the situation is that by moving, there is obviously a pressure point either at the junction between Convent Place and Main Street by the Convent or King's Yard Lane and Main Street. There is no doubt that where there are two main junctions meeting there is going to be congestion or delays one way or another. The idea of moving that pressure point further south all it means is that the tailback at peak times could actually go back all the way up to the Queen's Cinema roundabout therefore it could affect traffic flowing into Queensway and so we were advised after monitoring that it was better to push it down further north because what would actually happen is that it would allow more space to come up. The other point is that traffic coming down Lovers' Lane and heading for the Upper Town area can actually turn left and go up King's Yard Lane turn right and head for the Upper Town which if the traffic was coming down in that direction what would actually happen is that traffic coming up Lovers' Lane would have to go all the way round the Queen's Cinema adding further congestion to that particular area in order to get to the Upper Town. So, on balance and after giving consideration to the different permutations of the change I still feel that the present system is workable. I am all in favour of changes if it is for the better but it is a matter that has been considered many a time and those that know probably more about it than myself advise me that that would not be the case so the change that the hon Member has suggested is not really in my favour.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I can only tell the Minister that it used to work better before and that the problem of St Mary's can easily be resolved because there are two times when there can be an issue of danger which is when the kids are coming in and when the kids are leaving school given that at lunch time and with all the railings surrounding the area there are very few people leaving the school area at lunch time now because of the successful policy of the Minister and everything else and they have only got to keep a diversion notice in the school and bring it out when the policeman comes in to direct people in and out of school for half an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon and that clears the problem of St Mary's School completely but the rest of the 22.5 or 23.5 hours that there is a problem during the day and during the night, the traffic would flow better in the way I have suggested and I would suggest the Minister check with the Traffic Commission on that again because traffic coming from the Lower Town and the Upper Town travelling again up to the Upper Town would freely go up to the Upper Town and

traffic going south would go down the King's Yard Lane and would not have to travel all the way round Lovers' Lane and up again, they have to turn all the way round at the moment and it congests the point at Convent Place which is what makes the tail end go down back to Hospital Hill causing nuisances for the ambulance and down Bell Lane up to the Piazza. That is blocked every morning from 10 o'clock to nearly 12 o'clock.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That is something that the Traffic Commission are constantly reviewing and I am sure that they will be aware of what is being discussed and I am sure that if their suggestion is to change I bow down to the suggestion but as I said this has been examined before and the conclusion is to leave things as they are.



ORAL

**NO. 844 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRAFFIC FLOW – WATERPORT FOUNTAIN**

Can Government confirm that major works are envisaged in the area of Waterport Fountain which will adversely affect traffic flow, and if so, could they state what steps they intend to take to ameliorate the situation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Government are not carrying out any major works in the vicinity of Waterport Fountain. If any private company needs to carry out works which impact on the public highways, these will be carried out in accordance with a timetable and a schedule approved by the Government.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 844 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

That is exactly what I am talking about that there are pipelines for a particular petrol station that need to be put there and I am sure that the Government have knowledge of this already and should have the appropriate applications for licences for the works to be carried out, I think a contractor has already been chosen by the company itself.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I am sure that relevant arrangements will be put in place as soon as a proposal is sent to the Government for approval but to my knowledge I am not aware of what the hon Member has said. Nothing has come in a way of a formal application to my knowledge.

ORAL

**NO. 845 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRAFFIC FLOW**

Can Government state whether they intend to take immediate action in respect of the unacceptable level of traffic blockages during most of any weekday?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Government do not accept that there is an unacceptable level of traffic blockages, although the Government accept that, as happens everywhere in the world, there is increased traffic congestion at certain times known as "rush hours".

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 845 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the Minister believes that 10 o'clock in the morning, 10.30, 11.00, 11.30, 12.00 o'clock those are "rush hours", I have given him a good example in the last supplementaries just taking into account the number of pictures that the Chronicle takes from its windows and the time that they are taken, is this suggesting that these only happen in the "rush hour", and this is just beside Convent Place where the Chief Minister sits, where he claims "I invent these things and that there is no traffic chaos and all that," ?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I have already said that the Government do not accept that that is the case.

ORAL

**NO. 846 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRANSPORT – MOT TEST**

Will Government reconsider introducing a system under which motorists are advised in advance in writing of when their MOT test is due and are offered a proposed date for the test?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Government currently have no plans to do so.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 846 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Would the Minister not consider it wise to do so?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No. Government have no plans to do so.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The fact that Government do not have any plans does not quite answer my question, why do they not have any plans if it is a good suggestion?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

We have heard the hon Member make the suggestions on many occasions and if after having heard the hon Member make the suggestions and field the arguments that he thinks are in favour of his suggestion repeatedly, the answer when he puts the question for the umpteenth time is still that the Government have no plans to do so then he should assume that the Government have no plans to do so notwithstanding the arguments that he has fielded. What Government cannot do is reconsider it everytime he asks the question which is every meeting of the House.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

It is the first time I am putting it given that on other occasions in the House I have not got a direct reply. The Minister might be referring to a particular press release but not to Questions in the House but is it or is it not the case that this would drastically reduce the problems that affect the public in the MOT Test Centre by being able both the Government and the public to organise bookings properly and in an orderly manner, would that not have this effect and would it not be a convenient way to circumvent the problem that the public and the Government are having in the MOT and at the same time in my view it would not cost a lot of money to do, would the Government not agree?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That is true of every relationship between the Government and a citizen. I suppose it would be very useful and helpful as he defines usefulness and helpfulness for the Government to write to every citizen in their homes reminding them the television licences have expired and that their trading licence is expiring and that this licence, and that that licence and that this business and that business, the Government take a view as to whether the administrative burden and therefore the cost to the taxpayer of offering that sort of service outweighs or is outweighed by the benefit to the citizen of receiving that service. The fact of the matter is that citizens have a licence which says that there is an expiry date. The vast majority of citizens have no difficulty knowing that the expiry date is the date on which they must renew something. I do not know why the hon Member insists on suggesting that the Government need to treat citizens as if they were incapable of appreciating that if they have a licence until the 30<sup>th</sup> April then they have to renew it on or by the 30<sup>th</sup> April. Of course it would be an aid to the citizen to get a letter in the mail three weeks before, assuming that the Post Office will deliver it on time, reminding them of that fact but that can be said of in every time and on every occasion in every walk of administrative life in which the citizen has to do something in relation to the state. The question is that if we do it for this we would do it for many other areas of life where people would find usefulness and simply the administrative burden is unjustified by whatever advantage may flow from it.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

The Chief Minister does not seem to realise that when the citizen actually does go and asks for a booking at the MOT Test Centre he is not able to get it in time and he is now being asked by the department to think three months ahead and to book the MOT Test three months ahead because there are no bookings early enough to give the citizen the service he deserves if he complies with the letter of the law and goes to get a booking on the week that the booking is due. So the Chief Minister is now saying that the citizen has not only got to take on the responsibility but goes on to state the fact that the Government have a problem in providing the service and that they should go three months in advance to book for an MOT Test because there are no bookings when the due date comes up or two weeks before when the due date comes up and he seems to think that this is not sufficient justification for him to burden a bit extra the administration so that both the MOT Test Centre has a better record and can give bookings in a more organised fashion and so that the motorist can get a better service than what he is getting at the moment?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member's intervention suggests what very skimpy grasp he has of the realities of the situation. Yes, he may wish to cackle, if he asks the question presumably he is interested in the answer he is not just interested in listening to his own voice. If the hon Member complains that the nature of the problem is that motorists cannot get the booking on the day that their existing.....

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Or the week or the fortnight or the month.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well the hon Member ought to keep quite and listen to what I am saying without shouting at me from a sedentary position. He should know that that problem if it exists and to the extent that it does which I am sure it does to some extent is not addressed by writing a letter to the motorist saying "your licence expires on the 25<sup>th</sup> April" nor would the system be made more administratively fluid if he is suggesting that in that letter the administration should also say "and your booking is on such and such a date" where the person may not be in Gibraltar, it may not be convenient for them, in other words deprive the motorist of the opportunity to fix a test date of his own convenience by the Government writing to everybody telling them when the test is going to be. That is the essence of the hon Member's suggestion. It is wholly unworkable and the hon Member knows that there is a considerable amount of flexibility, people can book and actually have conducted their tests for a two month period before it is due. Whatever the defects, or improvements that may be possible to the system all administrative systems are capable of improvement but the Government are satisfied that the particular proposal that the hon Member supports would not amount to a significant improvement.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So the Chief Minister is saying that the other administrations that have this system in place are burdening the motorists in having the freedom of getting the date that they would like to have their test because they could be on holiday et cetera. The Chief Minister is talking nonsense and he knows it. If he does not want to do it then he does not want to but do not try to justify something that is totally unjustifiable.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member is saying what he has clearly said and I take note of the fact that the hon Member is of the view that any view different to the one that he holds is nonsense, it is quite typical of his attitude.

ORAL

**NO. 847 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRANSPORT – MOT TEST**

Can Government state how many vehicles requiring an MOT test, since 1<sup>st</sup> January this year, did not take the initial test until after the due date, giving a breakdown of private, commercial and public service vehicles?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

This information is not presently available to the Government. I will write to the hon Member in due course and provide him with the statistics requested.



ORAL

**NO. 848 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRANSPORT – HIGHWAYS REFURBISHMENT**

Do Government feel that their highways refurbishment programme is sufficiently advanced to enable it to change the law in order to remove the common law immunity the Crown enjoys in respect of accidents on the highway?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Government have not as yet taken any decision in this regard.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 848 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I accept that the Minister or the Chief Minister in the last House said that he wanted to update the roads and get them into a proper condition before he did this. Given the great affinity that this Government have to “zoning”, might it not be possible for the Government to apply the law and start “zoning” out areas where Crown immunity does not exist so that eventually when the whole of Gibraltar is repaired to the standard of the Chief Minister the law will have been able to cover all the highways and we could possibly enjoy immunity at Casemates and Main Street, Irish Town and areas like that which I am sure he must agree with me are highways which are now in a condition that could possibly accept the law?

## HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government do regret that it is having to take so long to do this which of course reflects the amount of time that it is taking us to reverse the complete lack of investment in public highways and pavements that prevailed during the eight years that they were in office. It is not a small job, the next main project is the pavement up the Rock Hotel hill up Europa Road this is, he says highways, it is not so much highways as areas where pedestrians walk which is mainly pavements and things of that sort. I do not think that it is practical. It could be done but I do not think that it is on the first hearing at least it does not sound to me sensible to divide Gibraltar into bits where pedestrians can safely trip over and bits in Gibraltar where they cannot with compensatory rights trip over an unkempt highway. It is not so much the conditions of the highway, finishing the work on the highway that is the trigger that will make the Government feel that the time is right to reverse that law, incidentally a law which the hon Member had eight years of opportunity to reverse and did not. *[Interruption]* It was pointed out in a court case recently but the lack of compensation rights for citizens that trip up on highways prevailed also during the eight years that he was in office and it was not something that he felt that strongly about. The trigger event is going to be probably when the Government finally adjudicate the measured term contract for highways maintenance and when a highways maintenance contractor is up and running because that is the point in time in which it will be possible for the Government to have a crash programme of repairing the obstacles that currently exist for unsuspecting pedestrians on the highway. So it is not so much waiting for all the highways or all the pavements to be fixed but rather the Government having the capability to address these problems when they occur. That procurement process is at a very advanced stage and I think that contract is about to be awarded so it may not be too much further into the future before the Government are in the position that I have just described.

ORAL

**NO. 849 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TRANSPORT – OMBUDSMAN REPORT**

Have Government now taken a view over the case highlighted by the Ombudsman in a special report over the destruction of a motor vehicle by the Department of Transport?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Government have indeed taken a view in this case. This matter was thoroughly investigated and the Ombudsman made certain recommendations relating to the compensation of the owner of this vehicle. Although the Government do not agree with the Ombudsman's analysis of this case nor that the owner is entitled to any compensation. However, certain recommendations made by the Ombudsman touched on Government policy. The question as to whether impounded vehicles should or should not be destroyed is a matter of Government policy. The Government are reviewing the existing procedures to see if any modifications should be made in the light of this case.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 849 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Does the Minister not feel that it is strange that on this occasion alone this is the first time that a new vehicle is deemed to be [*Interruption*] therefore why is it that the Ministers says that they do not agree with the Ombudsman?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The answer is not that, the answer is that we do not agree with his analysis as to entitlement to compensation. It is true that the law does not give this person a right to compensation. There has been no breach of the procedure as set out in the law. We cannot say to anyone who has been involved in administrative level in this "I agree." We cannot say "you are in breach of the law, you have not followed the established procedure, you have done something that you are not entitled to do and therefore the Government are liable in damages," that is what we mean when we say that we do not agree with the Ombudsman analysis but I agree entirely with the sentiment underlying the hon Member's question which is that I think that it is absolutely extraordinary that anyone should take the decision to destroy a new car. At the very least the Government would have had it for its fleet of vehicles but that is a different issue and we are certainly reviewing the existing procedures to make sure that this cannot happen again. We are accepting notwithstanding our view of the legal position, we are accepting the Ombudsman recommendation which was not that he should be paid compensation but rather that the Government should give him the next comparable vehicle that comes available.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Which would be none.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, yes, cars could be confiscated, now the Ombudsman said that he should not be entitled to compensation. It is also true I am aware that the gentleman in question is still claiming compensation from the Government but that has nothing to do with the Ombudsman's recommendations, the Ombudsman's recommendation was that he should not have compensation but rather a substitute vehicle when one became available from the next confiscation which may take longer than this man should fairly be made to wait I accept that.

ORAL

**NO. 850 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**YACHT REPORTING BERTH**

Can Government state whether they have reconsidered their policy of doing away with the functions of the Yacht Reporting Berth?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 850 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

By when do the Government intend to do away with the Yacht Reporting Berth?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

When it has all the logistical requirements in place to be able to do so.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

When does it envisage to have all the logistical requirements in place?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

There is no fixed date at the moment.

ORAL

**NO. 851 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**PORT DEPARTMENT**

Can Government state whether there has been any move over the final offer made by the Minister to Port Department employees which he said in answer to Question No 463 of 2002 was still the basis of further negotiation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 851 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Does the Minister envisage further negotiations or can he state whether he feels that the question is now at a stalemate?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

There is a meeting planned for tomorrow and Friday with the Unions and Port representatives subject to availability of the House and I have been trying to see whether we could reschedule this but we have not been able to agree as to when the meeting can now be held.

ORAL

**NO. 852 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**DOCK WORK ORDINANCE**

Will Government state why the Dock Work Ordinance is being breached and could they state what action, if any, they are taking to correct this?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Government are not aware that the Dock Labour Ordinance is being breached.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 852 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is the Minister not aware that the Register of Dockers which needs to be kept by the committee is not being kept and that that is a breach of the law?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I am aware that there were delays in the registration of stevedores and dock labour workers in the register but I believe that the matter has now been rectified.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

So then the Minister knew that the Ordinance was being breached and he knows that it has been corrected?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, that is correct.



**NO. 853 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**“HOME FROM HOME” PROGRAMME**

What criteria does the Government use to measure the claimed success of their “Home from Home” programme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

There are various key indicators which point towards success of the campaign. Some of the more important factors are as follows:

- (a) a 25 per cent increase in the number of requests for Gibraltar brochures;
- (b) an increased perception of Gibraltar as a tourist destination by the general media and the specialist travel press;
- (c) the increased demand has led to a major UK tour operator to include Gibraltar in its brochures;
- (d) a key UK tour operator has produced a dedicated Gibraltar brochure, where previously it published a brochure covering Gibraltar and Spain;
- (e) UK tour operators have reported increase sales to Gibraltar;
- (f) There has been an increase in number of visitors to the tourism web site.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 853 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is there a specific survey done to determine the reason why somebody comes here whether it is as a result of this campaign or anything else?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

As I have said in this House before there is no clear survey that can be carried out in order to be able to ascertain whether any form of marketing or advertising activity coordinates with any particular increase or decrease in sales of tourists coming to Gibraltar. Therefore we cannot attribute any actual fact to a particular campaign but the general "Home from Home" campaign and these factors which I have just pointed out were subsequent to this campaign so I am sure that some of these increases are due to this increase in this particular campaign.

ORAL

**NO. 854 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WORLD TRAVEL MARKET**

Can Government say whether their decision to continue to attend the World Travel Market has the support of the UKGTA?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 865 and 881 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 855 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – GIVE-AWAYS**

Can Government say how and from whom items for give-aways for the GTB are obtained?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Items are obtained from suppliers who have notified the Gibraltar Tourist Board that they can supply a product which has been approved as a give-away. The total value of an order is small, and below the ceiling for purchase through tender. Before approving a purchase, the GTB seeks prices from several suppliers and opts for the cheapest. The suppliers of give-aways used in Gibraltar by the GTB are as follows :-

|                      |   |                      |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| Promotional Printers | - | Stickers             |
| Analgo               | - | Lapel badges         |
| Victory Enterprises  | - | Sticks of candy rock |
| Gibraltar Crystal    | - | Crystal Medallions   |
| Analgo               | - | Stick on calendars   |
| Zenith Promotions    | - | GTB logo stickers    |
| 123 Printers         | - | Posters              |

We have now taken the decision that we will be going out to tender in a proper format because we wish to have a far more systematic programme in the purchase and giving away of give-away items and a tender will shortly be published covering a wider range of products which we have decided will form part of our give-away items for next year.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION 855 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I recall that there was a tender for give-aways which was published last year and various companies submitted their ideas, was that tender then ever awarded or did it simply lapse?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the tender was not awarded, if the hon Member remembers the quotes that came in we just did not have the budget to be able to meet that so what we decided was that we would buy from individual small quantities of things that we needed because we did not have the budget. The budget is now being made available so we are programming to put a tender out which will cover our requirements as I said for next year.

ORAL

**NO. 856 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MOORISH CASTLE**

Can Government say for how long and for what period the top floor of the Moorish Castle has been closed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Five months.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 856 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Government explain why it has been closed for that period of time?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The roof terrace which I presume is what the hon Member is referring to has been closed for five months. It was actually closed by the Gibraltar Tourist Board due to the fact that the fencing on one side of the west side of the terrace was in a dangerous state and at the same time we were getting pressured from the Prison Officers for us to close the terrace as various visitors to the terrace were actually making contact with the inmates and throwing things into the Prison and obviously that was creating a problem

for them. We have not taken a view because although not visited very regularly by visitors it is a part of the Moorish Castle which we do not wish to close to visitors on a permanent basis so we are looking at the possibility of putting some wire mesh at the bottom end of the Prison to prevent anything being thrown into the Prison and looking at alternatives as to whether we are going to open the terrace but only on requests and accompanied by a security officer or maybe with the idea of putting up CCTV. We are looking at various options so at the moment we are not carrying out this repair because we feel that we really need to take this decision, I have been in correspondence with the Prison Board, the Chairman of the Prison Board because obviously we need to find a way which is mutually acceptable for both parties. We are obviously concerned about the actual institution of prisoned inmates and on the other hand we want to make sure that that part is available to visitors at least on an on request.

ORAL

**NO. 857 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**SEA TRADE CONVENTION**

What was the cost of attending the Sea Trade Convention in Genoa, with a breakdown, and who made up the Government delegation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 864 and 901 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 858 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**EASTSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

Can Government say whether an environmental impact study into the eastside development has been carried out?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 858 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are Government in a position to say whether such a study is required?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member would have to be more specific as to the focus of his question in this respect, usually in the case of land reclamation projects the environmental impact study is done at the time of the land reclamation not at the time that one builds things on land that one has reclaimed and now indeed environmental impact studies in land reclamation projects is compulsory under EU Regulations. The land on which the eastside development would be located is the area of the reclamation which we have

finished but did not start. The hon Members will recall that it was started in their time, it has been finished, I do not know whether an environmental impact study was done at that time, probably not, whether an environmental impact study is now relevant in the context of simply building on the land that has already been reclaimed is another matter so I do not know whether he is referring to the reclamation itself or to the building on the reclamation.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Perhaps if I explain the origins of the question, in a report the Minister for Trade and Industry and the Minister for Tourism both were quoted and it says that both insisted on the importance of the development et cetera and they were exploring options for stabilising the coastline and would determine whether a full environmental impact assessment was required, that was the one we were referring to.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think there are two aspects of that question. One is and environmental coping and screening study has been carried out in respect of the proposed works on the breakwaters and beach refurbishment area but as far as the land side is concerned no environmental impact study has been carried out and that will very much depend on the actual final layout and scheme itself. There are proposals that I know of that may or may not come through that have been proposed and shown to the Government to get impact and to get an impression of what we believe which involves a marina on that side. That would mean that an environmental impact study will have to be carried out, if there is actually no actual addition done on the land itself then the environmental impact study may not be necessary but until we know the details of the scheme itself we will not be able to determine whether an environmental impact study will require it or not but as the Chief Minister has clearly pointed out it is the European Union obligation which would have to be adhered to depending on the details of the scheme itself.

ORAL

**NO. 859 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ST MICHAEL'S CAVE**

How often and on what dates has the viewing platform in front of St Michael's Cave been cleaned this year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

There is no "viewing platform" in front of St Michael's Cave.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 859 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The area in question is obviously when one gets to the cave and there is a platform where cars park, that area there.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, that area which is allocated to coaches on the road leading to the ticket office and includes the surrounding areas and the road leading to the top of Prince Philip Arch is cleaned on a daily basis.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The area immediately below that, the slope that leads down with the trees and grass where there have been reports and photographs and I have been up to see it myself of the accumulations of rubbish which have been allowed to remain there, in that particular respect are the Government satisfied with the state of cleanliness of that slope?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the Government are not satisfied with some of the level of cleanliness on some of the slopes the reality is that the cleaning of those slopes are not subjected to contract which I think Master Service had of the cleaning and maintenance of the Upper Rock. These slopes actually need cleaning by a specialist type of cleaning contractor because of the dangers and health and safety issues. What has traditionally happened is that the Government, and this goes back many, many years, these slopes may have been cleaned maybe once, twice, once a year or once every two years, what has happened is that there seems to be an accelerated accumulation of rubbish in recent times whether those are actually the common practice or not what we have done is that we have carried out a cleaning exercise sometime in the month of August/September, we are in negotiations at the moment with a contractor in order to look at the possibility, with the contractor Master Service in order to extent their contract to cover that but there are financial implications obviously to this and the Government are giving consideration as to the cost that this has but obviously it is not something that I find satisfactory from the point of view of the tourist product.

ORAL

**NO. 860 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CITY UNDER SIEGE EXHIBITION**

Can Government say why some of the wax models at tourist sites on the Upper Rock at the beginning of August had no heads and for how long have they been in this condition?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

At the time in question, there was an element of press coverage following sensationalistic reports that wax models forming part of the City Under Siege Exhibition had been decapitated. Indeed, this sort of vandalism only occurs at this site and not, as the question implies, at tourist sites generally. The exhibitions are inspected regularly, and whenever it is found that some senseless person has damaged a wax model, it is repaired.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 860 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say how regularly these sites are inspected given the amount tourists that visit this site?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

These sites are inspected almost on a daily basis because there are sites attendants that look after these sites. These wax figures do not have their heads attached to the rest of the body basically the head lands on top of the wax body so one just needs to knock it off to find the head rolling very easily and there are some visitors or locals that find it amusing to knock their heads off. We have asked those that put these wax figures in place some years ago to visit Gibraltar. They are coming I believe in the first week of November and we are looking at ways and systems in order to avoid this sort of occurrence from happening on a regular basis.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are there any plans to refurbish the area, there is a general sense of decay and lack of colouring and there is also a general neglect in terms of overgrown areas and strewn litter, are there any plans to tackle this?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think I answered that by saying that two representatives from the company will be out in Gibraltar for a general assessment to see what needs to be put in place in order to upgrade some of these exhibits.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the Minister also referring to the litter and the drink cans scattered around?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That also is being looked into.

ORAL

**NO. 861 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ST MICHAEL'S CAVE**

Can Government give the dates on which the sound and light system at St Michael's Cave has been out of action since the new system was installed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The sound and light system at St Michael's Cave has been undergoing a comprehensive testing programme since its installation, due to a series of technical hitches. The system was inaugurated to members of the travel trade on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2002, and will be shown routinely on weekdays as from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, and, in addition, on request for example from Shore Excursion Agents for cruise calls.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 861 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the intention to have a rotating exhibition every 15 minutes or half an hour or is it just a one off?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No what is intended is that initially we will probably show the sound and light system possibly three or four times a day at specific times. One must remember that for the programme to go through the lights have to come off and therefore one has to have members of the public seated et cetera and so therefore there will be certain hours of the day when this will be shown and as I have said on requests for cruise passengers because operators have shown an interest in being able to offer these to their customers on board. Last night the inauguration was to the travel trade in order to make everybody conversant with the product itself.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister explain given the high cost of this tender which I think went into six figures, what the technical hitches were?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

One of the major issues was the voice over of the sound and light system. There is a voice over which explains the history of Gibraltar and I went up there on two occasions and saw and listened to the programme itself and I was not satisfied that the sound and voice over was adequate for the density and size of the cave. So it had to be recorded on numerous occasions until we finally got the right level. It is also being done in the Spanish language and that took time as well and we also want to have it available in other foreign languages as well, sometimes we get cruise ships that are mainly of German speaking customers and we want to have that available for them.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

This sound problem is the only hitch which has taken all this time to correct?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, there were other technical hitches, in fact the people who put them are in Gibraltar today as a result of some technical hitches yesterday so by no way have we overcome that but we are getting there. It is a very complex equipment with wiring and lighting all over the cave at different levels and I think that that has produced an element of making sure that there are no technical hitches which we have been getting up till recently.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Recently both the Chief Minister and myself were at a dinner in the cave and the music went off and some of the effects started going off by themselves while the Minister was speaking, can I ask, is the system insured or are the Government paying additionally to the tender?



**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

For what for all these technical hitches, absolutely not.

ORAL

NO. 862 OF 2002

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**AIRLINE ASSISTANCE**

Can Government say why the £221,000 left over from the airline assistance scheme was transferred in Statement of Reallocations No 2 of 2001/2002 to improve tourist sites and beaches instead of being put towards attracting a new airline or opening a new air route to Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question No 891 of 2002

ORAL

**NO. 863 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NUN'S WELL**

Can Government say whether they are studying, or have studied any plans for the refurbishment of the Nun's Well area?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

No plans are presently being studied.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 863 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The question also asks whether they have studied any in the past even if they are not currently being studied.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

There was a tender some time back and the tenders that were submitted were well beyond the budgeted amount and so therefore the tender was not awarded and the whole idea was left in abeyance. We are to be honest looking at the whole area in Europa Point not just Nun's Well but the area by the Lighthouse et cetera and it may encompass Nun's Well when we actually come to the end of our deliberations but I cannot commit myself as to whether Nun's Well will be included or not.

ORAL

**NO. 864 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**POSIDONIA 2002**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of Gibraltar's participation at Posidonia 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 857 and 901 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 865 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – PROGRAMME OF EXHIBITIONS**

What changes to the programme of exhibitions attended by the Gibraltar Tourist Board were recommended by the UKGTA sub-committee that was set up in March?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 854 and 881 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 866 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB - KEY SELLING POINTS**

Who are the supporting suppliers entrusted with ensuring that all the essential tools are in place to ensure that all parties linked with selling Gibraltar are properly briefed in its key selling points?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

This is a question on which I am not too clear on what the hon Member is trying to ask but if he is trying to ask whether we have any suppliers that help us with the delivery of information on the Gibraltar Tourist product et cetera the answer is that there are none.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 866 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The question is actually practically word for word a statement made by the Minister and this was in relation to the appointment of an advertising agent, a public relations agent and a third company to help the Tourist Board with promotions and exhibitions and it was in relation to the third of the three that the Government said that they would be helped by the supporting suppliers and that was why I wanted to know who they were.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Which was the third party that the hon Member is referring to?

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I believe the third one was the Network.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The Network for all intents and purposes is a company that helps the Gibraltar Tourist Board and the distribution of brochures, it actually has no function whatsoever in terms of active participation even though they do undertake surveys for us. They basically provide a service rather than actually assist us in delivering any of our selling points that the hon Member is referring to.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Just to clarify, when the Minister was referring to the supporting suppliers then there is actually nobody who does that?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Not supporting suppliers we do have a Business Development Manager in the London Office which is part of the London Office staff who is the one who visits travel agents and puts across the selling points as far as Gibraltar is concerned. Network does not actually provide us with that sort of support we have an in-house person because we felt that it was better to have somebody in-house reporting to us, loyal to us than have an outsider where we did not really know whether the job was being done and how well it was being done.

ORAL

**NO. 867 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM**

What is the total number of students since 2000 who have completed the School of Tourism course and how many are currently employed in the sector?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

A total of 39 students have completed their studies, 20 of these are employed in the sector and a further three are pursuing further studies in the UK in this field.



ORAL

**NO. 868 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB**

Can Government say where the following companies, which provide services to the Gibraltar Tourist Board, are based:

- (a) DOT.COM PR Ltd;
- (b) Bygraves Bushell Valladares and Sheldon (BBVS);
- (c) The Network?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 869 to 873 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 869 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB**

Can Government say how much was paid to DOT.COM PR Ltd for handling the public relations of the Gibraltar Tourist Board in the financial year 2001/2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 868 and 870 to 873 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 870 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB**

Can Government say how much was paid to Bygraves Bushell Valladares and Sheldon (BBVS) for acting as an advertising agency to the Gibraltar Tourist Board in the financial year 2001/2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 868, 869 and 871 to 873 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 871 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB**

Can Government say what track record and experience in tourism advertising, public relations and marketing respectively the following have:

- (a) DOT.COM PR Ltd;
- (b) Bygraves Bushell Valladares and Sheldon (BBVS);
- (c) The Network?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 868 to 870, 872 and 873 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 872 OF 2002

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB**

Can Government say how much was paid to The Network for assisting the Gibraltar Tourist Board in marketing activities in the financial year 2001/2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question Nos 868 to 871 and 873 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 873 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB**

On what date were the following tenders awarded, and how many companies bid for the tenders for:

- (a) acting as public relations for the Gibraltar Tourist Board;
- (b) acting as an advertising agency for the Gibraltar Tourist Board;
- (c) assisting the Gibraltar Tourist Board in marketing activities?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The information sought in this question is too voluminous to be read out in this House, therefore I hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.

(a) Payment to DOT>COM PR for services provided to the GTB:-

2001/2002 - £63,464.80

(b) Payment to BBVS for services provided to the GTB:

2001/2002 - £31,133.80

This company is based in Hunton, Kent.

(c) Payment to The Network for services provided to the GTB:

2001/2002 - £5,170

This company is based in Huddersfield.

(d) Tenders for public relations, marketing and advertising were awarded to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002, that is the start of the new financial year. Nine companies submitted bids.

(e) The track record and experience of BBVS is at appendix 'A'.

(f) The track record and experience of The Network is at Appendix 'B'.

(g) The track record of the Internet PR Company, previously known as DOT COM PR is at Appendix 'C'. This company no longer supplies services to the GTB.

**BYGRAVES BUSHELL VALLADARES & SHELDON LTD**

**CREDENTIALS**

**General**

BBVS is a London advertising agency with billings in excess of £50 million and a great deal of experience in the travel and leisure markets. The Agency, which was established in 1978, is privately owned by its key partners and is truly independent, as well as being financially stable.

All members of staff are experienced, enthusiastic and hardworking and have access to the best state-of-the-art research, information and planning systems.

**Scope**

BBVS implements advertising campaigns across all media types: TV, newspapers, magazines, radio, outdoor, cinema and all other types of media.

Whilst the client list is diverse and contains a large number of household brands, one particular area of expertise is the travel and leisure market. A deep understanding of the travel business is necessary in order to be able to count effective campaigns. It is crucial to understand 'what works' and to be able to deliver highly relevant and cost effective advertising solutions. This only comes with experience.

**The Travel Market**

BBVS understands Tourist Boards. That is why the following are amongst the current client list:

- Gibraltar Tourist Board
- Mauritius Tourism Authority
- Turkish Tourist Board (UK plus 14 other countries)
- Pennsylvania Tourism
- St Lucia Tourist Board
- Philadelphia Tourism
- Northern Territory Tourist Office
- South Australia Tourist Office



Other travel clients include:

- English Country cottages
- Vacances en Gcampagne
- Peregor Travel
- Okagango Tours & Safaris
- Partnership Travel
- Sardatur
- Camp Beaumont
- Mark Warner

**Account Director – Mike Vickery**

Mike Vickery is Account Director on the Gibraltar Tourist Board business. He is a highly seasoned advertising professional with a great deal of experience and has worked at a senior or Board Director level at a number of top 10 agencies: Lintas, Masius Wynne-Williams, McCann-Erikson, Wasey Campbell-Ewald, Universal McCann et cetera. The list of blue chip clients that he has been responsible for is extremely impressive. He is an award winner in marketing's equivalent of an MBA and brings years of experience to the GTB account.

**The Network**

The Network is a highly regarded marketing and promotions company in the UK, based at Huddersfield. It has been established for over 10 years and includes a number of major travel companies in its client portfolio.

- Bourne Leisure
- British Airways
- British Airways Holidays
- Brittany Ferries
- Carribean Tourism Organisation
- Daily Mail
- DFDS Seaways
- Embassy Leisure Breaks
- First Choice Holidays plc
- Gibraltar Tourist Board
- Hermis Travel Group
- Holiday Cottages Group
- Kuoni Travel Ltd
- Libra Group
- Mark Warner
- Metro
- P&O Portsmouth
- Stena Line
- Sunwin Motors
- The Business
- The TIPTO Organisation
- Tony Pryce Sports
- Walt Disney Parks & Resorts

## **Appendix 'C'**

The Internet PR Company is an award-winning, independent specialist online communications agency that has **turned PR on its head by** transforming traditional techniques to work in a digital age.

Technology and, in particular, the Internet has effected change on numerous industries in recent years. Perhaps no industry has been changed so profoundly as the news media arena and, by extended association, the public relations industry.

The Internet PR Company has embraced this opportunity by integrating traditional PR know-how with cutting-edge technology to provide a dynamic range of communications solutions and delivery platforms that empower business to take charge of their own online communications.

But as we have all the communications know-how, you don't have to go it alone. We can also provide guidance and support along the way and step in with a fully managed service – or anything in-between - if that's what is needed.

**OUR MISSION IS** to develop and deliver a range of unique, customised communications management platforms that transform public relations into a truly Internet-enabled industry.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 868 TO 873 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The information supplied in relation to the amounts paid to each of the companies, the public relations company receives £63,000 (DOT COM PR), BBVS receives £31,000 and the Network £5,170, is the Minister satisfied with the performance in the first year?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Contracts for each aspect of the services that both the three companies provide are on an annual basis so their performance is renewed annually and contracts are renewed if we feel that their performance and the productivity have been to our satisfaction. DOT COM PR no longer provides a service for us and has subsequently been replaced. BBVS continues to provide a service for us and their contract was renewed this year. Basically the Network has a contract with us but as I have said before it is the service that they provide and we count on them only when there is a need for a particular distribution to be undertaken or particular aspect of surveying is to be done. It is not something that we have an annual contract with, as far as the annual renewal of contracts are concerned we ensure that we have at least three companies in the different aspects of the different areas of activity who put proposals through to the Tourist Board before a candidate is selected. So in the case of DOT COM PR a year back they were selected as a preferred supplier of service. At the end of that year we had three people that came in and provided us with alternatives which included them as well and we decided that there was the need for a change and so therefore we selected another party and they had clear understandings that their services were for one year and one year only, it just keeps them on their toes. As far as BBVS is concerned this is an advertising agency that buys advertising space for us and what we do is that we actually get media buyers, and there is not a lot of professional media buyers in the travel industry in the UK but we select at least the three better known and what we do is that we give them the budget that we have available for above the line advertising and then they come up with their offer of what they can deliver for that budget in terms of actual newspaper publications where we can put adverts in, the Travel Trade, the consumer advertising, media advertising and therefore we look at the package that they are able to offer us for a specific price and we pay them very little because they earn their living from commissions that they get from the different respective newspapers in which they put in publications which is common practice in the industry. Where BBVS were paid £31,000 is because they did a lot of hard work for us, they did a lot of additional work for us in order and they subcontracted out in order to assist us with adverts, we had the poster campaign in the London Underground we had the taxis that had to be totally done, these were additional work that they needed to do before in addition to actual media buying. Hon Members will notice that this year BBVS payments to them will be much less because most of their activity will have been done mainly in media advertising where we do not settle or pay for their services. Therefore they know that come November and December, this is why probably the hon Member has asked the question as to why a budget has to be made available, I have got to start from somewhere and I have got to start as early as November, straight after the World Travel Market I have got to look for these advertising buyers. I need to say, "Look the

Government have a budget of £450,000 or £500,000 for media above the line advertising, we need you in January to come to us with your proposed campaign, what can you offer us? How many ads are you going to be able to support us in the media, in the newspapers, in the tabloids, in the regional newspapers, in the London papers et cetera.” Then they come up with a budget and we assess the value of that depending and there are some companies that are better negotiators and others that are less but if one looks for example, the profile that the hon Member has asked for, BBVS buy in excess of £50 million of advertising a year so we are just one more little account and if one looks they have quite an impressive list of tourist orientated customers who they buy media for. So I am sure that they have the strength to be able to go to the press and say, “What package can you give me?” they may have £0.5 million from Gibraltar but maybe they have £10 million from other destinations so their media buying power is very much to our benefit.

**NO. 874 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – LANDING CHARGES**

At what stage are discussions between the Government and the Ministry of Defence aimed at securing a reduction in landing charges for commercial aircraft?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

There are no such discussions in progress. The MOD is aware of Government's views on the high level of landing charges and various representations have been made over a period of time.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 874 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Government say what the results of those presentations have been in terms of when and also when the last such representations were made?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I believe that the last representations that I made to the MOD was when I last had a meeting with the Commander of British Forces. I can also say that not just myself but some of my Colleagues who have contacts with the MOD do raise the issue because it is an on-going complaint unfortunately it is not something that we can convince them. The MOD I think realises the need for a review of these but I think are subjected to policies back in London where they are applicable to all military airfields in the UK and overseas.

ORAL

**NO. 875 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 6-A – SUBHEAD 8**

Can the Minister for Tourism provide a breakdown of Head 6A Subhead 8 in respect of the £950,000 forecast out-turn for 2001/2002 being marketing, promotions and conferences?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I can do better than that – I can now provide a breakdown of the actual expenditure for 2001/2002. However, the information sought in this question is too voluminous to be read out in this House, nor would the hon Member be able to note the information given for the purposes of formulating supplementaries if it were read out. I therefore hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.





ORAL

**NO. 876 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HOTELS – GRADINGS**

Can Government say whether Gibraltar hotels have been graded in 2002 and if so when and with what results?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Hotels including hostels and self-catering apartments had their annual inspection between 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July 2002. The grading reports concluded , in all cases, that all properties should retain their corresponding star gradings.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 876 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister confirm that the grading is in fact being carried out by the same company?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Indeed but there is every likelihood that we will be changing companies for next year as we understand the present adjudicators are in problems financially and may not be around for next year.

ORAL

**NO. 877 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM – VISITING JOURNALISTS**

Can Government give the cost of inviting thirteen journalists to Gibraltar on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2002 for three days, providing a breakdown of the figure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 878 and 879 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 878 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM – VISITING JOURNALISTS**

Can Government say how many of the thirteen journalists had articles on Gibraltar published as a result of their visit on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2002 listing the newspapers or magazines where such articles were published and the date of publication?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 877 and 879 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 879 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM – VISITING JOURNALISTS**

Can Government list the names of the thirteen journalists who visited Gibraltar on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2002 giving the names of the media they worked for?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 879 of 2002**

**PRESS ON THE ROCK 2002**

**Guest List and Coverage Received**

| <b>Name</b>          | <b>Date of Coverage</b>                                                                                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Peter Ellegard       | TTG 3 June                                                                                                           |
| Simon Evans          | Due in CNN News in October                                                                                           |
| Milton Firman        | Jewish Telegraph<br>(copy sent to Gibraltar 19.9.02)                                                                 |
| Paul Francis         | Press Gazette 19 <sup>th</sup> July<br>Kent Messenger Series                                                         |
| Steve Gedge          | Pending                                                                                                              |
| Dominic Hamilton     | This istravel.co.uk. 12 <sup>th</sup> August                                                                         |
| Charlie Harris       | Has an article awaiting publication in the Home Counties in Luton/Watford area. This is a syndicate of 4 newspapers. |
| Gillian Harrison     | Telegraph 25 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Sunday Mercury 16 <sup>th</sup> June                                               |
| Lucinda Hawksley     | 5 text 19 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                         |
| Allyson Howden       | Dorset Echo 1 <sup>st</sup> June                                                                                     |
| Penny Kitchen        | Standard 5 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                        |
| Peter MrGregor Eadie | Travel News Ireland                                                                                                  |
| Gareth Phillips      | Pending                                                                                                              |

Further articles are expected from these journalists.

**COST TO GOVERNMENT OF PRESS ON THE ROCK 2002**

|                                     | £         |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| UK organisation of attendees        | 5,193.69  |
| Travel                              | 1,050.00  |
| Entertainment                       | 1,450.92  |
| Ed Lacy Award for best travel piece | 659.95    |
| Sundires                            | 120.05    |
|                                     | <hr/>     |
|                                     | £8,474.61 |
|                                     | <hr/>     |

ORAL

NO. 880 OF 2002

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**MEDCRUISE**

Can Government say how many votes were obtained by Gibraltar, Venice and Barcelona respectively in the elections for the presidency of Medcruise earlier this year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT

Gibraltar one, Venice two and Barcelona 33 votes.

**NO. 881 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WORLD TRAVEL MARKET**

Why was the 2002/2003 increased marketing spend on tourism announced in London at the UK Gibraltar Tourism Association before it was made public in the House of Assembly?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The decision to attend World Travel Market was discussed extensively with the UKGTA, and they support a Gibraltar presence at the exhibition this year. A sub committee of the UKGTA also made proposals, which were approved by UKGTA and myself, for the GTB to man a stand at four consumer shows in the UK in addition to the exhibition at which Gibraltar is represented. I also accepted a recommendation that there should be a GTB presence at four additional trade shows and a Conference and Incentive exhibition. With regard to the allegations that an announcement was made at a UKGTA meeting of the approved marketing spend, this is incorrect. The UKGTA were informed of the bid made by the Ministry for Tourism for marketing, and were told that the bid was subject to approval first by Government and then by this House. It has never been the practice in Gibraltar that Government policy is announced only in this House first.



**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 854, 865 AND 881 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister confirm that the changes which the UKGTA recommended to the programme of exhibitions and the Minister has mentioned a number of exhibitions which Gibraltar will now be represented at, were there any which they felt Gibraltar should not be attending?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The sub-committee composed of tour operators, hoteliers and some tourism officials looked at the various shows which we were currently exhibiting at and also looked at new potential areas and came up with the report and we had actually confirmed that all those that we were already attending we should continue attending.

ORAL

**NO. 882 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM – PERSONS INTERVIEWED**

Can Government say how many interviews with persons who said that they had not stayed at a hotel have been carried out since 1<sup>st</sup> March 2002 inclusive, on a monthly basis, stating where they were interviewed and the number interviewed at each location?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 895 and 896 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 883 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HOTEL ARREARS**

What amounts are due and owing to Government by hotels broken down by items and in respect of which periods these monies became due as at the end of August 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The arrears due by hotels stood at £417,000 as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002. These arrears are in respect of amounts due over a number of years dating as far back as 1991. The breakdown is as follows:

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Social Insurance | £ 51,000 |
| PAYE Tax         | £166,000 |
| Electricity      | £171,000 |
| Rates            | £ 28,000 |
| Rents            | £ 1,000  |
|                  | —————    |
|                  | £417,000 |
|                  | —————    |

Agreements were entered into for the repayment of most of these arrears as well as for ensuring that current bills are settled as and when due.

ORAL

**NO. 884 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL**

How often and on what dates has the Tourism Advisory Council met since 18<sup>th</sup> April 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The Tourism Advisory Council met once, on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 885 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MINISTER'S OVERSEAS VISITS**

Can the Minister for Tourism give the dates when he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business from 6<sup>th</sup> March 2002 to date, giving the event or function attended, the venue, the city and the country visited?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I have been away from Gibraltar on tourism-related business on four occasions as follows:

|         |   |         |              |   |        |
|---------|---|---------|--------------|---|--------|
| 16.5.02 | - | 17.5.02 | Presentation | - | Madrid |
| 23.5.02 | - | 27.5.02 | UKGTA        | - | London |
| 19.9.02 | - | 22.9.02 | UKGTA        | - | London |
| 4.10.02 | - | 5.10.02 | Meetings     | - | London |

ORAL

**NO. 886 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PORT – OPERATOR LICENCES**

Have the two applications for a port operator licence which were being considered in April now been granted, and have any new applications been made since then?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The two licences in question have not been issued. Subsequently, there have been four further applications for port operator licences.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 886 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister clarify whether the licences have not been issued because they have been refused or whether all these four and the two that were there previously are all pending?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the two licences in question that have not been issued are in respect of bunker operators, a series of conditions have been attached to these operators and to the granting of these licences and both operators are almost there in being able to meet all

these requirements but have yet not achieved that, as soon as all the conditions are met the licences will be issued. In respect of the four other licences that I have referred to there is one licence which is on appeal against the Registration Board and they have been awarded a Ship Agent's licence, then there is a licence to collect garbage from ships at anchor and then there have been two licences granted for rope-handling and rigging. These four licences have been granted and these licences actually do have a set of conditions attached to them which have been met by the applicants.

ORAL

**NO. 887 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**UPPER ROCK – ADMISSION FEES**

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised in admission fees to the Upper Rock on a monthly basis since April 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No 888 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 888 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**COACH PARK CHARGES**

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised by charging coaches that use the coach park on a monthly basis since April 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.

Answer to Question No 887 of 2002

**UPPER ROCK REVENUE**

**APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2002**

| <b><u>MONTH</u></b>  | <b><u>REVENUE</u></b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| April                | £213,585.00           |
| May                  | £242,101.50           |
| June                 | £197,674.00           |
| July                 | £235,027.50           |
| August               | £259,937.50           |
| September            | £260,287.50           |
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>£1,408,693.00</b>  |

**Answer to Question No 888 of 2002**

**COACH PARK REVENUE**

**SINCE APRIL 2002**

| <b><u>MONTH</u></b>  | <b><u>REVENUE</u></b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| April                | £ 9,790.00            |
| May                  | £10,720.00            |
| June                 | £ 8,100.00            |
| July                 | £ 8,190.00            |
| August               | £ 8,230.00            |
| September            | £10,660.00            |
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>£55,690.00</b>     |

ORAL

**NO. 889 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – LANDING CHARGES**

Can Government say what are the landing charges levied by the Ministry of Defence for commercial aircraft using Gibraltar airport as on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2002 and when was the last time this charge was increased?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The present MOD landing fees came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002, and they are set out in schedule which I now hand over to the hon Member.

## Answer to Question 889 of 2002

### RAF GIBRALTAR

#### COMBINED LANDING AND NAVIGATION FEES (EFFECTIVE FROM 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2002)

Cheques to be made payable to: Public sub accountant HMG 01459714

| MTOW (KGS) | FEE (£) | MTOW (KGS) | FEE (£) | MTOW (KGS) | FEE (£) |
|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| 0 - 500    | 8.08    | 32000      | 517.76  | 67000      | 1084.06 |
| 501-1000   | 16.16   | 33000      | 533.94  | 68000      | 1100.24 |
| 1001-1500  | 24.24   | 34000      | 550.12  | 69000      | 1116.42 |
| 1501-2000  | 32.32   | 35000      | 566.30  | 70000      | 1132.60 |
| 2001-2500  | 40.40   | 36000      | 582.48  | 71000      | 1148.78 |
| 2501-3000  | 48.48   | 37000      | 598.66  | 72000      | 1164.96 |
| 3001-3500  | 56.56   | 38000      | 614.84  | 73000      | 1181.14 |
| 3501-4000  | 64.72   | 39000      | 631.02  | 74000      | 1197.32 |
| 5000       | 80.90   | 40000      | 647.20  | 75000      | 1213.50 |
| 6000       | 97.08   | 41000      | 663.38  | 76000      | 1229.68 |
| 7000       | 113.26  | 42000      | 679.56  | 77000      | 1245.86 |
| 8000       | 129.44  | 43000      | 695.74  | 78000      | 1262.04 |
| 9000       | 145.62  | 44000      | 711.92  | 79000      | 1278.22 |
| 10000      | 161.80  | 45000      | 728.10  | 80000      | 1294.40 |
| 11000      | 177.98  | 46000      | 744.28  | 81000      | 1310.58 |
| 12000      | 194.16  | 47000      | 760.46  | 82000      | 1326.76 |
| 13000      | 210.34  | 48000      | 776.64  | 83000      | 1342.94 |
| 14000      | 226.52  | 49000      | 792.82  | 84000      | 1359.12 |
| 15000      | 242.70  | 50000      | 809.00  | 85000      | 1375.30 |
| 16000      | 258.88  | 51000      | 825.18  | 86000      | 1391.48 |
| 17000      | 275.06  | 52000      | 841.36  | 87000      | 1407.66 |
| 18000      | 291.24  | 53000      | 857.54  | 88000      | 1423.84 |
| 19000      | 307.42  | 54000      | 873.72  | 89000      | 1440.02 |
| 20000      | 323.60  | 55000      | 889.90  | 90000      | 1456.20 |
| 21000      | 339.78  | 56000      | 906.08  | 91000      | 1472.38 |
| 22000      | 355.96  | 57000      | 922.26  | 92000      | 1488.56 |
| 23000      | 372.14  | 58000      | 938.44  | 93000      | 1504.74 |
| 24000      | 388.32  | 59000      | 954.62  | 94000      | 1520.92 |
| 25000      | 404.50  | 60000      | 970.80  | 95000      | 1537.10 |
| 26000      | 420.68  | 61000      | 986.98  | 96000      | 1553.28 |
| 27000      | 436.86  | 62000      | 1003.16 | 97000      | 1569.46 |
| 28000      | 453.04  | 63000      | 1019.34 | 98000      | 1585.64 |
| 29000      | 469.22  | 64000      | 1035.52 | 99000      | 1601.82 |
| 30000      | 485.40  | 65000      | 1051.70 | 100000     | 1618.00 |
| 31000      | 501.58  | 66000      | 1067.88 |            |         |

#### Notes:

1. Between 2300 and 0800 a 75% surcharge on landing fees is applicable.
2. Over 15000 no insurance charge. Under 15000, £8.50 if not in possession of MOD insurance certificate.

ORAL

**NO. 890 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**AIRLINES**

Can Government list the offers they have rejected from airlines interested in flying to Gibraltar on the basis of the level of subsidy required, listing the name of the airline, the amount of money they wanted, and the package of flights offered?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 892 to 894 of 2002.

**NO. 891 OF 2002****THE HON DR J J GARCIA****AIRLINE ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

Have any funds been paid out of the airline assistance scheme and to what airline since 14<sup>th</sup> March 2002?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Monies had been budgeted to assist an airline which had indicated that it was about to commence operations in Gibraltar in the financial year 2001/2002, and with which Government had discussed an in-principle agreement for support. The commencement of the service did not happen. The funds were therefore used to cover an overspend elsewhere in the Tourism I & DF vote. Under accounting instructions it is not possible to carry forward funding from one financial year to the next. The following amounts were paid out of the Airline Assistance Scheme since 14<sup>th</sup> March 2002.

|              |                                                    |                   |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 25.04.02     | Bland Ltd Airline Support period Feb to April 2002 | £15,000.00        |
| 25.04.02     | Monarch Airlines basic subsidy and extra flights   | £18,900.00        |
| 11.09.02     | GB Airways subsidy period Feb- March 2002          | £29,492.00        |
|              |                                                    | <hr/>             |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                                                    | <b>£63,392.00</b> |
|              |                                                    | <hr/>             |

These were obviously payments in respect of the previous agreement that we had with them, at the moment there is no subsidy or support being given to any of the two airlines.

ORAL

**NO. 892 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**AIRLINES**

Can Government say whether they expect any of the four airlines that they have been having discussions with since February to commence operating from Gibraltar airport and if so when?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 890, 893 and 894 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 893 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**AIRLINES**

Have the initial enquiries made by two new airlines in April now materialised into formal discussions?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 890, 892 and 894 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 894 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**AIRLINES**

Can Government say whether, and if so when, they expect a resumption of air links between Gibraltar and Morocco?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Government have no firm indication that the four airlines with which I have been in discussion will be commencing operations to Gibraltar in the short term. Discussions continue. Government are nevertheless hopeful that new operators will come on stream in due course, and that one route which will be re-opened will be between Gibraltar and Morocco. With regard to two further airlines which made preliminary enquiries, these have not as yet developed into formal discussions. However, I am not able to provide details of the support packages which prospective airlines have been discussing with Government, as to do so might negatively affect the negotiation process.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 890 TO 894 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The information requested in the question in relation to the packages offered to airlines related to offers which have already been rejected by the airline not to existing ones, is it not possible to give information on that basis?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The reality is that none of the four airlines which I have mentioned have actually rejected any proposals put on the table, negotiations continue, one has to understand that operating or opening a new route is not something that an airline takes very lightly and it takes sometimes years for it to come to fruition. Negotiations still continue so therefore I am able to discuss the matter with him in private if he wishes but I do not think it would be prudent for me to open up discussions on this as I do not think it would be in our interest generally.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Question No 890 of 2002 is a separate question to the previous one on the four airlines, it is the Government that have chosen to answer them together but they are actually separate. This one is talking about not necessarily the four with which the Government are negotiating but previous airlines that may have come in the past.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not have this information anyway here with me I will definitely give it some thought and if need be I will write to him or maybe we can arrange and discuss the matter on a confidential basis.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

It is information that we would welcome because we have often expressed concern about the question of air routes and it is something that we would like to see developed for the benefit of Gibraltar generally. The other question which I think is relevant to this is the issue of Fly Europa which we were told would be commencing operations to Gibraltar last year but then it became this year and then it was the summer, obviously it has not materialised and it is obvious that this was the airline that money was set aside for but does the Minister have any more information in relation to this venture and why is it that it is taking so long to get off the ground if you excuse the pun?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The latest information I have on Fly Europa was as recent as maybe two weeks ago. I actually met them in the UK and basically I presume it was the reaction to an e-mail or letter I wrote to him basically saying that the Government was no longer going to keep their side of the agreement in protecting the idea of them operating from Manchester or Stansted in that if another operator or an opportunity arose elsewhere we would take that on board and not feel restricted or sort of sense of duty towards what had been agreed because I think time had elapsed and our patience was more than generous. I think subsequently there was a board meeting and a decision was taken that an announcement would be made at World Travel Market to start operations in April. I have heard so many stories as to when these starting dates are going to be that I take no serious view on this any more obviously the Government would welcome the start of Fly

Europa but I am not willing to jeopardise my own negotiations elsewhere as a result of it and I made it clear to the Managing Director that I was very happy to hear that the Board had decided that and that I was delighted to welcome him on the route to Gibraltar and that the Government would have to consider their financial commitments to that depending on where it was in respect of other negotiations if there was any at all. The reality is that there are other possibilities on air at the moment and so therefore I am sure that the industry which is a very small one has probably heard that something was afoot and therefore they wanted not to lose their slot but I am no longer going to stand up in public and say Fly Europa is coming to Gibraltar again, I think I have done it too many times and I have fallen flat on my face too many times as well. However, I can assure hon Members that it is Government priority and my own personal priority to ensure that we try and open up new routes for Gibraltar. It is not easy and if there is any views or any ideas that hon Members may have which may lend itself to assisting in this it would be very welcome. I have offered the same sort of opportunity to members of the UKGTA because at the end of the day tour operators want more access to Gibraltar, hoteliers in Gibraltar in the light of possible hotels opening want new routes to open up and I am saying to everybody 'yes okay' everybody looks at me it is ultimately my responsibility to deliver on that but if any hon Member has the will or the know how which may assist in any way or contact or whatever I am very happy to take that on board.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Opposition Members' concern is that there seems to be endless unprotracted negotiations with different airlines. At one stage it was 17 different ones and announcements are made and then they do not happen so obviously it is something which concerns us but in relation to Fly Europa, may I ask, are they already licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority first and secondly on the possibilities of opening a route to Manchester or to the North of England or Scotland which I think would be very welcome is that envisaged in the other negotiations which the Minister is having?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

In the other negotiations in respect of?

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Minister said in respect of the four different airlines.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No. Manchester is and it is something that Fly Europa knows that if it does not include Manchester then the Government will not support their operation in any way, they can fly on a totally commercial and open real world and compete with others on the route but if they do include Manchester which they know is a must then they would get the Government support that they desire and look for?

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are they already licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The aircraft belongs to another company whom I am trying to remember the name and they are licensed. Fly Europa is leasing their craft it is already apparently operating from Luton airport to some German destination, the planes are already painted with Fly Europa colours but it is not Fly Europa per se that have the contact with the sole Aviation Authority but the lease, the actual owners of the aircraft from whom they are leasing the aircraft from, but not necessarily on the route to Gibraltar which has still not happened but not through any fault of the Civil Aviation Authorities because I can assure the House that I have done all my background work to see whether there was any stumbling block that was creating any problems for them within the Civil Aviation Authorities, that has not been the case but the owners of the aircraft are recognised by the Civil Aviation Authorities, they conform with various requirements that are needed it is a matter of putting in the application for the Gibraltar route which I believe they are now doing but I have said this enough times and I am not going to stand here defending Fly Europa again.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

That is what I wanted to establish whether they were already licensed to fly the route to Gibraltar but it obviously transpires that they are not and that they are actually in the process of applying which is quite far away. In relation to the flight to Morocco, we have the Regional Airlines flight to Casablanca that did not work out are there any possibilities for establishing a concrete possibility of a flight to Tangier?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The negotiations with Regional Airlines is on-going but the issue there is that they expect a level of support which I feel is totally disproportionate to the value of the route and therefore if the hon Member wishes I am happy to give him the figure in confidence and he will realise that I am taking the right decision but the reality is that they are asking for what I believe is an unreasonable request and it is not only that but the actual timing of the flights does not allow us to be able to encourage the day tripper to Gibraltar which I think is something that is important in both directions, it leaves Gibraltar late at night and comes into Gibraltar early in the morning or the other way around and therefore it just does not make sense for us as a destination where we want to encourage passengers to come in this direction not to go over to Morocco and the time-table that they have suggested is wrong it is the other way around to what we have suggested so that is the first stumbling block, then the finances which I think are fairly unreasonable. We are dealing with new people now and we are starting all over again in a number of areas but having said that it is only as recent as earlier this month that I had an operator that wanted to base its aircraft in Gibraltar and do the Tangier route and that I think is more reasonable more realistic for it to happen and that is why I have mentioned in my answer that I see maybe a Gibraltar/Tangier operation starting soon but these people

come, they talk, they discuss it, they go back, they do studies, they come back, it is an on-going process and the Government are not willing to throw money away down the route which really does not justify its expense.

ORAL

**NO. 895 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM – PERSONS INTERVIEWED**

Can Government state of the number of persons who have been interviewed since 1<sup>st</sup> March 2002 inclusive, who said that they had stayed at a hotel, how many were interviewed at the airport, how many were interviewed at the land frontier, and how many were interviewed elsewhere, and in each case what was the average length of stay in hotels?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 882 and 896 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 896 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TOURISM - PERSONS INTERVIEWED**

Can Government say how many interviews with persons who said that they had stayed at a hotel have been carried out since 1<sup>st</sup> March 2002 inclusive, on a monthly basis, stating where they were interviewed and the number of interviewed at each location?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 896 of 2002**

**INTERVIEWS OF PERSONS WHO DID NOT STAY AT HOTELS**

**MARCH – JUNE 2002**

| Month | Hotel | Airport | Port | Frontier | Waterport | Marina | Coach Park |
|-------|-------|---------|------|----------|-----------|--------|------------|
| March | 1,302 | 22      | 130  | 686      | -         | -      | 464        |
| April | 1,552 | 42      | 337  | 625      | 8         | 4      | 536        |
| May   | 1,737 | 58      | 477  | 663      | 1         | 2      | 536        |
| June  | 1,657 | 49      | 371  | 735      | -         | -      | 502        |

The figures for July, August and September are presently being inputted.

**INTERVIEWS OF PERSONS WHO STAYED AT HOTELS**

**MARCH – JUNE 2002**

| Month | No Of Persons Staying At Hotels | Interviewed At Airport | Average Length Of Stay (days) | Interviewed At Frontier | Average Length Of Stay | Interviewed At Port | Average Length Of Stay |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| March | 8                               | 8                      | 3.3                           | -                       | -                      | -                   | -                      |
| April | 30                              | 29                     | 5.4                           | -                       | -                      | 1                   | 3.0                    |
| May   | 57                              | 57                     | 4.2                           | -                       | -                      | -                   | -                      |
| June  | 104                             | 104                    | 6.4                           | -                       | -                      | -                   | -                      |

The figures for July, August and September are presently being inputted.



ORAL

**NO. 897 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – MADRID OFFICE**

Can Government give the dates during which the Gibraltar Office in Madrid has been unmanned?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

I hand the hon Member a list with the information requested.

**LIST OF DATES WHEN THE GTB OFFICE IN MADRID WAS UNMANNED**

|          |          |    |        |          |
|----------|----------|----|--------|----------|
| Tuesday  | 16.10.01 | to | Friday | 26.10.01 |
| Monday   | 5 11. 01 | to | Friday | 30.11.01 |
| Friday   | 7.12.01  | to | Friday | 14.12.01 |
| Thursday | 20.12.01 | to | Friday | 4.01.02  |
| Monday   | 28.01.02 | to | Friday | 1.02.02  |
| Monday   | 11.2.02  | to | Friday | 22.02.02 |

|           |          |    |           |          |
|-----------|----------|----|-----------|----------|
| Tuesday   | 28.02.02 | to | Monday    | 18.03.02 |
| Friday    | 22.03.02 | to | Monday    | 08.04.02 |
| Monday    | 15.04.02 | to | Monday    | 29.04.02 |
| Friday    | 3.05.02  | to | Wednesday | 15.05.02 |
| Monday    | 20.05.02 | to | -----     |          |
| Wednesday | 22.05.02 | to | Monday    | 24.06.02 |
| Monday    | 1.07.02  | to | Monday    | 29.07.02 |
| Friday    | 2.08.02  | to | Tuesday   | 24.09.02 |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 897 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the intention of the Government to close the Gibraltar Office in Madrid?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No that is not the case at all. I know that the list that I have given the hon Member obviously clearly points out that the office in Madrid has been closed for a good part of the last 12 months but these have been through circumstances of no choice. We had two officers in Madrid whose contract terminated in September 2001 and one particular officer decided not to renew his contract and gave the relevant notice and left after the three year contract. The other officer did renew the contract but unfortunately fell ill very shortly after renewing her second term and had to return back to Gibraltar. This was not a cold, she had a serious illness and therefore had to return back home. The idea of finding substitutes has not been easy. I am grateful and I would like to take this opportunity to thank some members of the GTB who are actually based here in Gibraltar who have agreed to go to Madrid and man the office on a temporary basis. Some of the functions of the Madrid office have actually been taken over by some of the management here and have had to undertake the work from Gibraltar but the reality is that it has not been easy to find people to go and take up those jobs and definitely those that worked here who we offered incentives to go to Madrid were not willing to deploy themselves to Madrid on a semi-permanent basis, some of them had family commitments which they were unwilling to uproot to go off to Madrid. At the same time if one recalls we did have vacancies advertised towards the earlier part of this year and unfortunately the Selection Board felt that none of the candidates that applied were

suitable and it was better to have the office unmanned than to have unsuitable people. I do not know whether the people who applied for what reason the Selection Board decided that they were not suitable for the job but I think that we need to understand that the office in Madrid is a delicate position to hold, it is too close to the heat and therefore we need to have people of certain characteristics and therefore nobody was selected. We have now subsequently re-advertised sometime towards the summer, we have been able to select one person and in fact that person is already in Madrid starting her job I think she started earlier on this month so the office is no longer unmanned and we hope to find a second body within the near future.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

There are several issues which arise from all this. The Minister referred to the fact that there are two permanent members of staff employed and that it made the Government or earlier advertise for the post of an Office Administrator for which there were 16 applicants, 13 Gibraltarians, 2 British and 1 Spanish, these presumably were all people who were willing to put up 'with the heat' as the Minister described.....

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That is not what I said, '...near the heat.'

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Sorry, yes 'near the heat' .....

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The hon Member has to realise that these people in Madrid Office get phone calls from the Spanish press, people that are not necessarily mean to be in Gibraltar's favour and therefore they need to be people who have a certain amount of characteristic and know how and sometimes young people are not suitable for that post. I would not even know who was interviewed on these, but the Selection Board were given a range of I presume guidelines which they needed to observe and if nobody was selected it was probably because they thought that nobody was fit at the job itself and that is the way it is and what one cannot do is select somebody when one knows that they are not appropriate on a three year contract and then boot them out a few months later or have somebody there for three years which is not really the sort of person that one wants there. I think one needs to be understanding, one needs to understand that through no choice of ours or myself that we have had an office there which has been unmanned for part of the year. Sometimes it is better to have the office unmanned than having it manned improperly.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Given the amount of applicants for the post of Administrative Officer and given the amount of disgruntled highly qualified people that have been thrown out what is the criteria that the Government use in selection because the fact that they are young or the fact that they are .....I accept that there needs to be at least one person with a lot of tact in the office which is 'very near the heat' but there are some functions in the office that unless people do not start young to learn them they will never learn them and here we have a pool of 16 people none of which were selected whereas it might be a convenient thing for the Government to select them on the basis of trial periods to see whether they are good or not because what one hears outside is annoyance by people who think that they are very highly qualified and that they have applied for this job and that they have not been chosen notwithstanding the fact that the Madrid Office is empty and that no one has taken up the post. That is what one hears in the street from disgruntled people who have applied for the job, perhaps on a trial basis .....

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I cannot comment for the decisions of the Selection Board the only thing that I can say is that no candidate was recommended and therefore I am not going to get myself involved in actually recommending somebody when I was not involved. I presume that they take the view of the selection and they do not look any further and I understand the point the hon Member is making but the Selection Board is not answerable to me in their decision and therefore I have a limited ability to be able to make them decide in any particular way.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I am not suggesting it should decide on which of the 16 to take, let me put it clear it is nothing to do certainly with us and certainly the Minister on not to get involved in that but the only thing I am telling the Minister is that there is something wrong in the system when 16 people meet the requirements of qualifications that are needed, apply for a job, they are interviewed and none of the 16 are found to be suitable and because none of the 16 are found to be suitable we are paying a rent in an office in Madrid which remains empty because the criteria is so strict that although 16 qualified people have applied, qualified that is they held the requirements requested, none of them have been chosen. It seems to be a very odd situation and I think that although the Minister is right in saying that he cannot interfere in who gets the job he can certainly interfere in the criteria used by those selecting the person given the circumstances they are facing today.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

To what extent did the advert inviting applications contain anything as to the character requirements as opposed to the technical qualifications, did the people not know when they were applying for the job the kind of pressures that the job entailed?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I am afraid I cannot answer that. I do not get myself involved in that sort of detail. I am sure that the brief prepared by the Chief Executive of the Gibraltar Tourist Board will probably have identified the sort of people that we are looking for a particular type of job in addition to qualifications or not, I would not know but let me say that the Selection Board when I heard personally myself that no nobody had been selected I actually tried and I said reconvene have a look because I am sure that not everybody can be totally inadequate. We have a situation where we have somebody who has left and we want to replace and somebody who has got ill through no fault of hers so we have a varied situation through no choice of ours, let us try and they came back and said that they were unwilling to recommend anybody that had been selected. I do not even know who was interviewed or who they were the only thing is that that is what we ended up with and so what we had to do is that when we found that that was going to be the case and it was going to take some time for a person to be replaced we started to get some of the middle management within the Tourist Board to go over and deal with certain matters as it was required. It was not and is not the best alternative but there was little we could do. I am glad to say that the matter now is solved from the point of view that we actually do have a body there now that has been appointed and in fact the lady that was there on contract but was not well is now better and has gone over with the person concerned in order to spend a bit of time to try and build her in but that person will have to come back to Gibraltar in a few weeks because she needs training in certain aspects of her job which will entail us manning the office with alternative members of staff, but one thing is asking somebody within the Tourist Board, "...would you go to Madrid for two weeks to fill in a post?" and one thing is to offer them to go for three months like we did try and do and nobody opted out, nobody wanted to go for three months, I can understand it. A lot of them are females they are mothers, they have got family commitments and therefore no matter what the offer is that it had to be a matter worth their while in order to make them go through such an inconvenience and hardship.

ORAL

**NO. 898 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NUMBER OF PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES IMPORTED**

What was the value and number of private motor vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers:

on a monthly basis since April 2002 inclusive?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos 899 and 900 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 899 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NUMBER OF GOODS VEHICLES IMPORTED**

What was the value and number of goods vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers;

on a monthly basis since April 2002 inclusive?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

Answered with Question Nos 898 and 900 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 900 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NUMBER OF GOODS VEHICLES IMPORTED**

With regard to the financial years 2000-2001 and 2001 - 2002, can Government say:-

- (a) how many companies purchased and registered goods vehicles in each of those years, and
- (b) how many goods vehicles were registered in that time?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The information sought in this question is too voluminous to read out in this House and the answer is being submitted to the hon Member in written format.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 898 TO 900 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No 900 of 2002, the figures supplied by the Minister for example, for the year 2000/2001 in terms of registration and purchase of goods vehicles show that there were 198 goods vehicles purchased in Gibraltar and that 249 were registered.



One figure is more than the other is it because they were from the previous financial year or what is the reason for that, why are there more registered than purchased?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I really would not know. The only thing that I can think of is that maybe the goods vehicles purchased by companies I presume maybe they purchased 198 locally and then may be they registered 249 because they actually did not buy them locally I do not know, I am happy to find this out for him and write to him on the matter or answer the question later on in this session but I am afraid I would not know.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

We would welcome an explanation either in writing or later on in this session because it does not make sense to us.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, yes absolutely.

**Answer to Question No 900 of 2002**

(a) Value And Number Of Private Motor Vehicles Imported From April – August 2002

| INDIVIDUALS   |        |                       | LICENSED DEALERS |                      |
|---------------|--------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| MONTH         | NUMBER | VALUE<br>(£ Thousand) | NUMBER           | VALUE<br>(£ MILLION) |
| <b>April</b>  | 15     | 41.3                  | 566              | 6.0                  |
| <b>May</b>    | 19     | 63.1                  | 720              | 8.4                  |
| <b>June</b>   | 16     | 42.8                  | 549              | 6.7                  |
| <b>July</b>   | 13     | 21.4                  | 741              | 8.7                  |
| <b>August</b> | 20     | 42.9                  | 506              | 5.2                  |

(b) Value And Number Of Goods Vehicles Imported From April – August 2002

No goods vehicles were imported in this period by private individuals.

|               | LICENSED DEALERS |                        |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------|
|               | Number           | Value<br>(£ thousands) |
| <b>April</b>  | -                | -                      |
| <b>May</b>    | 1                | 3                      |
| <b>June</b>   | 1                | 4                      |
| <b>July</b>   | 1                | 4                      |
| <b>August</b> | -                | -                      |

(c) Registration of Goods Vehicles 2000/2001 and 2001/2002

|                                       | <u>2000/2001</u> | <u>2001/2002</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Goods vehicles purchased by companies | 198              | 96               |
| Goods vehicles registered             | 249              | 134              |

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ORAL

**NO. 901 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**EUROPEAN INCENTIVE AND BUSINESS TRAVEL MARKET**

Can Government give the cost with a breakdown of attending the European Incentive and Business Travel Market (EITBM) in Geneva in May?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORT**

The information sought in this question is too voluminous to be read out in this House, nor would the hon Member be able to note the information given for the purposes of formulating supplementaries if it were read out. I therefore hand the hon Member a table giving the information requested.

**COSTS OF ATTENDING EXHIBITIONS**

**Answer to Question No 857 of 2002**

Seatrade Genoa –

|                          | £         |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Cost of Stand            | 13,652.00 |
| Air fares                | 2,843.60  |
| Subsistence and expenses | 3,599.12  |
|                          | —————     |
|                          | 20,094.72 |
|                          | —————     |

The delegation was made up of Messers A Poggio, J Bossino and A H Davis.

**Answer to Question No 864 of 2002**

POSIDONIA -

|                                       | £           |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Cost of Stand                         | 11,979.00   |
| Air fares                             | 1,714.20    |
| Subsistence expenses                  | 972.84      |
|                                       | <hr/>       |
|                                       | 14,666.04   |
|                                       | <hr/>       |
| Less sponsorship from Maritime sector | (12,300.04) |
|                                       | <hr/>       |
|                                       | 2,366.04    |
|                                       | <hr/>       |

**Answer to Question No 901 of 2002**

EIBTM -

|                  | £         |
|------------------|-----------|
| Cost of stand    | 37,682.96 |
| Travel and hotel | 2,123.74  |
| Literature       | 172.00    |
| Give-aways       | 838.50    |
|                  | <hr/>     |
|                  | 40,817.20 |
|                  | <hr/>     |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 857, 864 AND 901 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

With regards to the first of the three questions which the Minister answered together, No 857 of 2002, can he state what fine-tuning to the Government's short and medium term cruise strategy has now taken place as a result of attending this convention?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The convention was attended by Mr Albert Poggio, Mr Jimmy Bossino and Mr Tony Davis. The person who attended the conference itself was Mr Tony Davis. He gave me a report on his return as to what the overall market and trends were in cruising in the Mediterranean, also highlighted the need for Gibraltar to look at the improvement of its infrastructure in order to

be able to adhere to the growing sizes of ships that are due to come in to the market in the next two or three years from now and the need for us to make provisions for much bigger ships which are on the pipeline in this respect and also the need for us to be able to expand on the variety of tours that we actually have on offer in Gibraltar in order to ensure that we are able to offer a wider cross section of tours because the market is much more demanding. The idea of actually going on a rock tour is appealing but is appealing only to a sector of the market. Now they are looking for mountain climbing, scuba diving and God knows what so this is something that we are pre-warned about, we do not go to these conferences we have relationships directly with cruise operators and therefore these trends and these ways of thinking in the market is something that we are very much aware of prehand and that is why I convened a meeting of all shore excursion agents and operators and the possible tours in order for us to be able to go to Genoa with a new outlook and a new vision for Gibraltar in years to come and I think that was something that the market well received even though at the end of the day it is up to every individual and shore excursion agent in Gibraltar to sell its own wares to its principles. The Gibraltar Tourist Board can only encourage and provide and facilitate for these to happen. A particular type of tour that has been requested of us now which may seem a bit peculiar is the cigar club, people want to come and go and visit cigar clubs and smoke cigars while they are ashore. We are now looking to cigar suppliers in Gibraltar to see whether they can do something jointly in order to provide that sort of facility. So, they are targeting very, very specific needs. I have just used that as an example because that was one of the peculiar ones that Gibraltar may be able to deliver on but that was basically the thrust of the conference. One area that was obviously of great emphasis at the conference as well was the level of security in the aftermath of the 11<sup>th</sup> September. I think that this is something that every port is very conscious of and thank God that Gibraltar seems to have a good reputation for keeping a certain level of security which most operators feel comfortable with so this was another aspect that was very much at the forefront of the conference.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In terms of the level of security in the Port of Gibraltar is this something that is exclusively looked at by Gibraltar or do we take advice or any technical help from UK o on this?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The reality of the situation is that MedCruise which is an association of which we are a member of has been tasked with one of its objectives by the European Union with European Union funding in order to advise and help and assist European members' ports in order to ensure that they come up to a reasonable level. The reality is that Gibraltar Port actually levelled up quite well in the security level scale of reputation so we are proud of what we have and I think this is very much recognised in the industry. We are looking and I would like to be able to say the name but it escapes me at the moment but there is an international maritime security organisation of some nature which assists ports into looking at the structures and in fact some ports have been tasked by these people to look at them because they are in a very, very low level recognition from the point of view of port security. We have taken the initiative that some time early next year we will be carrying out with the help of this organisation a complete overview of what we have for the sake of credibility and I think it just adds recognition to the fact that we have a system in place which is recognised and

supported and has been sort of looked at by this institution which gives credibility to the whole scheme. I am afraid the exact name of the organisation escapes me.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it UK based?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes it is.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Did the convention in Genoa give an indication as to what is the trend in terms of cruises in the Mediterranean, is it sort of static or is it beginning as if it is going to start growing again or.....?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No it has very much started to grow again and in fact in the year 2003/2004 the indications are that the volumes and growths will be up. I think everybody seems to believe that that is the case but obviously with the proviso of what may develop in the months to come but the general trend and the general programming that is going in to the different ports in the Med is that the Med is going to bounce back in the year 2003/2004.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 902 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – THRESHOLD SALARIES**

Can Government state how many teachers have applied for the threshold salary and how many have been successful?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No 903 of 2002.

WRITTEN

**NO. 903 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION - THRESHOLD SALARIES**

Can Government state the amount of money that has been paid towards the threshold salaries to teachers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No 902 of 2002**

A total of 213 teachers applied for the threshold salary and were successful. Five teachers who would have been eligible to apply did not do so upon advice from their superiors. These teachers were advised to work on certain areas where they did not quite meet the standards and re-apply in the future.

**Answer to Question NO 903 of 2002**

In May 2002 £647,497.34 was paid towards the threshold salaries to teachers.



**WRITTEN**

**NO. 904 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION - NUMBER OF TEACHERS**

Can Government state how many teachers are permanent and pensionable, permanent supply, casual supply and retired status?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

There are currently 300 teachers in schools who are permanent and pensionable. There are another 23 P & P teachers at the College.

There are 24 full-time supply teachers in our schools (not counting those used for Maternity cover.)

Casual supply list : drawing on unemployed qualified teachers - 12.

The casual supply list varies but the core is made up of retired teachers – 8 in all.

There are more teachers on supply database who are only occasionally engaged.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 905 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – BEHAVIOURAL SUPPORT TEAM**

Can Government state whether the three teachers who form part of the Behavioural Support Team are over and above the existing complement of teachers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Yes.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 906 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – TRAINING SCHEME**

Can Government state whether graduate students are eligible to apply to the Training Scheme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The present policy is that graduate students are not eligible to be sponsored under the Government supported training schemes.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 907 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – NUMBER OF LECTURERS AND TEACHERS**

Can Government give this House the list of lecturers and/or teachers together with their qualifications who are currently in :

- (a) College of Further Education;
- (b) Construction and Training Centre;
- (c) Bleak House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

I do not think that it is appropriate to issue the personalised information that the hon Member seeks across the floor of the House. I will however be happy to give it to him privately.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 908 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Can Government state what is the ratio of children in the inclusion programme to classroom aides giving a breakdown by school?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 909 to 911 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 910 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION - INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Can Government state how many classroom aides are assigned to pupils who are in the inclusion programme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 908, 909 and 911 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 911 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Can Government state how many children are in mainstream schools who were from other institutions and/or units who are in the inclusion programme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No 908 of 2002**

The extensive factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule.

**Answer to Question No 909 of 2002**

The extensive factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule.

**Answer to Question No 910 of 2002**

There are 19.6 classroom aides assigned to pupils who are in the inclusion programme.

**Answer to Question No 911 of 2002**

Twenty-four children in St Martin's Special School or Special Units or Child Development Centre are now either fully or partially integrated in Mainstream Schools.

**Answer to Question No 908 of 2002**

| School                           | No of Children | No of Teachers                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Governor's Meadow                | 1              | C Teacher SENCo                  |
| Notre Dame & Nursery             | 19             | S U Teacher, SENCo & C Teacher   |
| St Bernard's First School        | 0              | -                                |
| St Joseph's & Nursery            | 6              | C Teacher, SENCo & 1 L S Teacher |
| St Mary's First                  | 1              | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| St Paul's First School & Nursery | 6              | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| Hebrew First School              | 0              | -                                |
| <b>Middle Schools</b>            |                |                                  |
| Bishop Fitzgerald                | 9              | 2 SU Teachers, SENCo, C Teacher  |
| Sacred Heart                     | 1              | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| St Anne's                        | 14             | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| St Joseph's                      | 0              |                                  |
| Hebrew                           | 0              | -                                |
| <b>Secondary Schools</b>         |                |                                  |
| Bayside                          | 15             | 1 S U Teacher, SENCo, C Teacher  |
| Westside                         | 5              | 1 S U Teacher, C Teacher         |
| <b>Special Schools</b>           |                |                                  |
| St Martin's                      | 8              | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| Gibraltar College of FE          | 1              | C Teacher, SENCo                 |
| <b>Total Number of Children</b>  | <b>86</b>      |                                  |
| <b>Ratio</b>                     | <b>1:3</b>     |                                  |



**Answer to Question No 909 of 2002**

| <b>School</b>                    | <b>No of Children</b> | <b>Classroom Aides</b>   | <b>Additional Information</b>      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>First Schools</b>             |                       |                          |                                    |
| Governor's Meadow                | 1                     | None                     |                                    |
| Notre Dame & Nursery             | 19                    | 4 full time              | 1 Nursery Nurse & 1 Classroom Aide |
| St Bernard's First School        | 0                     | None                     |                                    |
| St Joseph's Nursery              | 6                     | 1 full-time, 3 part-time | 1 Nursery Nurse & Classroom Aide   |
| St Mary's First School           | 1                     | None                     |                                    |
| St Paul's First School & Nursery | 6                     | 1 full-time, 1 part-time | 1 Nursery Nurse & 1 Classroom Aide |
| Hebrew First School              | 0                     | None                     |                                    |
| <b>Middle Schools</b>            |                       |                          |                                    |
| Bishop Fitzgerald                | 9                     | 1 full-time, 2 part-time |                                    |
| Sacred Heart                     | 1                     | 1 full-time              |                                    |
| St Anne's                        | 14                    | 1 full-time              | EBD Programme                      |
| St Joseph's                      | 0                     | None                     |                                    |
| Hebrew Primary                   | 0                     | None                     |                                    |
| <b>Secondary Schools</b>         |                       |                          |                                    |
| Bayside School                   | 15                    | 3 full-time              | 1 aide 1:1                         |
| Westside School                  | 5                     | 2 full-time              | 1 aide 1:1                         |
| <b>Special Schools</b>           |                       |                          |                                    |
| St Martin's                      | 8                     | 2 full-time              | Outreach Programme                 |
| <b>Gibraltar College of FE</b>   | 1                     | None                     |                                    |
| <b>Total No of children</b>      | <b>86</b>             |                          |                                    |
| <b>Ratio</b>                     | <b>1:4</b>            |                          |                                    |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 912 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – GCSE RESULTS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the GCSE results, per school, subject, and number of students sitting each exam with the relevant grades obtained?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 913 and 914 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 913 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION - A/S LEVEL RESULTS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the A/S results, per school, subject, and number of students sitting each exam with the relevant grades obtained?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 912 and 914 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 914 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – ‘A’ LEVEL RESULTS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the A level results, per school, subject, and number of students sitting each exam with the relevant grades obtained?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The extensive factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

**Answer to Question 912 of 2002**

**Bayside School**

**GCSE Results - 2002**

| Subject                           | A*         | A          | B          | C          | D          | E          | F         | G         | U         | %<br>A* - C Pass | No of<br>Entries |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| Art                               | 1          | 5          | 4          | 4          | 1          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 93.3             | 15               |
| Business Studies                  | 5          | 4          | 3          | 1          | 3          | 0          | 1         | 0         | 1         | 72.2             | 18               |
| Design & Tech:Graphics            | 0          | 1          | 7          | 8          | 3          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 84.2             | 19               |
| Design & Tech:Materials           | 0          | 0          | 3          | 9          | 3          | 5          | 1         | 0         | 2         | 52.2             | 23               |
| Drama & Theatre Arts              | 0          | 2          | 7          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 100.0            | 10               |
| English                           | 3          | 18         | 46         | 36         | 19         | 8          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 79.2             | 130              |
| English Literature                | 3          | 22         | 17         | 0          | 1          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 97.7             | 43               |
| French                            | 7          | 10         | 9          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 100.0            | 27               |
| Geography                         | 0          | 0          | 4          | 4          | 2          | 0          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 72.7             | 11               |
| History                           | 0          | 4          | 6          | 11         | 3          | 5          | 4         | 1         | 0         | 61.8             | 34               |
| Home Economics (Food & Nutrition) | 1          | 1          | 2          | 3          | 1          | 2          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 70.0             | 10               |
| Information Technology            | 0          | 2          | 17         | 16         | 8          | 3          | 0         | 0         | 8         | 64.8             | 54               |
| Mathematics                       | 2          | 15         | 34         | 41         | 23         | 9          | 8         | 0         | 0         | 69.7             | 132              |
| Music                             | 0          | 0          | 2          | 4          | 1          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 85.7             | 7                |
| Office Applications               | 0          | 0          | 0          | 2          | 12         | 10         | 0         | 0         | 3         | 7.4              | 27               |
| Physical Education                | 1          | 5          | 0          | 2          | 4          | 5          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 47.1             | 17               |
| Religious Studies                 | 1          | 5          | 12         | 19         | 28         | 27         | 15        | 9         | 6         | 30.3             | 122              |
| Science:Single Award              | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 8          | 10         | 7         | 3         | 0         | 9.7              | 31               |
| Science:Double Award              | 6          | 14         | 30         | 72         | 20         | 12         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 78.2             | 156              |
| Science:Biolog                    | 2          | 3          | 5          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 84.6             | 13               |
| Science:Chemistry                 | 2          | 5          | 3          | 2          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 100.0            | 12               |
| Science:Physics                   | 7          | 3          | 1          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 100.0            | 12               |
| Sociology                         | 1          | 2          | 1          | 4          | 2          | 1          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 66.7             | 12               |
| Spanish                           | 96         | 18         | 7          | 8          | 4          | 2          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 95.6             | 135              |
| <b>Totals</b>                     | <b>138</b> | <b>139</b> | <b>220</b> | <b>253</b> | <b>147</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>40</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>70.1</b>      | <b>1070</b>      |

373

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

Cont'd Answer to Question 912

**Westside School**

**GCSE Results - 2002**

| <b>Subject</b>       | <b>A*</b>  | <b>A</b>   | <b>B</b>   | <b>C</b>   | <b>D</b>   | <b>E</b>  | <b>F</b>  | <b>G</b>  | <b>U</b> | <b>%<br/>A* - C Pass</b> | <b>No of<br/>Entries</b> |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Art                  | 4          | 5          | 10         | 5          | 2          | 4         | 3         | 4         | 2        | 61.5                     | 39                       |
| Business Studies     | 6          | 5          | 4          | 5          | 18         | 6         | 7         | 0         | 1        | 38.5                     | 52                       |
| Child Development    | 2          | 4          | 3          | 19         | 5          | 5         | 3         | 1         | 1        | 65.1                     | 43                       |
| Drama                | 0          | 4          | 15         | 7          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 100.0                    | 26                       |
| Economics            | 0          | 2          | 1          | 2          | 4          | 0         | 2         | 0         | 0        | 45.5                     | 11                       |
| English              | 5          | 21         | 39         | 27         | 35         | 18        | 1         | 0         | 0        | 63.0                     | 146                      |
| English Literature   | 4          | 20         | 35         | 12         | 2          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 97.3                     | 73                       |
| French               | 4          | 15         | 15         | 3          | 1          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 97.4                     | 38                       |
| Geography            | 0          | 4          | 9          | 7          | 8          | 2         | 3         | 2         | 0        | 57.1                     | 35                       |
| History              | 5          | 11         | 15         | 13         | 6          | 1         | 3         | 0         | 1        | 80.0                     | 55                       |
| Home Economics(Food) | 0          | 0          | 2          | 11         | 1          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 86.7                     | 15                       |
| Mathematics          | 11         | 15         | 46         | 37         | 16         | 13        | 5         | 3         | 1        | 74.1                     | 147                      |
| Music                | 0          | 0          | 2          | 1          | 1          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 50.0                     | 6                        |
| Physical Education   | 0          | 3          | 5          | 5          | 2          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 81.3                     | 16                       |
| Religious Studies    | 2          | 11         | 22         | 20         | 13         | 10        | 1         | 1         | 0        | 68.8                     | 80                       |
| Science:Double Award | 14         | 24         | 24         | 46         | 16         | 4         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 84.4                     | 128                      |
| Science:Single Award | 2          | 7          | 5          | 18         | 21         | 19        | 9         | 2         | 1        | 38.1                     | 84                       |
| Spanish              | 111        | 21         | 4          | 7          | 3          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 97.3                     | 147                      |
| <b>Totals</b>        | <b>170</b> | <b>172</b> | <b>256</b> | <b>245</b> | <b>154</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>73.9</b>              | <b>1141</b>              |

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

Cont'd Answer to Question 912

**Gibraltar College of FE**

**GCSE Results - 2002**

| <b>Subject</b>   | <b>A*</b> | <b>A</b>  | <b>B</b> | <b>C</b>  | <b>D</b>  | <b>E</b>  | <b>F</b> | <b>G</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>%<br/>A*- C Pass</b> | <b>No of<br/>Entries</b> |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| English (GCE)    | 0         | 1         | 2        | 5         | 4         | 4         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 50.0                    | 16                       |
| Spanish          | 0         | 13        | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 100.0                   | 13                       |
| Italian          | 0         | 4         | 0        | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 80.0                    | 5                        |
| Mathematics      | 0         | 0         | 3        | 10        | 15        | 16        | 0        | 0        | 7        | 25.0                    | 51                       |
| Science: Biology | 0         | 0         | 1        | 1         | 3         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 25.0                    | 5                        |
| French           | 0         | 3         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 100.0                   | 3                        |
|                  |           |           |          |           |           |           |          |          |          |                         |                          |
| <b>Totals</b>    | <b>0</b>  | <b>21</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>46.0</b>             | <b>93</b>                |

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

**Answer to Question 913**

Bayside School

GCE 'AS' Level Results - Summer 2002

| <b>Subject</b>                    | <b>A</b>  | <b>B</b>  | <b>C</b>  | <b>D</b>  | <b>E</b>  | <b>No of Passes</b> | <b>U</b>  | <b>Total No of entries</b> | <b>Percentage A-E Pass</b> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Art & Design                      | 4         | 2         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 8                   | 0         | 8                          | 100                        |
| Biology                           | 5         | 2         | 2         | 4         | 7         | 20                  | 4         | 24                         | 83                         |
| Business Studies                  | 0         | 1         | 2         | 2         | 1         | 6                   | 0         | 6                          | 100                        |
| Chemistry                         | 9         | 1         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 15                  | 0         | 15                         | 100                        |
| Computing                         | 3         | 2         | 4         | 0         | 4         | 13                  | 2         | 15                         | 87                         |
| Design & Technology               | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1                   | 0         | 1                          | 100                        |
| English Literature                | 3         | 5         | 5         | 6         | 1         | 20                  | 0         | 20                         | 100                        |
| French                            | 14        | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 15                  | 0         | 15                         | 100                        |
| Geography                         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 3                   | 0         | 3                          | 100                        |
| History                           | 1         | 3         | 1         | 4         | 5         | 14                  | 0         | 14                         | 100                        |
| Mathematics (Applied)             | 5         | 4         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 12                  | 2         | 14                         | 86                         |
| Music                             | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 2                   | 0         | 2                          | 100                        |
| Physical Education/Sports Studies | 0         | 1         | 2         | 2         | 2         | 7                   | 0         | 7                          | 100                        |
| Physics                           | 9         | 2         | 1         | 3         | 3         | 18                  | 2         | 20                         | 90                         |
| Religious Studies                 | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 2                   | 0         | 2                          | 100                        |
| Sociology                         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 1         | 3                   | 1         | 4                          | 75                         |
| Spanish                           | 39        | 14        | 1         | 1         | 1         | 56                  | 1         | 57                         | 98                         |
|                                   |           |           |           |           |           |                     |           | 0                          |                            |
| <b>Totals</b>                     | <b>94</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>215</b>          | <b>12</b> | <b>227</b>                 | <b>94.7</b>                |

376



**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

**Cont'd Answer to Question 913**

Westside School

GCE 'AS' Level Results - Summer 2002

| <b>Subject</b>                    | <b>A</b>   | <b>B</b>  | <b>C</b>  | <b>D</b>  | <b>E</b>  | <b>No of Passes</b> | <b>U</b>  | <b>Total No of entries</b> | <b>Percentage Pass</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Art                               | 8          | 0         | 0         | 3         | 1         | 12                  | 0         | 12                         | 100                    |
| Biology                           | 6          | 6         | 4         | 3         | 6         | 25                  | 7         | 32                         | 78                     |
| Business Studies                  | 2          | 1         | 4         | 3         | 2         | 12                  | 2         | 14                         | 86                     |
| Chemistry                         | 5          | 3         | 0         | 2         | 1         | 11                  | 0         | 11                         | 100                    |
| Economics                         | 4          | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 7                   | 0         | 7                          | 100                    |
| English                           | 8          | 4         | 7         | 6         | 3         | 28                  | 2         | 30                         | 93                     |
| French                            | 11         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 14                  | 0         | 14                         | 100                    |
| Geography                         | 1          | 3         | 0         | 1         | 2         | 7                   | 1         | 8                          | 88                     |
| History                           | 1          | 7         | 6         | 2         | 2         | 18                  | 0         | 18                         | 100                    |
| History of Art                    | 1          | 3         | 5         | 6         | 1         | 16                  | 2         | 18                         | 89                     |
| Mathematics                       | 6          | 3         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 10                  | 0         | 10                         | 100                    |
| Physical Education/Sports Studies | 2          | 7         | 3         | 2         | 0         | 14                  | 0         | 14                         | 100                    |
| Physics                           | 4          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 7                   | 0         | 7                          | 100                    |
| Religious Studies                 | 0          | 0         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 5                   | 0         | 5                          | 100                    |
| Spanish                           | 53         | 22        | 8         | 4         | 1         | 88                  | 0         | 88                         | 100                    |
|                                   |            |           |           |           |           |                     |           | 0                          |                        |
| <b>Totals</b>                     | <b>112</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>41</b> | <b>36</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>274</b>          | <b>14</b> | <b>288</b>                 | <b>95.1</b>            |

377

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESITON 914 OF 2002**

**Cont'd Answer to Question 913**

**GIBRALTAR COLLEGE OF FE**

**GCE 'AS' Level Results - Summer 2001**

| <b>Subject</b>   | <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>C</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>E</b> | <b>No of<br/>Passes</b> | <b>U/X</b> | <b>Total No<br/>of entries</b> | <b>Percentage<br/>Pass</b> |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Spanish          | 15       | 22       | 6        | 4        | 1        | 48                      | 4          | 52                             | 92                         |
| Economics        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        | 2                       | 2          | 4                              | 50                         |
| Business Studies | 0        | 1        | 2        | 2        | 1        | 6                       | 0          | 6                              | 100                        |
| Psychology       | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        | 2                       | 4          | 6                              | 33                         |
| Totals           | 15       | 23       | 10       | 6        | 4        | 58                      | 10         | 68                             | 85                         |

378

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

**Answer to Question 914 of 2002**

Bayside School

GCE 'A' Level Results - 2002

| <b>Subject</b>      | <b>A</b>  | <b>B</b>  | <b>C</b>  | <b>D</b>  | <b>E</b>  | <b>No of Passes</b> | <b>N/0</b> | <b>U/F</b> | <b>Total No of entries</b> | <b>Percentage A-E Pass</b> |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Art & Design        | 4         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 5                   | 0          | 0          | 5                          | 100                        |
| Biology             | 2         | 5         | 2         | 2         | 2         | 13                  | 0          | 1          | 14                         | 93                         |
| Business Studies    | 0         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 5                   | 0          | 0          | 5                          | 100                        |
| Chemistry           | 3         | 1         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 9                   | 0          | 0          | 9                          | 100                        |
| Computing           | 1         | 1         | 6         | 5         | 1         | 14                  | 0          | 0          | 14                         | 100                        |
| Design & Technology | 2         | 0         | 1         | 3         | 1         | 7                   | 0          | 0          | 7                          | 100                        |
| English Literature  | 1         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 4                   | 0          | 0          | 4                          | 100                        |
| French              | 5         | 2         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 9                   | 0          | 0          | 9                          | 100                        |
| Geography           | 0         | 2         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 4                   | 0          | 0          | 4                          | 100                        |
| History             | 1         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 2                   | 0          | 0          | 2                          | 100                        |
| Mathematics         | 4         | 1         | 2         | 1         | 0         | 8                   | 0          | 0          | 8                          | 100                        |
| Music               | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 2         | 3                   | 0          | 0          | 3                          | 100                        |
| Physics             | 4         | 5         | 4         | 1         | 1         | 15                  | 0          | 0          | 15                         | 100                        |
| Psychology          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 2                   | 0          | 0          | 2                          | 100                        |
| Religious Studies   | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1                   | 0          | 0          | 1                          | 100                        |
| Sociology           | 0         | 1         | 2         | 2         | 1         | 6                   | 0          | 0          | 6                          | 100                        |
| Spanish             | 24        | 10        | 3         | 0         | 0         | 37                  | 0          | 0          | 37                         | 100                        |
| Sports Studies & PE | 1         | 0         | 2         | 1         | 1         | 5                   | 0          | 0          | 5                          | 100                        |
| <b>Totals</b>       | <b>52</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>149</b>          | <b>0</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>150</b>                 | <b>99</b>                  |

379

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 914 OF 2002**

**Cont'd Answer to Question 914**

Westside School

GCE 'A' Level Results - 2002

| <b>Subject</b>    | <b>A</b>  | <b>B</b>  | <b>C</b>  | <b>D</b>  | <b>E</b>  | <b>No of Passes</b> | <b>N/O</b> | <b>U/F</b> | <b>Total No of entries</b> | <b>Percentage Pass</b> |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Art               | 4         | 3         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 9                   | 0          | 0          | 9                          | 100                    |
| Biology           | 2         | 5         | 7         | 5         | 6         | 25                  | 0          | 1          | 26                         | 96                     |
| Business Studies  | 0         | 2         | 5         | 6         | 1         | 14                  | 0          | 3          | 17                         | 82                     |
| Chemistry         | 0         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 3                   | 0          | 2          | 5                          | 60                     |
| Economics         | 0         | 0         | 3         | 1         | 0         | 4                   | 0          | 0          | 4                          | 100                    |
| English           | 6         | 2         | 11        | 4         | 3         | 26                  | 0          | 0          | 26                         | 100                    |
| French            | 1         | 3         | 4         | 3         | 0         | 11                  | 0          | 0          | 11                         | 100                    |
| Geography         | 2         | 0         | 5         | 1         | 0         | 8                   | 0          | 0          | 8                          | 100                    |
| History           | 5         | 3         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 11                  | 0          | 0          | 11                         | 100                    |
| History of Art    | 1         | 1         | 7         | 2         | 2         | 13                  | 0          | 4          | 17                         | 76                     |
| Mathematics       | 1         | 1         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 5                   | 0          | 0          | 5                          | 100                    |
| Music             | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 2                   | 0          | 0          | 2                          | 100                    |
| Physics           | 0         | 2         | 1         | 0         | 2         | 5                   | 0          | 1          | 6                          | 83                     |
| Religious Studies | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 2                   | 0          | 0          | 2                          | 100                    |
| Spanish           | 48        | 18        | 4         | 0         | 0         | 70                  | 0          | 0          | 70                         | 100                    |
| Sports Studies/PE | 1         | 3         | 6         | 2         | 2         | 14                  | 0          | 1          | 15                         | 93                     |
| <b>Totals</b>     | <b>71</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>222</b>          | <b>0</b>   | <b>12</b>  | <b>234</b>                 | <b>95</b>              |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 915 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**WESTSIDE SCHOOL**

Can Government state whether Westside is now offering IT at GCSE level and whether IT will be offered at A/S and A level?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Yes.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 916 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – MANDATORY GRANTS**

Can Government state how many students have been awarded mandatory grants this year and what subject and institution they have chosen to study?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of 129 students have been awarded mandatory scholarships this year. The extensive, factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule.

Mandatory awards by subject 2002/2003

Answer to Question 916 of 2002

|    | <i>No of yrs</i> | <i>Subject</i>                              | <i>Qualification</i> | <i>Institution</i>                                          |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 3                | Accounting                                  | BAEcon               | University of Manchester                                    |
| 2  | 3                | Accounting & Finance                        | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                         |
| 3  | 3                | Accounting & Finance                        | BA                   | Nottingham Trent University                                 |
| 4  | 3                | Accounting & Finance                        | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                         |
| 5  | 4                | Accounting & Finance                        | BA                   | University of Leeds                                         |
| 6  | 4                | Accounting & Law                            | BA                   | Manchester University                                       |
| 7  | 4                | Aerospace Engineering                       | MEng                 | Southampton University                                      |
| 8  | 3                | Applied Community and Youth Studies         | BA(Hons)             | University of Derby                                         |
| 9  | 3                | Applied Youth & Community Studies           | BA(Hons)             | Derby University                                            |
| 10 | 3                | Architectural Technology                    | BSc                  | Leeds Metropolitan University                               |
| 11 | 3                | Architectural Technology                    | BA(Hons)             | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 12 | 4                | Art & Design                                | BA                   | London Guildhall University                                 |
| 13 | 2                | Beauty Therapy                              | HND                  | Birmingham College of Food, Tourism & Creative Studies      |
| 14 | 4                | Biomedical Sciences                         | BSc                  | Brighton University                                         |
| 15 | 2                | Business & Finance                          | HND                  | Salford University                                          |
| 16 | 4                | Business Administration and Psychology      | BA                   | Aston University                                            |
| 17 | 2                | Business and Finance                        | HND                  | Salford University                                          |
| 18 | 4                | Business and Financial Services             | BA                   | Nottingham Trent University                                 |
| 19 | 2                | Business and Marketing                      | HND                  | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 20 | 4                | Business in Europe - French Route           | BA(Hons)             | Manchester Metropolitan University                          |
| 21 | 4                | Business Information Systems                | BA(Hons)             | Nottingham Trent University                                 |
| 22 | 3                | Business Management                         | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                         |
| 23 | 2                | Business Studies                            | HND                  | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 24 | 4                | Business Studies with Marketing             | BA(Hons)             | University of Brighton                                      |
| 25 | 3                | Business Studies with Tourism               | BA                   | Canterbury Christ Church University College                 |
| 26 | 4                | Childhood Studies                           | BA(Hons)/PGCE        | University College Chichester                               |
| 27 | 3                | Christian Ministry                          | BA                   | St Martin's College                                         |
| 28 | 3                | Computer Network Management                 | BSc(Hons)            | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 29 | 3                | Computer Network Management                 | BSc                  | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 30 | 4                | Computer Science                            | BSc                  | University of Manchester Institute for Science & Technology |
| 31 | 3                | Computer Studies                            | BSc(Hons)            | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 32 | 3                | Computer Studies                            | BSc(Hons)            | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 33 | 2                | Computing                                   | HND                  | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 34 | 2                | Computing                                   | HND                  | Southampton Institute                                       |
| 35 | 2                | Computing (Business Information Technology) | HND                  | Southampton Institute                                       |

1

Cont'd ..

## Mandatory awards by subject 2002/2003

|    |   |                                             |              |                                             |
|----|---|---------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 36 | 4 | Computing and Management                    | BSc          | Loughborough University                     |
| 37 | 4 | Dance                                       | BA/PGCE      | University of Surrey, Roehampton            |
| 38 | 3 | Dance Studies with Psychology               | BA(Hons)     | University of Surrey                        |
| 39 | 2 | Dental Hygiene                              | Diploma      | Guy, Kings & St Thomas' School of Dentistry |
| 40 | 5 | Dentistry                                   | BDS          | University of Bristol                       |
| 41 | 3 | Design Studies                              | BA(Hons)     | Southampton Institute                       |
| 42 | 4 | Dietetics                                   | BSc          | Nottingham University                       |
| 43 | 3 | E-Commerce with IT                          | BSc          | Coventry University                         |
| 44 | 4 | Education and Employment & English          | BA/PGCE      | St Mary's College                           |
| 45 | 4 | Education with History                      | BA(Hons)     | University of Central England, Birmingham   |
| 46 | 4 | Engineering                                 | BEng         | Birmingham University                       |
| 47 | 4 | English                                     | BA(Hons)     | University of Leeds                         |
| 48 | 3 | English and American Literature             | BA           | University of Kent at Canterbury            |
| 49 | 4 | English and Italian                         | BA           | University of Reading                       |
| 50 | 4 | Equine Studies                              | BA           | Warwickshire College                        |
| 51 | 4 | European Legal Studies                      | LLB          | University of Kent at Canterbury            |
| 52 | 4 | Fine Arts                                   | BA           | Reading University                          |
| 53 | 1 | Foundation Studies in Art & Design          | BTEC Diploma | Loughborough University                     |
| 54 | 4 | French and Spanish                          | BA           | Cardiff University                          |
| 55 | 2 | Health Studies                              | Diploma      | Newcastle College                           |
| 56 | 4 | Industrial Design                           | BSc          | Brunel University                           |
| 57 | 2 | Information Technology                      | HND          | Kingston University                         |
| 58 | 4 | Interactive Multimedia                      | BA(Hons)     | Staffordshire University                    |
| 59 | 4 | Interactive Multimedia                      | BA           | Staffordshire University                    |
| 60 | 4 | International Management & Modern Languages | BSc(Hons)    | Bath University                             |
| 61 | 4 | Internet Computing                          | BSc          | University of Exeter                        |
| 62 | 3 | Jurisprudence                               | BA           | Oriel College, Oxford University            |
| 63 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | University College, London                  |
| 64 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | University of Surrey                        |
| 65 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | Cardiff University                          |
| 66 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | Manchester Metropolitan University          |
| 67 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | Queen Mary, University of London            |
| 68 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | Nottingham Trent University                 |
| 69 | 3 | Law                                         | LLB          | Leeds University                            |
| 70 | 4 | Law                                         | LLB          | University of Kent at Canterbury            |
| 71 | 4 | Law                                         | LLB          | University of Kent at Canterbury            |



Mandatory awards by subject 2002/2003

|     |     |                                               |               |                                                 |
|-----|-----|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 72  | 4   | Law                                           | LLB           | University of Kent at Canterbury                |
| 73  | 4   | Law                                           | LLB           | London School of Economics & Political Science  |
| 74  | 4   | Law and Accounting                            | BA            | University of Kent at Canterbury                |
| 75  | 4+1 | Law and Spanish                               | LLB           | Cardiff University                              |
| 76  | 2   | Leisure Management                            | HND           | Southampton Institute                           |
| 77  | 4   | Management and Tourism                        | BSc           | University of Surrey                            |
| 78  | 3   | Marine Biology                                | BSc           | University of Wales, Swansea                    |
| 79  | 4   | Marketing Management                          | BA(Hons)      | Manchester Metropolitan University              |
| 80  | 3   | Mathematic, Operational Research & Statistics | BSc           | Cardiff University                              |
| 81  | 4   | Mathematics                                   | BSc           | University of Leeds                             |
| 82  | 3   | Medical Science                               | BSc           | St Andrew's University                          |
| 83  | 5   | Medicine                                      | MBChB         | Manchester University                           |
| 84  | 5   | Medicine                                      | MBBS          | Kings College London                            |
| 85  | 3   | Midwifery                                     | BMid          | University of Wales, Swansea                    |
| 86  | 3   | Midwifery                                     | BMid(Hons)    | Keele University                                |
| 87  | 3   | Midwifery                                     | BSc           | University of West of England, Bristol          |
| 88  | 4   | Multimedia Technology & Design                | BSc(Hons)     | University of Kent at Canterbury                |
| 89  | 3   | Music                                         | BA            | Bath Spa University College                     |
| 90  | 4   | Music                                         | BA(Hons)/PGCE | Southampton University                          |
| 91  | 2   | Music Technology & Sound Engineering          | HND           | The People's College, Nottingham                |
| 92  | 3   | Nursing                                       | BN            | University of Wales, Swansea                    |
| 93  | 5   | Physics                                       | MPhys (Dis)   | Loughborough University                         |
| 94  | 3   | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc(Hons)     | Keele University                                |
| 95  | 3   | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc           | University of Nottingham                        |
| 96  | 3   | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc           | University of Brighton                          |
| 97  | 3   | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc(Hons)     | University of the West of England, Bristol      |
| 98  | 4   | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc           | Glasgow Caledonian University                   |
| 99  | 3   | Primary Education                             | BA(Hons)      | University College Northampton                  |
| 100 | 4   | Primary Education                             | BA            | Brighton University                             |
| 101 | 4   | Primary Education                             | BA(Hons)      | Brighton University                             |
| 102 | 4   | Primary Education                             | BA(Hons)      | Brighton University                             |
| 103 | 3   | Primary Education with QTS                    | BA(Hons)      | University College Northampton                  |
| 104 | 4   | Primary Teaching with PE                      | BA            | Brighton University                             |
| 105 | 4   | Product Design                                | BSc(Hons)     | Nottingham Trent University                     |
| 106 | 3   | Product Design                                | BA            | Nottingham Trent University                     |
| 107 | 3   | Professional Catering                         | GNVQ          | Guildford College of Further & Higher Education |

Mandatory awards by subject 2002/2003

|     |   |                                             |             |                                                    |
|-----|---|---------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 108 | 3 | Psychology                                  | BA          | Cardiff University                                 |
| 109 | 3 | Psychology                                  | BSc         | Greenwich University                               |
| 110 | 3 | Psychology                                  | BSc         | Kingston University                                |
| 111 | 3 | Psychology                                  | BSc(Hons)   | Luton University                                   |
| 112 | 3 | Psychology with Physiological Sciences      | BSc(Hons)   | Worcester College                                  |
| 113 | 3 | Public Relations & Communication            | BA(Hons)    | Southampton Institute                              |
| 114 | 3 | Sociology and History                       | BA          | Glamorgan University                               |
| 115 | 3 | Sociology with Photography                  | BA          | Sunderland University                              |
| 116 | 4 | Spanish & English                           | BA(Hons)    | University of Wales, Swansea                       |
| 117 | 3 | Sport Management & Rugby Studies            | BA          | Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College       |
| 118 | 3 | Sport Studies                               | BSc         | University College Northampton                     |
| 119 | 3 | Sports Industry Management & Tennis Studies | BA          | Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College       |
| 120 | 4 | Sports Science                              | BSc/PGCE    | Brighton University                                |
| 121 | 3 | Sports Therapy                              | BSc         | University of Hertfordshire                        |
| 122 | 3 | Television and Film Design                  | BA          | University of Lincoln                              |
| 123 | 3 | Theology                                    | BA          | University of Bristol                              |
| 124 | 3 | Theology/Politics                           | BA          | Bristol University                                 |
| 125 | 3 | Tourism Management                          | BA          | Salford University                                 |
| 126 | 2 | Travel & Tourism Management                 | HND         | Thames Valley University                           |
| 127 | 4 | Upper Primary with Physical Education       | BA          | Trinity and All Saints College                     |
| 128 | 5 | Veterinary Medicine                         | B VetMed    | The Royal Veterinary College, University of London |
| 129 | 6 | Veterinary Medicine                         | BSc BVetMed | Bristol University                                 |

Mandatory awards by institution 2002/2003

|    | <i>No of yrs</i> | <i>Subject</i>                                | <i>Qualification</i> | <i>Institution</i>                                     |
|----|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 4                | Business Administration and Psychology        | BA                   | Aston University                                       |
| 2  | 3                | Music                                         | BA                   | Bath Spa University College                            |
| 3  | 4                | International Management & Modern Languages   | BSc(Hons)            | Bath University                                        |
| 4  | 2                | Beauty Therapy                                | HND                  | Birmingham College of Food, Tourism & Creative Studies |
| 5  | 4                | Engineering                                   | BEng                 | Birmingham University                                  |
| 6  | 4                | Biomedical Sciences                           | BSc                  | Brighton University                                    |
| 7  | 4                | Primary Education                             | BA                   | Brighton University                                    |
| 8  | 4                | Primary Education                             | BA(Hons)             | Brighton University                                    |
| 9  | 4                | Primary Education                             | BA(Hons)             | Brighton University                                    |
| 10 | 4                | Primary Teaching with PE                      | BA                   | Brighton University                                    |
| 11 | 4                | Sports Science                                | BSc/PGCE             | Brighton University                                    |
| 12 | 3                | Theology/Politics                             | BA                   | Bristol University                                     |
| 13 | 6                | Veterinary Medicine                           | BSc BVetMed          | Bristol University                                     |
| 14 | 4                | Industrial Design                             | BSc                  | Brunel University                                      |
| 15 | 3                | Sport Management & Rugby Studies              | BA                   | Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College           |
| 16 | 3                | Sports Industry Management & Tennis Studies   | BA                   | Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College           |
| 17 | 3                | Business Studies with Tourism                 | BA                   | Canterbury Christ Church University College            |
| 18 | 4                | French and Spanish                            | BA                   | Cardiff University                                     |
| 19 | 3                | Law                                           | LLB                  | Cardiff University                                     |
| 20 | 4+1              | Law and Spanish                               | LLB                  | Cardiff University                                     |
| 21 | 3                | Mathematic, Operational Research & Statistics | BSc                  | Cardiff University                                     |
| 22 | 3                | Psychology                                    | BA                   | Cardiff University                                     |
| 23 | 3                | E-Commerce with IT                            | BSc                  | Coventry University                                    |
| 24 | 3                | Applied Youth & Community Studies             | BA(Hons)             | Derby University                                       |
| 25 | 3                | Sociology and History                         | BA                   | Glamorgan University                                   |
| 26 | 4                | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc                  | Glasgow Caledonian University                          |
| 27 | 3                | Psychology                                    | BSc                  | Greenwich University                                   |
| 28 | 3                | Professional Catering                         | GNVQ                 | Guildford College of Further & Higher Education        |
| 29 | 2                | Dental Hygiene                                | Diploma              | Guy, Kings & St Thomas' School of Dentistry            |
| 30 | 3                | Midwifery                                     | BMid(Hons)           | Keele University                                       |
| 31 | 3                | Physiotherapy                                 | BSc(Hons)            | Keele University                                       |
| 32 | 5                | Medicine                                      | MBBS                 | Kings College London                                   |
| 33 | 3                | Accounting & Finance                          | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                    |
| 34 | 3                | Accounting & Finance                          | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                    |
| 35 | 3                | Business Management                           | BA(Hons)             | Kingston University                                    |

Mandatory awards by institution 2002/2003

|    |   |                                    |              |                                                |
|----|---|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 36 | 2 | Information Technology             | HND          | Kingston University                            |
| 37 | 3 | Psychology                         | BSc          | Kingston University                            |
| 38 | 3 | Architectural Technology           | BSc          | Leeds Metropolitan University                  |
| 39 | 3 | Law                                | LLB          | Leeds University                               |
| 40 | 4 | Art & Design                       | BA           | London Guildhall University                    |
| 41 | 4 | Law                                | LLB          | London School of Economics & Political Science |
| 42 | 4 | Computing and Management           | BSc          | Loughborough University                        |
| 43 | 1 | Foundation Studies in Art & Design | BTEC Diploma | Loughborough University                        |
| 44 | 5 | Physics                            | MPhys (Dis)  | Loughborough University                        |
| 45 | 3 | Psychology                         | BSc(Hons)    | Luton University                               |
| 46 | 4 | Business in Europe - French Route  | BA(Hons)     | Manchester Metropolitan University             |
| 47 | 3 | Law                                | LLB          | Manchester Metropolitan University             |
| 48 | 4 | Marketing Management               | BA(Hons)     | Manchester Metropolitan University             |
| 49 | 4 | Accounting & Law                   | BA           | Manchester University                          |
| 50 | 5 | Medicine                           | MBChB        | Manchester University                          |
| 51 | 2 | Health Studies                     | Diploma      | Newcastle College                              |
| 52 | 3 | Accounting & Finance               | BA           | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 53 | 4 | Business and Financial Services    | BA           | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 54 | 4 | Business Information Systems       | BA(Hons)     | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 55 | 3 | Law                                | LLB          | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 56 | 4 | Product Design                     | BSc(Hons)    | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 57 | 3 | Product Design                     | BA           | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| 58 | 4 | Dietetics                          | BSc          | Nottingham University                          |
| 59 | 3 | Jurisprudence                      | BA           | Oriel College, Oxford University               |
| 60 | 3 | Law                                | LLB          | Queen Mary, University of London               |
| 61 | 4 | Fine Arts                          | BA           | Reading University                             |
| 62 | 2 | Business & Finance                 | HND          | Salford University                             |
| 63 | 2 | Business and Finance               | HND          | Salford University                             |
| 64 | 3 | Tourism Management                 | BA           | Salford University                             |
| 65 | 3 | Architectural Technology           | BA(Hons)     | Southampton Institute                          |
| 66 | 2 | Business and Marketing             | HND          | Southampton Institute                          |
| 67 | 2 | Business Studies                   | HND          | Southampton Institute                          |
| 68 | 3 | Computer Network Management        | BSc(Hons)    | Southampton Institute                          |
| 69 | 3 | Computer Network Management        | BSc          | Southampton Institute                          |
| 70 | 3 | Computer Studies                   | BSc(Hons)    | Southampton Institute                          |
| 71 | 3 | Computer Studies                   | BSc(Hons)    | Southampton Institute                          |

Mandatory awards by institution 2002/2003

|     |   |                                             |               |                                                    |
|-----|---|---------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 72  | 2 | Computing                                   | HND           | Southampton Institute                              |
| 73  | 2 | Computing                                   | HND           | Southampton Institute                              |
| 74  | 2 | Computing (Business Information Technology) | HND           | Southampton Institute                              |
| 75  | 3 | Design Studies                              | BA(Hons)      | Southampton Institute                              |
| 76  | 2 | Leisure Management                          | HND           | Southampton Institute                              |
| 77  | 3 | Public Relations & Communication            | BA(Hons)      | Southampton Institute                              |
| 78  | 4 | Aerospace Engineering                       | MEng          | Southampton University                             |
| 79  | 4 | Music                                       | BA(Hons)/PGCE | Southampton University                             |
| 80  | 3 | Medical Science                             | BSc           | St Andrew's University                             |
| 81  | 3 | Christian Ministry                          | BA            | St Martin's College                                |
| 82  | 4 | Education and Employment & English          | BA/PGCE       | St Mary's College                                  |
| 83  | 4 | Interactive Multimedia                      | BA(Hons)      | Staffordshire University                           |
| 84  | 4 | Interactive Multimedia                      | BA            | Staffordshire University                           |
| 85  | 3 | Sociology with Photography                  | BA            | Sunderland University                              |
| 86  | 2 | Travel & Tourism Management                 | HND           | Thames Valley University                           |
| 87  | 2 | Music Technology & Sound Engineering        | HND           | The People's College, Nottingham                   |
| 88  | 5 | Veterinary Medicine                         | BVetMed       | The Royal Veterinary College, University of London |
| 89  | 4 | Upper Primary with Physical Education       | BA            | Trinity and All Saints College                     |
| 90  | 4 | Education with History                      | BA(Hons)      | University of Central England, Birmingham          |
| 91  | 4 | Childhood Studies                           | BA(Hons)/PGCE | University College Chichester                      |
| 92  | 3 | Primary Education                           | BA(Hons)      | University College Northampton                     |
| 93  | 3 | Primary Education with QTS                  | BA(Hons)      | University College Northampton                     |
| 94  | 3 | Sport Studies                               | BSc           | University College Northampton                     |
| 95  | 3 | Law                                         | LLB           | University College, London                         |
| 96  | 4 | Business Studies with Marketing             | BA(Hons)      | University of Brighton                             |
| 97  | 3 | Physiotherapy                               | BSc           | University of Brighton                             |
| 98  | 5 | Dentistry                                   | BDS           | University of Bristol                              |
| 99  | 3 | Theology                                    | BA            | University of Bristol                              |
| 100 | 3 | Applied Community and Youth Studies         | BA(Hons)      | University of Derby                                |
| 101 | 4 | Internet Computing                          | BSc           | University of Exeter                               |
| 102 | 3 | Sports Therapy                              | BSc           | University of Hertfordshire                        |
| 103 | 3 | English and American Literature             | BA            | University of Kent at Canterbury                   |
| 104 | 4 | European Legal Studies                      | LLB           | University of Kent at Canterbury                   |
| 105 | 4 | Law                                         | LLB           | University of Kent at Canterbury                   |
| 106 | 4 | Law                                         | LLB           | University of Kent at Canterbury                   |
| 107 | 4 | Law                                         | LLB           | University of Kent at Canterbury                   |

Mandatory awards by institution 2002/2003

|     |   |                                        |           |                                                             |
|-----|---|----------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 108 | 4 | Law and Accounting                     | BA        | University of Kent at Canterbury                            |
| 109 | 4 | Multimedia Technology & Design         | BSc(Hons) | University of Kent at Canterbury                            |
| 110 | 4 | Accounting & Finance                   | BA        | University of Leeds                                         |
| 111 | 4 | English                                | BA(Hons)  | University of Leeds                                         |
| 112 | 4 | Mathematics                            | BSc       | University of Leeds                                         |
| 113 | 3 | Television and Film Design             | BA        | University of Lincoln                                       |
| 114 | 3 | Accounting                             | BAEcon    | University of Manchester                                    |
| 115 | 4 | Computer Science                       | BSc       | University of Manchester Institute for Science & Technology |
| 116 | 3 | Physiotherapy                          | BSc       | University of Nottingham                                    |
| 117 | 4 | English and Italian                    | BA        | University of Reading                                       |
| 118 | 3 | Dance Studies with Psychology          | BA(Hons)  | University of Surrey                                        |
| 119 | 3 | Law                                    | LLB       | University of Surrey                                        |
| 120 | 4 | Management and Tourism                 | BSc       | University of Surrey                                        |
| 121 | 4 | Dance                                  | BA/PGCE   | University of Surrey, Roehampton                            |
| 122 | 3 | Physiotherapy                          | BSc(Hons) | University of the West of England, Bristol                  |
| 123 | 3 | Marine Biology                         | BSc       | University of Wales, Swansea                                |
| 124 | 3 | Midwifery                              | BMid      | University of Wales, Swansea                                |
| 125 | 3 | Nursing                                | BN        | University of Wales, Swansea                                |
| 126 | 4 | Spanish & English                      | BA(Hons)  | University of Wales, Swansea                                |
| 127 | 3 | Midwifery                              | BSc       | University of West of England, Bristol                      |
| 128 | 4 | Equine Studies                         | BA        | Warwickshire College                                        |
| 129 | 3 | Psychology with Physiological Sciences | BSc(Hons) | Worcester College                                           |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 917 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**

Can Government state how many students have been awarded discretionary grants this year and what subject and institution they have chosen to study?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of 44 students have been awarded discretionary grants this year. The extensive, factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 917 OF 2002****Discretionary awards by institution 2002/2003**

|    | <i>No of yrs</i> | <i>Subject</i>                      | <i>Qualification</i> | <i>Institution</i>                          |
|----|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 1                | Law                                 | Diploma              | BPP Law School                              |
| 2  | 2                | Law                                 | CPE/Pg DL & LPC      | BPP Law School, London                      |
| 3  | 2                | Business & Marketing                | HND                  | Brighton University                         |
| 4  | 1                | Dance                               | PGCE                 | Brighton University                         |
| 5  | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christ Church College            |
| 6  | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christ Church University College |
| 7  | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christchurch University College  |
| 8  | 2                | CPE/Diploma in Law                  | CPE/Pgd Dip Law      | City University London                      |
| 9  | 1                | Conservative Dentistry              | MSc                  | Eastman Dental Institute                    |
| 10 | 2                | Dietetics                           | Postgraduate Diploma | Glasgow Caledonian University               |
| 11 | 3                | Optometry                           | BSc(Hons)            | Glasgow Caledonian University               |
| 12 | 2                | Social Work                         | Diploma              | Glasgow Caledonian University               |
| 13 | 2                | Child Care and Education Course     | CACHE Diploma        | Grantham College                            |
| 14 | 1                | Strategic Marketing                 | MA                   | Greenwich University                        |
| 15 | 1                | Catering                            | NVQ Level 2          | Guildford College                           |
| 16 | 2                | Travel & Tourism Management         | HND                  | Guildford College                           |
| 17 | 2                | Social Work                         | MA/DipSW             | Keele University                            |
| 18 | 1                | Forensic Science                    | MSc                  | King's College London                       |
| 19 | 1                | Business Studies                    | PGCE                 | Kingston University                         |
| 20 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Kingston University                         |
| 21 | 1                | Law                                 | Graduate Diploma     | Kingston University                         |
| 22 | 1                | Law                                 | Diploma              | London Guildhall University                 |
| 23 | 1                | International Business & Management | MSc                  | Manchester School of Management             |
| 24 | 2                | Music Technology & Industry         | BND                  | New College Nottingham                      |
| 25 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Nottingham Trent University                 |
| 26 | 1                | Writing                             | MA                   | Nottingham Trent University                 |
| 27 | 3                | Bio-Medical Optics (Physics)        | PhD                  | Nottingham University                       |
| 28 | 2                | Law                                 | MSc                  | Oxford University                           |
| 29 | 3                | Education                           | BA                   | Plymouth University                         |



**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 917 OF 2002**

Discretionary awards by institution 2002/2003

|    |   |                                |           |                                          |
|----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| 30 | 1 | Critical Care                  | BMedSci   | Sheffield University                     |
| 31 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | St Mary's College                        |
| 32 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | St Mary's College                        |
| 33 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | St Mary's College                        |
| 34 | 2 | Law                            | PGDL      | The College of Law                       |
| 35 | 1 | English                        | PGCE      | University of Leeds                      |
| 36 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | University of North London               |
| 37 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | University of North London               |
| 38 | 1 | Information Technology         | PGCE      | University of Southampton                |
| 39 | 1 | Integrated Product Development | MSc       | University of Strathclyde                |
| 40 | 2 | Nutritional Medicine           | MSc       | University of Surrey, Guildford          |
| 41 | 5 | Medicine                       | MBChB     | University of Wales Cardiff              |
| 42 | 2 | Physiotherapy                  | BSc(Hons) | University of Wales College of Medicine  |
| 43 | 1 | Education                      | PGCE      | University of Wales Institute of Cardiff |
| 44 | 1 | Environmental Biology          | MSc       | University of Wales, Swansea             |

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 917 OF 2002****Discretionary awards by subject 2002/2002**

|    | <b>No of yrs</b> | <b>Subject</b>                      | <b>Qualification</b> | <b>Institution</b>                          |
|----|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 3                | Bio-Medical Optics (Physics)        | PhD                  | Nottingham University                       |
| 2  | 2                | Business & Marketing                | HND                  | Brighton University                         |
| 3  | 1                | Business Studies                    | PGCE                 | Kingston University                         |
| 4  | 1                | Catering                            | NVQ Level 2          | Guildford College                           |
| 5  | 2                | Child Care and Education Course     | CACHE Diploma        | Grantham College                            |
| 6  | 1                | Conservative Dentistry              | MSc                  | Eastman Dental Institute                    |
| 7  | 2                | CPE/Diploma in Law                  | CPE/Pgd Dip Law      | City University London                      |
| 8  | 1                | Critical Care                       | BMedSci              | Sheffield University                        |
| 9  | 1                | Dance                               | PGCE                 | Brighton University                         |
| 10 | 2                | Dietetics                           | Postgraduate Diploma | Glasgow Caledonian University               |
| 11 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | University of Wales Institute of Cardiff    |
| 12 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christchurch University College  |
| 13 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | University of North London                  |
| 14 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | University of North London                  |
| 15 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christ Church University College |
| 16 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Nottingham Trent University                 |
| 17 | 3                | Education                           | BA                   | Plymouth University                         |
| 18 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Kingston University                         |
| 19 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | St Mary's College                           |
| 20 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | Canterbury Christ Church College            |
| 21 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | St Mary's College                           |
| 22 | 1                | Education                           | PGCE                 | St Mary's College                           |
| 23 | 1                | English                             | PGCE                 | University of Leeds                         |
| 24 | 1                | Environmental Biology               | MSc                  | University of Wales, Swansea                |
| 25 | 1                | Forensic Science                    | MSc                  | King's College London                       |
| 26 | 1                | Information Technology              | PGCE                 | University of Southampton                   |
| 27 | 1                | Integrated Product Development      | MSc                  | University of Strathclyde                   |
| 28 | 1                | International Business & Management | MSc                  | Manchester School of Management             |
| 29 | 1                | Law                                 | Graduate Diploma     | Kingston University                         |
| 30 | 2                | Law                                 | PGDL                 | The College of Law                          |
| 31 | 2                | Law                                 | MSc                  | Oxford University                           |

**CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 917 OF 2002**

**Discretionary awards by subject 2002/2002**

|    |   |                             |                 |                                         |
|----|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 32 | 1 | Law                         | Diploma         | BPP Law School                          |
| 33 | 2 | Law                         | CPE/Pg DL & LPC | BPP Law School, London                  |
| 34 | 1 | Law                         | Diploma         | London Guildhall University             |
| 35 | 5 | Medicine                    | MBChB           | University of Wales Cardiff             |
| 36 | 2 | Music Technology & Industry | BND             | New College Nottingham                  |
| 37 | 2 | Nutritional Medicine        | MSc             | University of Surrey, Guildford         |
| 38 | 3 | Optometry                   | BSc(Hons)       | Glasgow Caledonian University           |
| 39 | 2 | Physiotherapy               | BSc(Hons)       | University of Wales College of Medicine |
| 40 | 2 | Social Work                 | MA/DipSW        | Keele University                        |
| 41 | 2 | Social Work                 | Diploma         | Glasgow Caledonian University           |
| 42 | 1 | Strategic Marketing         | MA              | Greenwich University                    |
| 43 | 2 | Travel & Tourism Management | HND             | Guildford College                       |
| 44 | 1 | Writing                     | MA              | Nottingham Trent University             |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 918 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**CHANGE OF SCHOOL HOURS**

Can Government state whether all the works related to the change of school hours are now complete?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 925 and 934 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 919 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**POST – 16 EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Can the Minister for Education say if the committee he formed to look into the provision of post-16 education in Gibraltar is still at the exploratory stage?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Post-16 education committee is still at a consultative stage.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 920 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**E-COMMERCE TRAINING**

Can Government state whether the apprenticeship programme to equip local people with modern skills within the E-commerce field will commence in the current year or is it still at the 'considering' stage?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

It is the intention to commence this programme under the current year.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 921 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**NVQ COURSES**

Can Government state how many out of the 21 trainees who completed NVQ's at the Construction and Training Centre have secured employment in their respective trades, have done so in Government, GJBS and private sector?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The information requested is as follows:-

| <b>Location</b>                       | <b>Number of Trainees</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Buildings and Works                   | 6                         |
| GJBS Ltd                              | 7                         |
| Private Sector                        | 4                         |
| <b>In Addition</b>                    |                           |
| MOD                                   | 1                         |
| Milbury Care (Social Services Agency) | 1                         |
| Unemployed                            | 2                         |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>21</b>                 |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 922 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – SCHOOL SECRETARIES**

Can Government state whether they will be employing full-time secretaries for each school for the year 2003/2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Department of Education will soon be employing additional school secretaries to provide for each school daily secretarial help, in most cases full-time, in some cases during morning sessions.



**WRITTEN**

**NO. 923 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – SCHOOL CLEANERS**

Can Government state whether all vacancies for school cleaners have been filled?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

There are currently 5 vacancies for school cleaners. One post is for 39 hours a week and became vacant on the promotion of the holder to caretaker. Additionally four 20 hour cleaner jobs became available on the retirement or resignation of the holders. All of these posts are being covered with supply cleaners, as is the norm in these cases.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 924 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL**

Is it still Government's aspiration to move St Mary's schools to the Westside Area?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

It is Government's intention to build a First School/Middle School complex in the proximity of Westside area. This may entail the move of St Mary's School to that complex.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 925 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**BAYSIDE SCHOOL**

Can Government state whether the two storey building on the site of the portakabins in Bayside School is now complete?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 918 and 934 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 926 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – SCHOOL STATIONERY**

Can Government state whether schools are now paying the same amount of money they used to pay for stationary and other resources when they ordered directly from catalogues since the new Government policy of local buying was introduced?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

It is more expensive buying locally. Last year we compensated to the schools by funding over and above the normal capitation and presently the whole issue and the procurement procedure involved are under consideration by Government.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 927 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – SCHOOLS CAPITATION**

Can Government state whether schools capitation has changed from last year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The schools capitation has been increased by 3 per cent.

WRITTEN

NO. 928 OF 2002

THE HON S E LINARES

**SCHOOL MEALS**

Can Government state how many children are staying for lunch giving a breakdown per school compared with the amount of children in the school roll?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

The information requested is as follows:-

| <b>School</b>                   | <b>Children Staying for Lunch</b> | <b>Numbers on Roll</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Bayside</b>                  | 848                               | 973                    |
| <b>Westside</b>                 | 564                               | 940                    |
| <b>Sacred Heart Middle</b>      | 259                               | 295                    |
| <b>St Joseph's Middle</b>       | 314                               | 340                    |
| <b>St Anne's Middle</b>         | 415                               | 445                    |
| <b>Bishop Fitzgerald Middle</b> | 347                               | 485                    |
| <b>Hebrew Primary</b>           | 30                                | 63                     |
| <b>Notre Dame First</b>         | 232                               | 245                    |
| <b>St Paul's First</b>          | 244                               | 270                    |
| <b>St Mary's First</b>          | 153                               | 159                    |
| <b>St Joseph's First</b>        | 296                               | 315                    |
| <b>St Bernard's First</b>       | 110                               | 121                    |
| <b>Governor's Meadow</b>        | 279                               | 324                    |

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 929 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**NURSERIES**

Can Government state whether the legislation to regulate nurseries was in the agenda in the last meeting of the Council Ministers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

I do not think it is proper for me to divulge what is actually included in the agenda of any particular meeting of the Council of Ministers. What I can assure the hon Member is that the legislation on nurseries is ready to be considered by the Council of Ministers.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 930 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**TRUANT CHILDREN**

Can the Minister for Education state at what stage he is in, in order to present to this House the legislation on truant children?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The legislation to deter truancy is now at an advanced stage. At the last meeting of the steering committee on the issue, the final wording was being discussed, the amount of the fines was being updated, and more important still, new creative attempts were being made to support families with preventive measures such as Education Supervision Orders.



**WRITTEN**

**NO. 931 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL**

Can Government state whether St Martin's school playground has been resurfaced and the playground equipment installed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

As stated in my answer to Question No 536 of 2002 the playground in St Martin's School will be resurfaced in the course of this financial year and the playground equipment will be installed.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 932 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**BISHOP FITZGERALD SCHOOL**

Can Government state what provisions have been made at Bishop Fitzgerald School to accommodate the increase of children at years 4 and 5?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The increase in the number of children at the school created a need for additional classroom space. This we met through the installation of two portakabins which are purpose-built, fully fitted classrooms. Additionally, we have overcome the need for greater playground space by using the Queensway tennis courts which are directly adjacent to the school building. These courts are secure because they are fenced in and furthermore there is direct access from the school via a gate.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 933 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**ST PAUL'S SCHOOL**

Can Government state whether the costing to build a dining hall at St Paul's has been made and whether this building will be in place for the next academic year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The position with regard to the dining hall at St Paul's School has not changed since I answered Question No 525 of 2002.

WRITTEN

**NO. 934 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**WESTSIDE SCHOOL**

Can Government confirm whether the hall that was being constructed at the western end of Westside School is now complete?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No 918 of 2002**

Most of the works related to the change of school hours have now been completed. A couple of minor items remain pending.

**Answer to Question No 925 of 2002**

This building is indeed complete to all intents and purposes. All that remains outstanding is the construction of a cover for the stairs leading to the first floor. This cover is actually currently being built at the GJBS workshops.

**Answer to Question No 934 of 2002**

The Westside School Hall is practically complete. The installation of a lift is the only outstanding item but the Spanish firm supplying this item has the matter in hand.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 935 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Can Government state whether the Arts Advisory Council has met this Millennium and especially since I posed this question, in its new format, that is, with representatives from different associations as mentioned in answer to a previous question?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

In a previous answer to Question No 507 of 2002, I replied, at the time, that the Arts Advisory Council had last met in 1999. I further added that it was my intention to convene the said Council, once the latter body had been duly reconstituted by appointing representatives of the associations which have been created in recent years in many areas of the Arts in Gibraltar. However, during the summer months it has proved difficult to contact all the relevant organisations to appoint a representative. We are hopeful that this will happen in the near future. I can also add that during the past millenium the Arts Advisory Council which was constituted in 1986 met 5 times during the period 1998 to 1999 but have not met during the period 1988 to 1996.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 936 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**CULTURAL GRANTS**

Can Government give a list of criteria used for the awarding of Cultural Grants?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 937 and 938 of 2002.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 937 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**CULTURAL GRANTS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the cultural grants awarded, groups applying and amount given to each group?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No 936 and 938 of 2002.

**NO. 938 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**CULTURAL GRANTS**

Can Government explain why the applications for Cultural Grants were released in August as opposed to June/July as has been the norm for several years?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No 936 of 2002**

All associations, groups and individuals applying to be considered for a cultural grant must provide the following information to the Committee:-

- (a) Amount applied together with specific purposes for the use of the grant.
- (b) Numbers of members (if any) and rates of subscriptions paid (if any).
- (c) Amount of financial assistance and sponsorship from all other sources.
- (d) A formal audited statement of accounts from the preceding year.
- (e) Credentials as to the cultural objectives of the applicants.

Furthermore, all applicants are provided with a set of guidelines.



**Answer to Question No 937 of 2002**

The following is a breakdown of the cultural grants awarded up to the present:

|                                                  |   | £     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Gibraltar Amateur Drama Association              | - | 300   |
| Rooke Volunteer Band                             | - | 1000  |
| Rock on the Rock Club                            | - | 500   |
| Just in time Band                                | - | 750   |
| Clive Lavagña Exhibition                         | - | 500   |
| Gibraltar National Dance Organisation            | - | 3,000 |
| Gibraltar Photographic Society                   | - | 800   |
| Gibraltar Academy of Dance                       | - | 500   |
| Tarik Modern Theatre Dance Company               | - | 300   |
| Gibraltar Bird Breeders Association              | - | 250   |
| Catholic Community Centre Sequence Dance Club    | - | 500   |
| Leit Motif Dance Troupe                          | - | 500   |
| Fine Arts Association                            | - | 1,500 |
| Gibraltar Live Music Society                     | - | 1,000 |
| Rumores Dance Group                              | - | 500   |
| Stage One                                        | - | 100   |
| The Arts Centre                                  | - | 700   |
| Metior Saxum (Flat Bastion Road Magazine Project | - | 500   |
| The New Gibraltar Music Centre                   | - | 5,000 |

### **Answer to Question No 938 of 2002**

This year's Official Notice inviting applications for Cultural Grants was issued only two weeks later than is usually the norm. Nevertheless, the Committee was, in fact, able to meet earlier than in other years in order to consider applications.

### **Answer to Question No 936 of 2002**

## **GUIDELINE FOR APPLICATION FOR CULTURAL GRANTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The guidelines have been prepared in order to offer applicants some advice before they submit their applications. It is not an inflexible document, but it aims to reflect the general attitude of the Cultural Grants Committee as evolved over the years.

1. The Committee will rarely consider applications from bodies whose activities would not normally be considered to have a cultural base.
2. Projects which are clearly set out and afford comprehensive information to the committee are more likely to be considered favourably.
3. It is a requirement that the applicant give clear evidence of the financial position of the body they represent, through a detailed statement of accounts, and where a grant was obtained in the previous year, an indication of how the money was spent would be expected.
4. Although it is very laudable that proceeds derived from concerts et cetera should be donated to charities, groups, should nevertheless, in the first instance, consider their own commitments and requirements before disbursing all their funds.

Furthermore, where proceeds have been donated, the amounts given should be specified together with the name of recipient(s).

5. Where the applicant represents a body in which formal tuition is being offered, it is expected that information would be given regarding the professional qualifications of the tutor(s) concerned.
6. Preference will be shown by the committee for those associations which finance their projects through subscriptions and fund-raising.
7. The committee will not normally consider awarding grants for the maintenance and repair of premises; grants in the main will be approved for projects which involve cultural activities in the community.

8. Where request for money is in connection with a visit abroad, the following guidelines apply:

**(a) Competitive Events Abroad**

- (i) The committee expects information in advance about the competition, in particular at what standard it operates (eg National Youth Drama Festival, Eistedfodd, et cetera) and whether the group is representing Gibraltar at club or national level.
- (ii) When representation of Gibraltar is involved at national level the committee requires the group to have reached national status through a process of selection undertaken locally.

**(b) Non-competitive events abroad**

The committee feels that this kind of activity should receive lower priority, although it would consider financing areas not directly involved with the actual event (eg purchase of scores, or equipment which will remain in the possession of the group after the event).

9. Preference will be shown for projects which have an educational value and/or involve youth. It is expected that some of these projects will involve the community and have an environmental bearing.

10. When a project involves substantial amount of money it is unlikely that the committee will commit itself to financing it totally: a phased contribution can be entered into, on the understanding that each year the matter would have to be reassessed.

11. In general, the committee prefers to allocate money for items which can remain a permanent asset to the group (eg scores, stage flats, equipment) rather than for expendable items (eg printing of posters or programmes).

12. In recent years applications have been made of a semi-professional nature, often requiring substantial sums of money to be spent abroad. While not wanting to dissuade people with professional aspirations, the committee feels that the limited funds available should be allocated to local projects which benefit the community.

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 939 OF 2002**

**HON S E LINARES**

**GOLDEN JUBILEE ORGANISERS**

Can Government state whether the Ministry of Culture or any other Ministry was approached by the Golden Jubilee Organisers to have a representation of Gibraltar in the Street Party held at the Mall on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No 940 of 2002.

WRITTEN

**NO. 940 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**GOLDEN JUBILEE ORGANISERS**

Can Government state whether the Department of Education was invited by the Golden Jubilee Organisers for our local schools to be included in the Rainbow Arches which was made up of messages from the children from the Commonwealth?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No 939 of 2002**

The Ministry of Culture was never approached by the organisers of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations to have any kind of representation by Gibraltar in the Street Party held at the Mall on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2002.

**Answer to Question No 940 of 2002**

I can confirm that the Department of Education was not invited by the Golden Jubilee Organisers for our local schools to be included in the Rainbow Arches made up of messages from children of the Commonwealth.

WRITTEN

NO. 941 OF 2002

THE HON S E LINARES

**GIBRALTAR DANCE ASSOCIATION**

Can Government state what groups compose the Gibraltar Dance Association?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

The Gibraltar Dance Association is a body independent of Government but I am informed by the President of the Gibraltar Dance Association that the following groups are presently members of the Association:

Catholic Community Centre Sequence Dance Club  
Danza Academy  
Danza del Sur  
Danza Lara  
DSA Sequence Dance Club  
Gibraltar Academy of Dance  
Gibraltar School of Ballet  
Pointes Dance Company  
Pointes Tap Company  
Revelations Dance Company  
Rock Liners  
Rumores Dance Group  
Tarik ModernTheatre Dance Company  
Vicente y Los Salineros

**WRITTEN**

**NO. 942 OF 2002**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**DRAMA FESTIVAL**

Can Government state why the Drama Festival was not staged again last year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The hon Member is clearly mistaken. Last year's Gibraltar Annual Drama Festival was, in fact, actually held from 26 to 29 March 2001.

WRITTEN

NO. 943 OF 2002

THE HON S E LINARES

**GIBRALTAR DRAMA ASSOCIATION**

Can Government state what groups compose the Gibraltar Drama Association?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

Once again I have to make clear that the Gibraltar Drama Association is a voluntary organisation independent of Government. I am informed by the President of the Gibraltar Amateur Drama Association that the following groups presently compose the Gibraltar Drama Association:

Anouilh Players  
BUDS  
Group 70  
Royal Gibraltar Regiment Drama Group  
Spotlight Drama Group  
Stage Musicals Group  
Trafalgar Theatre Group  
Westside Drama Group.



ORAL

**NO. 944 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the total number of prescriptions issued, the number of items and the cost of the medicines covered by such prescriptions under the GPMS for the accounting periods in respect of 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 945 and 946 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 945 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS**

Can Government state the total number of prescriptions issued, the number of items, and the cost of the medicines covered by the GPMS prescriptions for accounting periods 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of 2002, in respect of which £2.50 per item was paid by patients to dispensing pharmacists and the total value of the medicines so dispensed and the comparable figures for the previous year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 944 and 946 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 946 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PRESCRIPTION CHARGES**

Can Government state how much extra revenue the Gibraltar Health Authority has raised from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the end of September 2002, as a result of their policy to increase prescription charges?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule which is attached.

**Answer to Question No 944 of 2002**

| <b>PERIOD</b>  | <b>13</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>2</b>         | <b>3</b>         | <b>4</b>         | <b>5</b>         |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Scripts</b> | 15,134            | 11,524           | 12,014           | 11,300           | 11,988           | 10,878           |
| <b>Items</b>   | 48,417            | 37,841           | 38,704           | 37,626           | 38,418           | 35,273           |
| <b>Cost</b>    | <b>£70,010.17</b> | <b>54,721.68</b> | <b>57,199.61</b> | <b>55,750.27</b> | <b>56,903.48</b> | <b>51,430.59</b> |

Please note Period 13 has 5 weeks instead of the usual 4 weeks and Period 5 is incomplete.

**Answer to Question No 945 of 2002**

|                | 2001/2002          | 2002/2003          | 2002/2003          | 2002/2003          | 2002/2003          | 2002/2003          |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>PERIOD</b>  | 13                 | 1                  | 2                  | 3                  | 4                  | 5                  |
| <b>Scripts</b> | 6,793              | 5,224              | 5,510              | 4,949              | 5,320              | 4,797              |
| <b>Items</b>   | 15,675             | 12,159             | 12,707             | 11,877             | 12,258             | 11,155             |
| <b>Cost</b>    | <b>£196,550.30</b> | <b>£150,666.30</b> | <b>£161,777.65</b> | <b>£154,748.19</b> | <b>£155,616.99</b> | <b>£141,917.48</b> |

Please note Period 13 has 5 weeks instead of the usual 4 weeks and Period 5 is incomplete.

|                | 2000/2001          | 2001/2002          | 2001/2002          | 2001/2002          | 2001/2002          | 2001/2002          |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>PERIOD</b>  | 13                 | 1                  | 2                  | 3                  | 4                  | 5                  |
| <b>Scripts</b> | 5,669              | 5,429              | 5,566              | 5,701              | 5,425              | 5,110              |
| <b>Items</b>   | 12,290             | 11,941             | 12,092             | 12,852             | 12,107             | 11,162             |
| <b>Cost</b>    | <b>£133,626.18</b> | <b>£133,411.73</b> | <b>£129,519.22</b> | <b>£145,203.76</b> | <b>£138,939.48</b> | <b>£127,576.27</b> |

As stated previously the total value of the £2.50 medicines is not independently calculated.

**Answer to Question No 946 of 2002**

Period 1 starts w/e 7.4.02 to period 7 week 2 (29.9.02)

Revenue raised for periods 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 2 weeks of period 7

$$58,147 \text{ items @ } £2.50 = £145,367.50$$

Before increase in prescription charges

Revenue raised would be 71,826 items @ £1.20 = £86,191.20

Also approximately 66 per cent of 151,911 items would have paid

20p = £20,052.20

Total revenue that would have been raised would have been 106,243.40

Therefore extra revenue raised would be £39,124.10

Period 5, 6, and 7 week 1 and 2 incomplete.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 944, 945, AND 946 OF 2002**

##### **HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister say whether the actual revenue that the Health Authority is raising is less now than it was, for example, when he answered Question No 561 of 2002 and in November when he answered Question No 199 of 2000 when he said that the revenue raised for the same period in question was £79,000 and now I believe that when he talks about the revenue that has been raised, because the table says, for example, revenue raised from period so and so, before increase revenue raised would have been so much. The total revenue raised would have been so much and then the next figure says, therefore extra revenue raised would be £39,124, am I correct in assuming that because of the increase the extra, the net, the notional figure that would have been raised would have been £39,000 because if that is so it means that the first time that I asked the question which was for exactly the same period the figure given to me was £79,000?

##### **HON DR B A LINARES:**

The answer to Question No 561 of 2002 was over a period of two periods, periods 11 and 12 and the extra revenue then was £16,374, that was for two months. This time we are talking about 6 months increase in revenue and if one multiplies the £16,000 odd by 3 that would be £48,000 so the increase in revenue has dropped somewhat over the last six periods.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore, if the Minister is confirming what I am assuming does that mean that there are more items of prescriptions being charged because I am sure that the medicines have not gone up as the Minister confirmed during the budget time?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I would have to make a much closer analysis of all these figures to come up with those conclusions. This is an overall assessment that I have just given that the increase in revenue of £40,000 nearly this time compares more or less with the £16,000 over periods 11 and 12 last time.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am going back as far as the first time that I asked the Minister this question which was Question No 199 of 2000 where I was given that for the same period, 1 to 8, the estimated figure was just under £79,000 and there is quite a substantial difference from the figures that I am now being given for the same period.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

That was the increase of revenue was it?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The revenue raised from period 1 to 8 is estimated to be in the region of just under £79,000 and I was wanting to bring it to the attention of the Minister because we are talking now about the same period in question and there is a substantial difference in the figures.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Is the hon Member speaking about the total revenue raised or the increase in revenue? The increase in revenue given the increase in rate compared with the £1.20 and 20p that was charged before I thought the question the hon Lady asked was, "is there an increase in revenue after we raised the rates to £2.50 as opposed to £1.20 before."

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

No, that is why I am putting it to the Minister because the question was phrased, "the extra revenue as a result of their policy to increase," the extra revenue, and therefore that is why I was bringing it to the attention of the Minister.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I will analyse the figures to see whether we can make a relativity and comparison which is valid and not just off the cuff.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The reason for increasing prescriptions, the Minister and the Government at the time said was one of the main reasons was aimed at eliminating what he termed as certain abuses by the general public, has the Minister now any evidence that the measure has produced the Government's desired result?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

There is a question further on precisely about whether the new rates have led to an increase in the number of items over the £7.50 in the prescriptions, perhaps we can deal with that later on because I have figures for the hon Lady in that respect.

May I point out very briefly that I am still confused over the presentation of Question No 945 of 2002 where the hon Lady still seeks to know the cost of medicines in respect of which £2.50 per item is paid. I have pointed that out before, it is impossible to actually focus on the £2.50. If what she means is the total revenue of paying prescriptions that is the figure that I have given.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I was a bit confused as well because when I looked up Hansard because I always do before I actually write down my questions the Minister said exactly the same thing as he has said except that he referred to Question No 567 of 2002 and when I looked at No 567 of 2002 it had nothing to do with the prescriptions, it has to do with the attendances at the Health Centre and therefore I was not sure of what he was meaning?

**NO. 947 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA - NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS**

Can Government confirm why the number of prescriptions that have been issued since 13<sup>th</sup> December 1999, with more than three items and paying a total of £7.50 are not able to be collated by the Gibraltar Health Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Prescription Pricing Advisory Unit advise me that the number of prescriptions is not a relevant statistic. Whether the number of prescriptions has gone up or down will depend very much on the number of patients seeking consultation with the doctors et cetera. What the relevant statistic is and we do have it and I will pass it on to the hon Lady in a moment because I am sure her interest in the matter is the same as mine to know whether after we capped the prices of prescription at £7.50 the number of items over and above the three items costing £7.50 has gone up or down which is relevant to the supplementary she was asking a moment ago. So really with respect I think the hon Lady or both of us are asking the wrong question. It is not so much the number of prescriptions but the number of items over and above the £7.50, that is indicative that would be a significant and indicative factor and I have a paper here which shows that from last year to this year there has been a slight increase of non-paying items, that is those above the £7.50, from £22,289 to £28,343 and this year up-to-date it is £14,208 so in over 6 months it compares with the £28,000 of last year. So that should be of interest to both of us in keeping tabs on exactly what has been the effective result of the capping of prescriptions but with respect I do not think the relevant figure is the number of prescriptions which is open to all sorts of factors in terms flu epidemics and all sorts of things but actually the number of items which people feel freer now to access because they do not have to pay the full whack.



**Answer to Question No 947 of 2002**

| <b><u>Year</u></b> | <b><u>White Paid Items</u></b> | <b><u>Non Paying Items</u></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2000/2001          | 129,118                        | 22,289                         |
| 2001/2002          | 133,856                        | 28,343                         |
| 2002/2003          | 59,980                         | 14,208                         |

Please note that not all items come from scripts with more than 3 items.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 947 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

As we were phrasing the questions I thought that it was understood, can Government confirm whether the number of prescriptions that have been issued since the 13<sup>th</sup> December with more than three items, the officials were going by the actual number of items but then again I thought that it was impossible that if the Minister was telling me every time that it was not being collated then I was thinking, "...well if it is not being collated how do they dispense the fee that they need to actually provide to the pharmacist?" and another aspect to it is the fact that when we get the total number of items in tables in other questions, are we getting the total number of items over and above the three in prescriptions?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, I think we have been perhaps in the past talking at cross purposes, the civil servants are very literal in their interpretation of questions and if one asks the number of prescriptions they say, "we have not got that," but as the hon Lady can see from the paper I have just passed on to her they do keep tabs, they do keep a record of the number of items and I hope that that settles the question.

**NO. 948 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – DIABETIC PATIENTS**

Can the Minister for Health confirm whether diabetic patients are now being given 3 monthly prescriptions, instead of monthly ones?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The advice I have received which I promised I would obtain from members of the Formulary Committee is that the issue of long prescriptions, that is two months or more to patients with diabetes should only be introduced with a great deal of caution. Drugs for diabetes can be very powerful and can produce serious side effects and these can only be prevented by careful control of the disease itself which requires a lot of awareness and education on the part of the patient himself or herself. The present understanding is that whilst certainly some patients in Gibraltar might meet these requirements of awareness and self understanding not all patients do. It is therefore dangerous practice to make long prescriptions widely available for diabetes at this stage. However doctors do recognise that there are patients who can be safely monitored over longer periods by giving them three advance prescriptions instead of one prescription for three months, three separate prescriptions of one month each. The advantage of this is that they can be withdrawn or replaced if necessary as the diabetic condition progresses and shows indications which would make that necessary. This has the advantage that it allows the patient more freedom, he has got three months of prescriptions if everything goes smoothly but at the same time in a safety and controlled environment. May I add that the Government are also in addition about to introduce a Diabetes Clinic in the Primary Care Centre whose function will be precisely to monitor diabetic control and prevent complications, educate patients in self care and this will provide additional safeguards for identifying diabetic patients whose condition is suitable for long term prescriptions. So in principle long term prescriptions are accessible but always within

an environment of control and monitoring exercise by the general practitioners. I think that the hon Lady will understand that this is a wise and sensible policy.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Yes I understand what the Minister has said in the last end of his answer but what I cannot understand is when he says that there has to be a certain measure of control because certain patients might actually abuse the prescriptions. How will a GP be able to know who is a bona fide diabetic and who is not, and is it that the GP's have been told that they can actually prescribe the three monthly prescriptions for diabetics?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I never used the word abused, it is a question of a patient who is not totally aware precisely of the symptoms, indications that he goes through within his diabetic condition having to be monitored precisely by the doctor and therefore it is unsafe to give free hand to these patients for a long period of time without at least the doctor having the possibility and the ability to check and control and monitor the condition of these patients. In any case if the aim sought by the hon Lady echoing I suppose requests from patients themselves is to avoid the inconvenience of the repeat prescription on a monthly basis this is also available but always within the environment of control by the doctor and I think that the best method is the one that is being applied quite extensively which is to give three prescriptions for three months on a monthly basis.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am a bit confused because in my mind the Minister is saying yes and then he is saying no.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

In a way I am. I am saying yes, that we want to make it as convenient as possible for the patient who does not want to bother every month to collect a new prescription, for some patients who the doctor feels they can be trusted not in terms of abuse but in terms of self-awareness but at the same time one gives a prescription of three months duration then perhaps then the ability of the doctor to check and control is lost whereas with three prescriptions of one month each the inconvenience is overcome but at the same time the doctor has the ability to withdraw a prescription if the patient shows indications that might require that measure.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am sorry but I am non the wiser if the patients are going to be given three prescriptions as the Minister says what does it mean? It is not a question that patients do not want the inconvenience, the diabetic patients that have come to me first of all are saying that this is standard practice in the UK and that sometimes they are given a prescription for a

month as I explained to the Minister the last time I asked this question and before the month is over they have actually had to use insulin because they have had more attacks than normal and therefore they have to go before the month is over. It is not a question of inconvenience it is a question of their medical condition and a lot of them have actually sought advice from the UK and they have been told that this is what happens in the UK they are given three monthly prescriptions. If the Minister is telling me for example, that they can actually have three prescriptions what does it mean that they have three prescriptions given to them physically and it is up to the doctor to decide whether that patient is bona fide or is not is that the answer?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

We are not talking about bona fide, we are not talking about abuses we are talking about the necessity of patients who are not entirely self aware of their condition to me constantly and continuously checked and monitored by the practitioner. It seems to be that three separate prescriptions instead of one for a three month duration has effectively the same advantage, benefit for the patient but at the same time with that little element of control which is if after the first month or as the hon Lady puts it the example whereby the end of the month the patient needs another increase in the medication then it is available to the patient because it has got two more available.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm whether those two more that the patient has, the patient has physically or the patient has to go back to the Health Centre for those two more?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Sorry perhaps I did not explain. He gets on one occasion three separate scripts for three months so he has got the advantage and at the same time that element of control.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

When can the Minister confirm that this has happened because as far as the patients that have come to me they are not able to get these three prescriptions, the GP's are telling them that they are not aware?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I have it here in front of me a statement from the Formulary Committee that doctors and they put it quite categorically, doctors do recognise those patients who can be safely monitored over longer periods by giving them three advanced prescriptions of one month each so they are doing it perhaps those who are getting it do not go to complain because they are happy with the way they are being treated and those that go are those that the doctor is not entirely happy about giving them this facility for the reasons which I have explained.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The patients that have come to me I think are patients that apart from being diabetics they know what they are doing for example, one of them, is a diabetic since the age of 10 and another is a diabetic since the age of 25 and she is now 46, surely these patients ought to know how to administer the insulin that they require so how can the doctor determine who will get the three and who will not what criteria do they use?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I would be very hesitant to actually intervene in the clinical judgement of the doctors but what I can do definitely if the hon Lady says that she has evidence of some patients who she thinks, perhaps the doctor does not, is quite capable of monitoring himself or herself quite intelligently and the doctor is not responding to that with this facility which the Formulary Committee allows the doctors to exercise then what I can do is go back and check whether all the doctors are perfectly aware of the possibility of this.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I would appreciate that from the Minister because in fact I can also tell him that these patients have been told by the relevant GP's that they have no authority at all and therefore.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is not the case.....

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But I would welcome him intervening and actually telling the GP's that they can do this.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

What I have read to the hon Lady is an official statement from the Formulary Committee so the facility to the doctor is there but of course sometimes communication lines falter.

**NO. 949 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PRESCRIPTION CHARGES**

Can Government confirm whether men in receipt of old age pensions, whose wives are still contributing to the Social Security Scheme, are now required to pay the full amount of the prescription charge for medicines under the GPMS?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The hon Member refers to “men” in receipt of old age pensions. May I point out that the position with regard to men in receipt of old age pensions whose wives are still contributing to the Social Security scheme is certainly no different to that of women who are in receipt of pensions but dependent on husbands who are contributing. The hon Lady was quoted in the Gibraltar Chronicle as having found a ‘new policy’ loophole by which some pensioners were being denied free medicines and then she went on although I do not want to be confrontational about accusations of an uncaring Government and uncaring Minister the fact of the matter is that no new policy has been devised in the question of dependants. There was a discussion relevant to this in reply to a question by the Hon Mr Baldachino, Question No 733 of 2002 the other day when we discussed exactly where the law stands in respect of those who are covered by the SAF. The fact is that the current principles and practice are identical to those which have been in place for many years and enforced during the previous administration, pensioners who were then paying the 20p per item would be required to pay the full £1.20 if they were considered dependants on a contributing working spouse.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I can tell the Minister that that is not correct it did not happen when we were in Government that is why we are so surprised that we have had people coming now to us telling us and in fact there were no complaints then.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I am assured by the administration who administer the situation and the system in those days that they were then after the 1988 amendments to the legislation 1989 the system, the mechanics implemented where there were three coloured cards and with corresponding coloured prescriptions. The white card and the white prescriptions were for paying prescriptions that is the £1.20 then £2.50 now. There was a yellow card which was issued or a yellow prescription to unemployed persons under pensionable age and they were required to pay 20p and there was a green card which was issued to unemployed persons over pensionable age and they paid 20p but the white prescription was issued to dependants, pensioners, contributing working people they would go on the white card and when handing it at the pharmacy they would then have to pay as a paying prescription the £1.20. It actually makes sense because it is really how the law stands when in 1988 the Medical Group Practice Scheme Ordinance was amended and section 5 which established voluntary contributions was phased out then of course it has been since then very difficult to establish exactly who are covered by the SAF and yesterday in reply to a question from Mr Baldachino we established that those and he asked who are the unemployed who are covered by the £3.1 million of the Social Assistance Fund? and the answer was, if I remember rightly, employed persons who are contributing and also dependants of a contributing person are not covered by the SAF and therefore they are required to pay the full prescription. At least that is the information that I have got, I did not live through that stage that is the information that I have got that this policy and the legal principles behind it have been enforced right through from 1988.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I think the Minister ought to check back with his department given that I rung the Health Centre on behalf of this gentleman and they told me there in the office that it was a new policy that had been adopted and let me say that the Minister is talking about dependants whereas this person concerned has paid insurance all his life and is entitled to those services for the stamps that he has paid and they are telling him that because his wife is still working he is considered a dependant notwithstanding the fact that he has paid 40 years of insurance himself and they say that notwithstanding the fact that he has paid 40 years of insurance whilst his wife is working he is considered a dependant and he does not get the free medicines that every other pensioner does now if he were separated or divorced he would.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The first thing that I want to establish is that there has been no new policy that I can assure the hon Member. I have not instituted any new policy whatsoever let that be for

his comfort assured. If there has been a misunderstanding in the interpretation of the legal statutory provisions I will certainly look into it so that it is cleared up but I am told by the people of the administration that the policy has been exactly the same as it has been since 1988 if that is not the case I will investigate it but certainly I want to make it very clear that there has been no new policy established by the Minister who is uncaring as it was made out to be that because I was an uncaring Minister belonging to an uncaring Government I was now putting the screws on old pensioners let me say to the House that I too in my family have old pensioners who also depend on this support from the Government and certainly there is no question of a new policy established by an uncaring Minister or an uncaring Government.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We accept what the Minister says that there is no policy as a statement in the House since we all make ourselves responsible for the accuracy of the things that we say here given the fact that the same applies to what my Colleague has said I think the Minister should investigate how this has come about and we are very glad to see....it must be obvious to all of us and I think the Minister will agree that the number of pensioners in this category totally unnecessary must XXXXXis and makes no difference at all to the funding of the health service. Even if it is the case that it has always been like that and it is very odd that nobody should have complained before it is an opportunity to do away with it.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Absolutely, certainly I agree that the legislation as it is being interpreted as I have been told is not a new legislation, it is not a new policy and seems to me, and I will be very frank about this unfair and not sensible. So we will certainly look into it but that is also part and parcel in broad terms of the confusion which still reigns over exactly what the Social Assistance Fund is all about.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the Minister suggesting that the Social Assistance Fund is actually charged for the difference in the payment of prescriptions because that is not the case, the Social Assistance Fund is not based on whether if there are more people who do not pay the Social Assistance Fund makes up for that deficit. The Social Assistance Fund is based on a payment to the Health Authority which is comparable to the payment that would be made if those people were working and has nothing to do with the payment for the medicines so therefore if a person working out of the weekly insurance contributions pays for the sake of argument £10 and that is £500 a year then for each unemployed person there is a £500 a year contribution from the Social Assistance Fund to the Health Authority and therefore if there are 1,000 people out of work there would be £500,000. It has nothing to do with prescription charges.



**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes the hon Member is correct, the contribution that is made by the SAF to the Gibraltar Health Authority is based on a guesstimate in accordance to the number of people that they think would need a contribution and based on the sum of money that would be payable under the GPMS part of the Social Insurance Stamp. That is correct but I do not really think that we need to get into a debate about the SAF again on that issue, I think that the Government have made clear what their policy are in relation to this which is that there has been no departure and the Minister has offered to investigate individual cases in accordance with his last statement and I think that is how we would like to proceed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I welcome the Minister's intervention because I missed yesterday that it was a star performance on his part and therefore I take it that this is a repetition of the star performance.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I missed it too.

ORAL

**NO. 950 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – UK SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONERS**

Can Government state how many UK Social Security pensioners, who were not also in receipt of a Gibraltar Social Security pension, are resident in 2002, and registered with the Group Practice Medical Scheme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 951 to 955, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 951 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA - SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONERS**

Can Government now state how many Gibraltar Social Security pensioners, who were not also in receipt of a UK Social Security pension, were resident in UK in 2000?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 950, 952 to 955, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 952 OF 2002

THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO

**GHA – SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONERS**

Can Government now state how many Gibraltar Social Security pensioners, who were not also in receipt of a UK Social Security pension, were resident in UK in 2001?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos 950, 951, 953 to 955, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 953 OF 2002

THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO

**GHA – SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONERS**

Can Government now state how many Gibraltar Social Security pensioners, who were not also in receipt of a UK Social Security pension, were resident in the UK in 1999?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 952, 954, 955, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 954 OF 2002

THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO

**GHA – COST OF TREATING PENSIONERS IN UK**

Can Government now state what was the latest average annual cost of treating a pensioner in the UK in 2000?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 953, 955, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 955 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – COST OF TREATING PENSIONERS IN UK**

Can Government now state what was the latest average annual cost of treating a pensioner in the UK in 2001?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 954, 972 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 956 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES**

Can Government state what was the total number of out-patient attendances at St Bernard's Hospital from 1<sup>st</sup> April to end of September 2002, specifying each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 957 and 964 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 957 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – IN-PATIENT ADMISSIONS**

Can Government state what was the total number of in-patient admissions and the average number of patients per day at St Bernard's Hospital from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the end of September 2002, specifying each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 956 and 964 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 958 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – WAITING LISTS**

Can Government provide a comparable waiting list for public and private patients covering all specialities for both out-patients and in-patients, also including those who require surgical interventions?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The factual and statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule that I now hand to her.

The following is a list of the numbers of patients awaiting operations by speciality:

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| General Surgery    | 106 |
| Orthopaedics       | 740 |
| Gynaecology        | 98  |
| Ophthalmology      | 335 |
| Ear, Nose & Throat | 110 |

The outpatient waiting times by speciality are as follows:

|                    |                                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Surgery    | 3 months                            |
| Orthopaedics       | 3 months                            |
| Gynaecology        | 3 months                            |
| Ophthalmology      | 3 months                            |
| Ear, Nose & Throat | 3 weeks (Adult), 6 weeks (Children) |

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| General Medicine | 4 weeks   |
| Paediatrics      | 3 weeks   |
| Geriatrics       | 1 week    |
| Pain Clinic      | 1 week    |
| Psychiatry       | 2-4 weeks |

There is no waiting time for emergencies.

The waiting time for private elective surgery is 2-3 weeks.

The waiting time for private out-patients is 1 week.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION 959 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I find this list somewhat confusing because I remember that in answer to Question No 700 of 2001 I was actually given a table which set the waiting times for private patients compared to the waiting times for public patients and therefore we did a comparability study at the time with the same information that I am asking now and we were able to draw the conclusion that for example, public patients needing general surgery the waiting time was six months and for private patients needing general surgery the waiting time was four weeks. With the table that I have been given it says, "The following is a list of the number of patients awaiting operations by speciality, the out-patients waiting time is ....." and that is it, there is no comparable list as I am asking in the Question with private and public patients.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I thought the hon Lady was interested in the maximum waiting times. Let me make that clear, that list actually establishes maximum waiting times permissible to the Consultant in terms of public patients it does not mean that they cannot attend to the out-patients and similarly with the in-patient surgery before those established maximum waiting times. What is missing here and I accept is the actual waiting times for private patients, is that what the hon Lady is asking now?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I can tell the Minister that I am asking for a comparable waiting list for public and private patients because the last time I asked this question which was Question No 700 of 2001 I got a reply from the Minister which to us was a disproportionate amount of time when one compared the public to the private and therefore I wanted to know whether that still

existed. It was exactly the same question as I am putting now and now I am not getting the complete information.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I accept that I have not been provided with the answer, what she wants to know in order to compare obviously if one wants to compare two things one wants to compare waiting times public, waiting times private and I accept that she did ask for the comparable data by misreading of the question it has not been provided but that is easily accessible and about disproportionate we have discussed and debated this matter before, obviously people go private very often because they have to wait less time but that is part and parcel of the scheme with of course all the necessary controls that are actually indicated in this paper whereby the consultants are limited to maximum waiting times for out-patients and in terms of surgery I have repeated this again and again they are also controller limited by the fact that they can only in terms of private patients carry out one major a week or two intermediaries or three minor operations. So there are controls to see that there is a proportionate rather than disproportionate element in the public waiting list and the private waiting list but it still does not take us away from the fact, and that is a fact, that people who go privately are attended quicker. That is part of the system here and in many other parts of the world.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can I ask the Minister with his hand on his heart and some years ago as an advocate of socialism is he happy with the situation going by the last time I was answered this Question whether it is fair for a patient in Orthopaedics, General Surgery, Ophthalmology, in fact in nearly all specialities and I have my doubts why I have not been given the information but I take the Minister's answer that it has not been given but I hope that it will be given, but does he accept with his hand in his heart that a patient who goes publicly for example, Orthopaedics, he has to wait for eight months and if he goes private he has to wait for two to three weeks does he accept that ?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I would retort with her hand on her heart does she accept that during her time the situation was similar or even worse?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

With my hand on my heart I can say that no but he has not answered the question but the answer is no. One more supplementary, he has not answered the question but another point that I would want him to answer is that even in the previous question he said that he was not obliged to give me information as far as clinic out-patients were concerned for private patients how come that he is now saying that he will give me the out-patients waiting list for private patients, why is it that he says that he is not obliged because if the Minister is saying that this Government are keen in controlling private

practice why is it that he has actually said here in the House a few minutes ago that they are not obliged?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The Rules of Private Practice, the controls that were instituted require the Consultants to deliver the statistics and information that the administration require on request, they do not automatically deliver it, they do not automatically submit it but they are obliged to deliver it to the administration if the administration requests it, that is the situation and as to the previous question that the hon Member asked let me say that she can put her hand on her heart if she wants to and she can say whatever she wants to but the reality and everyone in Gibraltar knows it is that the system was uncontrolled in her day, I have called it the 'Wild West of Private Practice' before and I emphasise and reiterate it, it was the 'Wild West' there were no controls, people did whatever they wanted to even if they were contractually obliged not to do private practice and what we have instituted is a system of private practice controls where it is clear and transparent and accountable what they can and cannot do for surgery and for out-patient times. We have established maximum waiting times and a system of accountability and discipline where we can enforce these controls and things are clear for everyone to see, of course people are going to go and use private practice and abuse the system, that happens everywhere in the world what we need to ensure is that there are adequate controls that can enforce the system and Government are confident that it may not be an ideal and perfect system but it is certainly a monumental improvement on her day.

ORAL

**NO. 959 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ELDERLY CARE PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many long stay elderly care patients there were at St Bernard's Hospital in April, May, June, July, August and September of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The number of long stay elderly patients for the months in question are as follows:-

|           |   |    |
|-----------|---|----|
| April     | - | 54 |
| May       | - | 42 |
| June      | - | 44 |
| July      | - | 40 |
| August    | - | 38 |
| September | - | 40 |

ORAL

**NO. 960 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ELDERLY PATIENTS**

How many elderly citizens are awaiting a place at Mount Alvernia, and how many of these are occupying a bed at St Bernard's Hospital as at the end of September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of 60 elderly citizens are awaiting a place at Mount Alvernia. Of these, 40 are presently occupying an in-patient bed within the Gibraltar Health Authority.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 960 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Which means that the figure has increased dramatically, there is a situation that in the last House Of Assembly meeting the Minister said that there were 53 awaiting for a place at Mount Alvernia and that out of these 12 were occupying a bed at St Bernard's but then he said that there were more than 12 at St Bernard's and that therefore the question had not been properly answered. The Minister promised to provide us with the correct information, does it mean that what he has now told us is what we wanted to know that 40 are occupying out of the 60 it is not what he answered previously that 12 have been earmarked to go to Mount Alvernia.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I do not have the past questions before me to check exactly what I have said but I would be surprised very much and if I did I was mistaken that only 12 patients in St Bernard's Hospital were on the waiting list for Mount Alvernia. I think that figure of 12 might have referred to 12 in-patients in St Bernard's Hospital who were transferred in April to Mount Alvernia and hence she will see that reflected in the figures which I have given a moment ago but in April the number of long stay elderly patients in St Bernard's was 54 but then the next month it dropped to 42 precisely because of the transfer of 12 patients to Mount Alvernia. Anyway if she is asking exactly what I meant by the answer I have just given, yes, the waiting list for Mount Alvernia is 60 persons, and of those 60 persons 40 of them are presently in St Bernard's hospital awaiting a vacancy, a place and a transfer to Mount Alvernia.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore the Minister is confirming that the answer that he gave us to Question No 575 of 2002 is not correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

What did I say then?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

He said, "...with respect I did not say that of the 53 patients generally waiting for a bed in Mount Alvernia 12 were in St Bernard's there may be more than 12 in St Bernard's among those 53. What I have said is that 12 of these patients were actually de facto transferred to Mount Alvernia but that does not necessarily mean that there are no other patients who are also on the waiting list," and then we said that the Minister had not answered the question that was put because the question says. "How many are waiting a place and out of these how many are in St Bernard's," and the Minister said, "I agree. I have answered that 53 are on the waiting list and obviously the question that she wanted to know was of these 53, how many were in St Bernard's," but the way the answer has been given to me is that only 12 have been moved and I agree, so therefore I am trying to get him to confirm whether out of the 60, 40 are actually awaiting and it is not that 40 have been earmarked?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Either the hon Lady is confused or she is trying to confuse me but it is quite clear from her quoting now of my answer which I did not have before me so I was a bit stumped that what I said last time was perfectly reasonable that there were 53 on the waiting list for Mount Alvernia which is what she keeps on asking, "How many people are waiting to get into Mount Alvernia?" then it was 53 this time it is 60 and then, "How many of these are actually now presently residing in St Bernard's Hospital?" and I said 12 had been transferred in April I did not say only 12 are waiting for a place there were many more



people waiting for a place and I said so in my answer as I am saying it now that there are now 40 waiting for a place in Mount Alvernia in St Bernard's I could not be clearer. Either we are getting our wires crossed as I say or I do not know.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

No, now the Minister has answered the question as we phrased it because at the time the last Meeting of the House he said 12 had been transferred.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

A total of 12 had been transferred but they were not the only ones waiting for a place in St Bernard's that is perfectly clear.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

That is why the question this time was phrased exactly the same as in the last Meeting of the House and all I am saying to the Minister is that he accepted he did not answer the question as phrased that he said that 12 had been transferred and all I am asking the Minister now is to tell me whether 40 out of the figure that he has given me are actually occupying a bed, that is all I want to know, comparing the same question with the one I have put this time because I do not want to get the answer that I got the last time?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

If that is all that she wants to know then she has got the answer. She seems to be wanting much more than that and I am glad that now she is satisfied that I have given the right answer.

**NO. 961 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – NUMBER OF OPERATIONS CANCELLED**

Can Government confirm how many routine operations were cancelled at St Bernard's Hospital due to the non-availability of beds for May, June, July, August and September 2002, giving a breakdown for each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

No routine operations were cancelled because of non-availability of beds during the months of May, June, July, August, and September 2002 so there is no question of giving a breakdown because no cancellations were made.

May I take this opportunity with your indulgence that last time in answer to Question No 541 of 2002 there was a bit of a discussion on this and I expressed innocently satisfaction that during the months of March and April, she started with May, there had been no cancellations and I expressed satisfaction, limited satisfaction. I was then barraged by the hon Lady who said, "does that mean that you have solved the problem, that there will no longer be any further cancellations in the future?" and even the Leader of the Opposition said, "The Minister may find that in a couple of months down the road there may be more cancellations once again." Well, there have been more than a couple of months down the road now May, June, July, August, and September and my satisfaction is even greater now and I am sure the Leader of the Opposition's satisfaction and the hon Lady's satisfaction that during this prolonged period of time there have been no further cancellations of elective surgery as a result of bed shortages. I like to think and I hope that it is the new system, Bed Management System that we have implemented is yielding some results.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I would like to say that here in the Opposition our function is to ask the Government questions where there are problems. I do not think that he should take it personally in the manner that he is but I can assure the Minister that if there have not been any he is happy and of course we are happy but having said that he hopes that it is actually the new system can he expand on what the new system is?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The new system I explained last time that was the centre of the debate last time that we now approach a multidisciplinary approach in terms of counselling, trying to see the background, the social background, family problems involving long stay elderly patients in which are involved the professions allied to medicine, Occupational Therapy, Physio Therapy, looking at the conditions, the family conditions a much more positive counselling approach to individual cases and consultation with the family with the relatives trying to help them in the difficulties they have in taking relatives home, we went into details last time and perhaps we should all like to think and hope that precisely because of this new approach and this new methodology it is yielding results. It has gone on from March to September this year a period of quite a few months without this terrible thing that was unacceptable of cancelling elective surgery because of bed shortages.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But in that case can the Minister explain why there are still 40 people waiting to be transferred to Mount Alvernia with all the new system that he has just explained?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It has nothing to do with the cancellations of elective surgery the reasons.....

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

He has just said it.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Would the Minister not agree that if the 'Home Help' system would be functioning that would prove more successful?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I do not agree with that, if we develop as we are intending to develop first of all the residential facilities and provisions in Mount Alvernia I think the hon Member will know, the work that is being done through the Elderly Care Agency to be able to accommodate long stay residential cases not requiring acute care in the hospital and the domicilliary

care services in the community to enable elderly people to be able to remain, those developments will enable us to actually dislodge the problem of blockages. These are factual things that are logistical and there are no value judgements involved but just simply working methodically to solve problems.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm what is the relevance between the cancellation of routine operations elective surgery in relation to how many geriatric patients there are in geriatric wards because I cannot envisage that if he says that the elderly are blocking beds in geriatric wards how is it that it affects elective surgery when those patients that go for elective surgery have nothing to do with the geriatric wards?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I would have thought it was obvious if the hon Member had followed the answers that we had given in previous sessions. The number of geriatric patients affect the number of cancellations of routine operations when the geriatric wards are full and they have spilled over into surgical wards and when they are there for geriatric patients occupying a surgical bed necessarily it means that it may have a knock on effect on someone having to come in occupy a bed and then undergo surgery.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Will the Minister for Health confirm whether patients like geriatric patients when they spill over to another ward they do not spill to surgery, they spill to the medical wards do they not, and it has nothing to do with elective surgery or the surgical wards. I have never known a situation not even now when an elderly patient is actually put in a surgical ward. They are always put into either Victoria or Lady Begg or Lewis Stagnetto?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

It may be that the first call is to the medical wards but they have in my experience also spilled over to surgical wards, they have in my experience also spilled over even to Maternity in a very exceptional case which was undesirable in the extreme but they have spilled over into all the wards which has led to the problems that we have had which has led to the cancellations in the past which has then led to the improvements that my hon Colleague has described over the last few months and I congratulate him for that.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Is it not correct then that the Minister is saying that now he has more because he has got 40 waiting for Mount Alvernia which is more than before?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No, not 60, 40, 60 is the waiting list of Mount Alvernia. Forty is not more than before so let us get that straight. There were 53 waiting before and I have not got the previous figure but it is 54 in April and now it is 40 so it is not more than before.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But will the Minister accept that the last time he said he had 53 and out of the 53 there were 12 and now he has got.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I said 12 had actually been physically transferred to Mount Alvernia I did not say that there were only 12 patients we have gone over this before we must be getting our wires crossed because I said 12 patients had been moved physically from the hospital to Mount Alvernia I did not say that only 12 patients in the hospital were waiting to go to Mount Alvernia there were more than that and the figures are in that list there. 54 in April, 42 in May, 44 in June, 40 in July, 38 in August and 40 now so the figure has gone down thanks to those 12 in April who were moved.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

There is a bit of confusion maybe the Minister can clarify a point because he has actually if I heard him correctly and he can confirm this when he answers, he has linked in some way the position of having cancellations of routine operations to elderly persons. Is it that by moving 12 elderly persons from the hospital to Mount Alvernia this has actually solved the problem?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Twelve transfers to Mount Alvernia reduced the bed blockage problem obviously, we had 52 and we reduced it to 42 that was one factor but also the methodology adopted which I will have occasion to explain in the next question as well has also helped for many long stay elderly patients to be returned home with the consent of relatives preparing the reception of them in the community which ultimately is the ideal. The ideal I think everyone will agree is for elderly patients to feel at home go back to their roots but of course the Government have an obligation to provide the necessary resources and necessary conditions and that is what we are working on especially through the very tireless efforts of the Elderly Care Agency.

ORAL

**NO. 962 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ELDERLY PATIENTS**

What is the present number of beds earmarked for elderly patients at St Bernard's Hospital, and how many such beds are Government intending to provide at the Europort building?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

If by earmarked the hon Lady refers to the dedicated geriatric wards Lady Begg and Lewis Stagnetto Wards then the answer is 33 beds are provided in these wards . As regards the new hospital and in accordance with modern practice the new hospital will not have separate clinical or surgical wards for elderly patients as such. Elderly patients of course will be treated in the hospital for acute care as ordinary patients generally. Additional beds for long term elderly care for more residential, minor nursing care are being provided as is known in Mount Alvernia the capacity of which for residential provision is currently being nearly doubled and then this is coupled also with the development as I mentioned before of Community Care of the elderly through a domicilliary service which will also help to alleviate the current situation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 962 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Will the Minister confirm that due to the nature of his answer he is actually saying that in the new hospital there will be no geriatric wards?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is exactly it. There will not be a dedicated geriatric ward but elderly people requiring hospital care, acute care, will be part and parcel integrated in the medical and surgical wards of the new hospital which provides of course many more beds than the present hospital, there will be 201 beds in the new hospital as opposed to 166 which we have now.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Does that mean that nurses that are specialised with geriatric patients will need to be present in all of the wards or is the Government gearing the medical wards as I said originally to provide beds for geriatric patients?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I do not know, the nursing provisions will be worked out accordingly and I am sure in order to give as dedicated and as specialised a nursing provision for the patients but the hon Member will understand that perhaps the type of residential care, nursing care which is given now in the geriatric wards much of this will be covered by the provision at Mount Alvernia.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Does that mean that the Minister is hoping that there will not be as many geriatric patients in Europort Building that they will automatically be sent to Mount Alvernia?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Geriatric is a very wide term what I mean is that the hospital will be geared as everywhere else to acute hospital clinical care for young people, middle aged people and elderly citizens requiring hospital acute care. We do hope that both the residential facilities of Mount Alvernia and also the domicilliary service will cope with the needs of elderly people who are not necessarily to be interned in a hospital very often they are there as they are presently against their wishes very often but because there is no other way of being looked after but not necessarily because they need medical strictly acute care as it is called in the jargon and that is the way we are thinking.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm that once the Europort Building is open that St Bernard's Hospital will not be used for any patients?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It is very unlikely that it will be used for patients especially since the facilities in the new Europort Hospital will be much more expanded as I have mentioned even in terms of beds and equipment and facilities and resources so there will be no need for patients to be taken into St Bernard's Hospital as it stands now.



**NO. 963 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ELDERLY PATIENTS**

Can Government state during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September of 2002, of the beds occupied by elderly persons who have been formally discharged but refused to leave, how many fell into each of the three categories identified by the Government:

- (a) elderly persons living alone;
- (b) elderly persons needing support;
- (c) others able to be looked after?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

As regards those three categories, faced with the problems that we had in terms of bed blockages months ago and in our attempt to identify the difficulties which were preventing many of the long stay elderly patients to leave hospital, we were trying to identify what the problems were and we categorised these patients in these three categories: elderly persons living alone (to see whether that was the difficulty); elderly persons needing support (whether that was a difficulty); others who were able to be looked after but just simply did not want to go or their relatives would not look after them. We have not really found this classification all that useful in these months. We have now concentrated as I mentioned a moment ago in all honesty in a much more positive multi-disciplinary more enlightened approach involving counselling and involving the professions allied to medicine to see about the conditions and analysing the motivation and the difficulties in a much more meaningful way, I explained this approach a moment ago in answer to another question and therefore all elderly patients who have been discharged today are either able to look after themselves or able to be looked after by

persons other than clinicians and when there is a reluctance even then on their part or of their relatives, a multidisciplinary interview is held with the person's problems, discussed and a planned discharge is set in motion. In short they do not go straight away but leave after this process has been gone through and the required facilities are put in place as far as possible and in some cases this works after a few days, someone reluctant to go or the relatives agree that the necessary conditions have been offered to them and they accept the discharge in other cases it may take a bit longer, weeks, and sometimes indeed months but that is the approach that we have now so that it is a human and a meaningful service, facilitating a mechanism to enable in recognition that some patients are in need of social care rather than acute care.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The Minister has not answered the question I wanted to know the figures and he has given a sort of a resume of how they are being treated but I do not have figures to be able to.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes because I have explained and I would have thought it was implicit that since we are not using these categories anymore in any sort of formal way there are no figures attached to each of the categories. We are now taking a global approach to long stay elderly patients analysing individually what their problems are and we no longer have mechanical, mathematical figures attached to these categories that in all honesty I have said we tried in good faith to try to see if they would help in analysing the problems but we find that they do not because we find that there are overlaps. There are elderly persons living alone but then they have others that can be looked after so one cannot just classify people in this mechanical sort of way so therefore we have no figures.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I cannot understand the answer given by the Minister when in November of 2001 to January I was given the figures 9, 22, 18, and then in February and March I was given the figures again and the reason why I am asking for these figures is because the Gibraltar Health Authority came out with a press release actually saying that they would require a commitment which the Minister then said was a verbal commitment from these patients in these categories so if it is the Health Authority who has actually said that they were actually going to seek commitments from elderly persons living alone, elderly persons needing support and others to be looked after I would have thought that if I have got the figures that the Health Authority said that they were compiling themselves and actually said that they were going to start a procedure were they sought a commitment from them can the Minister say whether now he has been convinced by arguments and that commitment has been iradicated.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I have often prided myself in the past as an educator of being reasonably clear in my expositions of problems and issues . I am beginning to doubt now about myself whether I am failing to get through entirely. I gave figures related to categories which are no longer relevant which are no longer in use, in those days when we were trying to classify people to see what their difficulties were I could give the hon Member the figures and I did now as I have explained in all honesty we find that these classifications are not really useful or relevant so therefore there are no figures what is the issue.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The issue is the question that I have asked the minister. We said that we thought it was unfair that elderly patients should be asked to give a commitment whether verbal or written then it came out to be that the commitment according to the Minister in the last House of Assembly Meeting was a verbal commitment, now I have been given figures twice in this House Of Assembly and since now he says that they are no longer relevant all I am asking the Minister is does he agree that we were right that they were irrelevant that they should not be penalising elderly patients by asking them to give commitments, that is all yes or no?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

If she wants to have the last word I am quite happy to let her have the last word but I am not prepared to carry on.

ORAL

**NO. 964 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PRIVATE PATIENTS**

Can the Minister for Health state how many private patients were seen to or treated at St Bernard's Hospital:-

- (a) as out-patients; and
- (b) as in-patients during the months of April to September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

I hand the hon Lady the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 956 of 2002**

The number of out-patient attendances is as follows:-

|           | <b><u>Clinics</u></b> | <b><u>Casualty</u></b> |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| April     | 1358                  | 1573                   |
| May       | 1272                  | 1741                   |
| June      | 1236                  | 1569                   |
| July      | 1372                  | 1802                   |
| August    | 1231                  | 1626                   |
| September | 1214                  | 1623                   |
|           | —                     | —                      |
|           | <b>7683</b>           | <b>9934</b>            |
|           | —                     | —                      |

**Answer to Question No 957 of 2002**

The total number of in-patient admissions and the average number of patients per day at St Bernard's hospital for the months in question is as follows:

| <b><u>Month</u></b> | <b><u>Admissions</u></b> | <b><u>Average No of patients per day</u></b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| April               | 513                      | 130                                          |
| May                 | 512                      | 128                                          |
| June                | 447                      | 126                                          |
| July                | 526                      | 130                                          |
| August              | 485                      | 124                                          |
| September           | 484                      | 120                                          |

## **IN-PATIENTS**

|                      | <b><u>Admissions</u></b> | <b><u>No of patients<br/>(Average per day)</u></b> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Jan 2001 – Sept 2001 | 4126                     | 134.3                                              |
| Average monthly      | 456                      |                                                    |
| (Jan 2001- Dec 2001) | 4910                     | 134.9                                              |
| Average monthly      | 409                      |                                                    |
| Jan 2002 – Sept 2002 | 3963                     | 127.8                                              |
| Average monthly      | 440                      |                                                    |

## **OUT-PATIENTS (Clinics and Casualty)**

|                       |   |         |
|-----------------------|---|---------|
| Jan 2001 – Sept 2001  | - | 33003   |
| Monthly Mean          | - | 3667    |
| (Jan 2001 – Dec 2001) | - | 40869   |
| Monthly Mean          | - | 3405.75 |
| Jan 2002 – Sept 2002  | - | 26486   |
| Monthly Mean          | - | 2942    |

## **Answer to Question No 964 of 2002**

The total number of private in-patient care delivered is as follows:-

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| April        | 15        |
| May          | 10        |
| June         | 11        |
| July         | 10        |
| August       | 10        |
| September    | 16        |
|              | —         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>72</b> |
|              | —         |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 956, 957 AND 964 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I hope the Minister recognises the fact that when I have asked this question previously I have also asked him whether the figures are static .....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I have got it here.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am glad that he has got the information now, will he confirm whether they are static, in the increase or have they decreased?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

First of all I apologise because the hon Lady asked for the totals and we have only given the breakdown. I can give her the totals straightaway for her convenience, the total of out-patient attendances at clinics is 7,683 from April to September which is the table in front of her. The total for casualty attendances was 9,934 and that makes a grand total of out-patients attendances at St Bernard's during those months of 17,617. The total number of in-patient admissions during those months was 2,967 as regards the average number of patients at St Bernard's as in-patients per day. The overall average by adding up those figures and dividing by six, the overall average was 134. I have more information that I can actually pass on to her with the promised comparison of these figures with previous figures to see a point of interest to her and to me that is how the trend goes, whether they are static or whether they are increasing or decreasing and she will find these relativities in these papers that I hand to her now.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am grateful if the Minister provides information at a later stage but what I want him to confirm is whether they are static, in the increase or they are decreasing?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

They are pretty static, there is no dramatic increase or decrease as one will see from the figures there.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Just a quick observation, they seem to be going down slightly month by month am I correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The average monthly admissions from January to September, I took January to September because the question related to January/September 2002. In 2001 was 456 monthly and in this year the average monthly admission was 440. That is a slight decrease although I do not think it is significant, that could be related to all sorts of factors which are not significant in anyway.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

In looking at the out-patients it seems that the figures for clinics and casualty have actually come down as well is that correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, the monthly mean has come down from 3,667 to 2,942 that is slightly more interesting drop but again especially in terms of casualty one never knows accidents, emergencies could go up and down I do not know whether either of us here can see any significant trend that might be worth attention.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I think there is, if the Minister would agree to look at the past figures especially in relation if he will make a note of Question No 1084 of 2001 the casualty figures seemed to have dropped.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Going back to Question No 569 where we had two months February and March and in those months we had casualty 1,600 and 1,424 in March but again as I say those ups and downs especially in the area of casualty can be due to all sorts of events.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I did ask in one of the questions the number of private in-patients and I am just looking to see whether I have been answered this question.



**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The Member has been given the number of private in-patients yes.....

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

.....and the number of out-patients?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I have explained this before, according to private practice regulations there is no obligation to hand in this data and I have made that point repeatedly before.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

If the Minister will go back to the last Meeting of the House he confirmed that the question of private out-patients, of looking at the numbers is actually underway at the moment and he said he would pass the information over to me when it was ready.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

We have the ability to seek the information and I apologise if I have not got round to it. Although there is no obligation to deliver that information and that data by the consultants we can investigate and I am sorry if I said that I would do so and I have not got the figures with me but I will deliver those figures to the hon Lady as soon as I obtain them.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am grateful that after so many questions that I have asked on the matter that the Minister has said that he will deliver and I will take him up on that.

ORAL

**NO. 965 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

Can Government state the number of complaints that are being received through the GHA's Complaints Procedure, from 1<sup>st</sup> April to end of September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The total number of complaints received through the complaints procedure for the period is eight. All eight complaints are in respect of secondary care.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 965 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The Minister will know because we have talked about the complaints Procedure before in this House and indeed he has accepted that there are deficiencies and moreover the Ombudsman and the Board of the Health Authority have criticised the efficacy of the Complaints Procedure, are Government looking at ways of improving it since they know and they have admitted that there are deficiencies?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Indeed we are, we are currently reviewing the operational aspects of the Complaints Procedure and shortly I hope we will be in the position to announce certain practical changes in the way the whole scheme works which we are confident will add to the fluidity and the greater credibility as well of the procedure. We are always keen to improve things that we discover do not work as we would desire.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Are Government keen in taking the advise of the Ombudsman when he said in his last report that there should be an independent body completely unrelated to the Health Authority to look at these complaints?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No, we do not intend to actually adopt that as pragmatically as that but the new arrangements will actually I think come a long way to meet the philosophy behind the Ombudsman's suggestion which is that there should be an arm's length in the procedure, an arm's length certain distancing of the persons investigating the complaints or the designated officers investigating the complaints from the actual front line practitioners who are involved in the complaint so there will be account given in more details at this stage but certainly the thinking behind it will be adopted but not quite in the sense of an independent external investigator, we do not think that that sort of thing works.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister give a date more or less by which he expects these changes to be in place and can he also confirm whether it will mean that they will have to change legislation, the Regulations?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I cannot give a fixed date I have said shortly and that is as far as I am prepared to go. I am not sure whether the Regulations will be affected as such from a legal or statutory point of view but certainly the actual operational mechanism in the Complaints Procedure as it stands will have to be looked at and adjusted to what we want to do.

ORAL

**NO. 966 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – NUMBER OF HOUSE CALLS**

Can Government state how many house-calls were attended to by Health Centre Doctors from 1<sup>st</sup> April to end of September 2002 specifying each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No 967 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 967 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES**

Can Government state what was the total number of out-patient attendances at the Health Centre from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the end of September 2002, specifying each month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The number of house calls and out-patient attendances at the Primary Care Centre are as follows:-

|           | <b>House Calls</b> | <b>Out-patient Attendances</b> |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| April     | 635                | 12,318                         |
| May       | 555                | 13,209                         |
| June      | 452                | 10,284                         |
| July      | 506                | 10,969                         |
| August    | 507                | 9,721                          |
| September | 451                | 10,370                         |
| Total     | 3,106              | 66,871                         |

**NB** The house calls recorded are from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm only.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 966 AND 967 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

As in the out-patient and in-patient questions in relation to St Bernard's I always ask the Minister for the same supplementary, can he confirm whether these figures are decreasing, static or increasing?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

What I will do is give the figures related to the previous period February to March which were in Question Nos 566 and 567 of 2002. The average monthly number of house calls from April to September was 521 and the average out-patient attendances for that period was 11,145 monthly. In February/March the monthly average of house calls was 690 so there has been a decrease and the out-patient attendances the monthly average February/March 2002 was 15,496 which has been an increase from the average of 11,145. Whether the month as such in terms of out-patient attendances January, February, are months when perhaps there is usually a pattern of an increase in people coming up to the Primary Care Centre because of the usual ailments connected with the winter months maybe there is a reason for that again I find it difficult to see patterns, there are all sorts of factors involved in all this like flu epidemics, rampant viruses and vagrant bugs around the place that may also condition exactly why there are these ups and downs.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

If we compare like with like I usually like to take the month and therefore instead of a month having an average I would rather take a period which is seven months compared to the previous year.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The wider the sample the more indicative is the average.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

That is right. If we take the average from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to July 2002 on the question of the house calls we have a figure for seven months of 3,210. The figure that has been given now for six months is 3,106 but on the question of out-patient attendances the figure that I have been given now is 66,871 if we compare that with the previous year for seven months the figure is 84,389 so we are talking about that there is a slight decrease am I not correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

And even the averages indicate that as the average during the April/September period was 11,000 and certainly the two months before that it was 15,000 so definitely there was a decrease there.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But on a humorous note it does not reflect on the question of the number of prescriptions that have been given out.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The greater the number of people who turn up at the Primary Care Centre the greater the number of prescriptions which are going to be issued.

ORAL

**NO. 968 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PSYCHO-GERIATRIC PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many psycho-geriatric patients have been admitted to KGV from 1<sup>st</sup> April to end of September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of nine psycho-geriatric patients were admitted to KGV from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 968 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

In a relevant question which I asked the Minister last year I asked him whether he could confirm whether it is planned that the number of in-patient beds at KGV will be reduced because this is consistent with what the GHA said in their annual report of 2001. They said there that they plan that the number of in-patient beds at KGV would be reduced, a substantial number of these beds have through the years been taken up by what are considered to be inappropriately placed patients who require considerable physical nursing care and therefore I am asking the Minister whether he can confirm that the number of in-patient beds have or have not been reduced?



**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The number of beds have not been reduced, the whole issue of in-patient facilities and provision in the KGV is being studied globally rather than simply as a separate issue of beds.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I know that I asked the Minister but in case they have changed their minds, will there be any provision in the new hospital for psychiatric patients, will there be any facilities?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No. Except if they need acute clinical medical care.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore the Health Authority did mention in their report that they were asking the Government for facilities to be included there, is it that the Government have now told the Health Authority that the whole question of the KGV and its facilities and the resources are being reviewed?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Is the hon Member referring to the facilities in the new hospital?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

No I am now referring to KGV because I have already been told by the Minister that there will be no facilities for psychiatric patients and therefore what I am asking him is that in view that the Health Authority in their report were saying that they were going to make representations to the Government on the facilities at the unit that they presently have whether that is now being looked at?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It is being looked at as I said a moment ago in an overview of the present provision for psychiatric patients.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

And the review is between the Government and the Health Authority and nothing to do with another review from experts from outside, am I correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

You are correct to some extent except that the Clinical Governor's Programme which has been announced will cover all aspects of healthcare in Gibraltar, I am not going to into the details of how the programme is intended to operate at the moment but certainly I can say that the objective is to cover all aspects of healthcare in Gibraltar and that of course includes mental healthcare.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Do Government recognise the recommendations of the Health Authority in their report that the facilities should be improved because they are insufficient at KGV?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, indeed as I mentioned a moment ago we are always looking for improvements in order to facilitate and make our provision for all our patients, mental patients, sick patients and other patients the best that we can provide within given resources.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But the Minister can confirm that the facilities will be expanded within the KGV unit and not elsewhere or are they also looking at the possibility of expanding for example, the community side of this psychiatric unit?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The community side is obviously in need of expansion because the trend today as the hon Lady will know is that as far as possible the integration in community of many patients who need medical care but nevertheless perhaps can flourish and improve their condition by being more included and integrated in the community within a controlled environment is certainly something that will necessarily be part of the improvements that we envisage.

ORAL

**NO. 969 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – DERMATOLOGIST**

Can Government confirm when the Visiting Dermatologist, Skin Specialist, Dr Hutchinson, stopped working for the Gibraltar Health Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Government can confirm that Dr Hutchinson discontinued his visits in March 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 969 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Is the Minister aware that there are patients that are actually saying that Dr Hutchinson did not visit Gibraltar after December 2001 or is it that he did visit Gibraltar in March 2002 or that he discontinued his services in March 2002, which of the two is it?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The information I have and I will be glad to check exactly what it means is that he discontinued his consultancy visits to Gibraltar as from, the wording is, in March 2002. That seems to imply that up to that time he was continuing with his regular visits as scheduled before.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I do not think that the answer is very clear because the information that we have from a few patients that have come to see us is that they were told in December 2001 of last year that their appointments had been cancelled because Dr Hutchinson was no longer visiting Gibraltar that he would no longer come and therefore the way that the Minister has answered the question it is not precisely clear and therefore I would urge him to look at the problem because of the number of patients that are affected and also because if the information that we have is correct we have a situation that it means that it will take years for patients who were supposed to be seen in December 2001 to be seen again because the appointments that have been given now in October according to the patients who have gone to the administration, they have been told that they will be appointments being given in October from another skin specialist but that they are not included there because of the backlog and therefore these patients quite rightly are saying, "It will probably take two or three years before I am seen."?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

There are two points that the hon Lady has made, one is just factual if certainly the information that she has got from patients that it was in December 2001 that they were told that they would not be seen by Dr Hutchinson because he was not coming again then the answer given here is not correct. The impression given by this answer is that visits were discontinued in March but not in December so I will certainly follow that one up. The other issue is of a wider nature and that is the question of the backlog. We are making a huge in-road into that we now have actually recruited three consultant dermatologists, who will take it in turn so that the visits will be now not just four times a year as was the case once a quarter with Dr Hutchinson, we will have two consultant dermatologists from the Leicester Royal Infirmary taking it in turns to pay consultancy visits to Gibraltar, that would bring up the consultation to six times a year but on top of that we have also recruited the services of Dr Andres Minguillar of the Policlinica Regina of Algeciras who will be coming every month. He will be coming every month as from this month, from October, so really we have actually increased the provision so that we can actually begin to eliminate the backlog to which the hon Lady refers.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I would therefore urge the Minister to look into the situation because of these patients that are affected because we are talking about well over one and a half years since they will not be seen and therefore if the Minister is saying that he is going to actually employ more doctors I assume that he says that they are going to be locums but I cannot understand that if they are going to be more than one employed why it is that patients will be waiting for two years before they are seen?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Because of the increased provision patients will be able to get appointments much earlier than perhaps was envisaged when these arrangements had not still come into place.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I understand that but I would like the Minister to go back to the administration to verify what I am saying that there are patients from December 2001 right up to now until October who have not been included in the appointments and therefore it will take them more than one and a half years now if the Minister I know that he is saying that he is employing more skin specialists but we will have to monitor the situation and see how long it will take for these patients to be seen because already they have been for more than a year to be seen.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Our whole aim as I have just explained is precisely to actually be able to attend to these patients much more quickly than they would have to because of the backlog, the whole objective is precisely to be able to reduce the waiting time but let me say also, let me add in case the wrong impression has been given that during those months of absence of Dr Hutchinson the urgent cases which were identified by clinicians were attended to in the interim and were referred to a consultant dermatologist in a local clinic, Professor Dowell. So urgent cases were never sort of neglected or abandoned but I agree that the more routine cases have had to wait and therefore we are now making provision so that they will be attended now more quickly than perhaps was envisaged.

ORAL

**NO. 970 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – DIALYSIS PATIENTS**

Can the Minister for Health now confirm whether the Dialysis Patients and Friends Association have replied to him with regard to the report by Professor Terry Feast on dialysis facilities at the Europort Building?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

No, I have held meetings with them of an informal nature but a formal position reply has not yet been delivered.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 970 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister give the Opposition details or an indication of the recommendations by Professor Terry Feast ?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The matter as I have explained in reply to similar earlier questions is still under consideration by the Council of Ministers and they are keen to also have the arguments

of the Dialysis Patients & Friends Association because of their very close interest in the matter and representing the feelings and the views of their members.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So really we are nowhere near a situation where the Government are actually looking at the dialysis facilities that they said they would provide at Europort Building to enable our patients to go to Europort rather than go to La Linea, am I correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

'Nowhere near' is not quite the right expression, we are nearer as we move into this study and that is as much as I would like to say at this time.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

When the Minister says 'nearer' does that mean that the 'nearer' will be here in Gibraltar or nearer La Linea?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is cheating it is pre-empting the outcome which I as I say I cannot at this moment commit myself.

ORAL

**NO. 971 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ALGECIRAS CLINIC**

Can the Minister for Health confirm how much money was spent by the Gibraltar Health Authority with regard to patients being sent to the Algeciras Clinic in May, June, July, August and September of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The cost of referrals to the Algeciras Clinic for the period in question was £64,974.01.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 971 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I take it that we are talking about the Algeciras clinic which is a CT Scan it means that the Government really have no plans to provide a CT Scan at Europort Building or in another clinic in Gibraltar?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The hon Lady will be pleased to know that the Government have plans for the provision of CT Scans in the new general hospital.



**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am concerned with these facilities because with what they said about dialysis and then they are not sure whether it will mean that patients will no longer require to go to La Linea can he confirm that the CT scan will mean that they will no longer require to go to Algeciras?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Obviously yes, if we provide the services and that service can cope with the demand there will be no need for people to go to Algeciras but it remains to be seen exactly what the demand is but I would not like to say and exclude categorically and dogmatically nobody will be sent to Algeciras after the creation of the new general hospital but certainly the bulk of patients will be attended by our own facilities.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I expect that the Minister will know that there are patients who go to Algeciras for mammograms, will this also be included in the facilities for scanning within Europort?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So the Minister has actually come to a decision about the CT Scan even though they did not say that they would have one and has not come to a decision about dialysis patients even though they said that there would be facilities?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Well I do not think I have much of a reply to that, she likes to have the last word she can have it.

ORAL

**NO. 972 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – COST OF TREATING TEMPORARY VISITORS IN UK**

Can Government now state what was the latest available cost to the UK of treating temporary visitors from Gibraltar in respect of 2001/2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 955 and 974 to 976 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 973 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Can Government state what was the number of sponsored patients treated in the UK from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to the end of September 2002, with the fees being met by the Gibraltar Health Authority and the cost of such fees?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

There has been a total of 409 patients referred to the UK for treatment during the period in question. Of these 120 have been quota patients with the costs being met by the Department of Health. Fees for the remaining 289 have been met by the Authority through Lambeth Primary Care Trust (Primary Care Trusts are the purchasing agents for secondary care). Reporting information for the first half year is expected shortly.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 973 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Seeing that I thought that the Minister when he answered the first questions over the sponsored patients I thought he said he was going to answer them all and now there is one here I would like to take the opportunity to ask the Minister in relation to the reciprocal agreement, the notorious formula, when was the last time because this question I did ask him in the last House of Assembly Meeting and he said he would actually look at the information and provide it for me at a later stage, when was the last

time that there was an actual reconciliation, a settlement because I recall that when we were in Government the actual negotiations were related as well to the negotiations between the Member State and the EU and usually Gibraltar always received monies that were owed to Gibraltar but the last time when I was in Government that we received a settlement from the Department of Health it was in the year 1989 and since then I have been trying to establish whether this Government have received a settlement in relation to the overall negotiations with the EEC and also with the reciprocal agreement which are integrated?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The last time was 1996 I thought I explained that a few questions before when we discussed the question of the origins of the formula and the quota system. The last settlement or reconciliation in 1996 which established the quota at 120, in 1998 there was a further meeting of officials from the DOH but they did not go as far as actually reconciling all the factors and all the costs and all the things. They just simply agreed to maintain the notional figure of 120 quota. The last time there was a very real getting down to brass tax and working out figures and costs and particularly the EU aspects of the whole thing was in 1996 as I explained a moment ago there is now a process going on between the DOH officials whom I met personally with our own officers here and they have not finished, they intend to carry on working out all the figures and all the statistics and data in early January I am told.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I understand what the Minister is saying but I am not getting the reply that I want, perhaps either he is not really understanding what I am trying to tell him. The EU meets every two years and even though he says that there has been a reconciliation in 1996 which has meant that the figure of the quota patient is being discussed I am talking about the overall negotiations whereby the Department of Health then comes back and says to Gibraltar, "I have negotiated with the EU, I have looked at the patients that you have treated, the patients that have been treated from the EU, and therefore there is a balance left for you of so much," has that happened?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The last time was in 1996 now the EU comes into the picture as well in terms of auditing the costs of treatment of pensioners in UK and I also gave a date and figure for that. The last time the EU audited and provided that information was in 1999 and the cost of the treatment of UK pensioners was established at £1,776.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am trying to establish the figure, the balance, was there a settlement, did Gibraltar receive any money at all for example?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Gibraltar did not receive any money at all. This is one of the things that we are looking at now to see whether if instead of a quota of patients we can now work on the basis of monies, what was established was a quota of patients that would be accountable or would be actually paid by the UK on the basis of the reciprocity agreement but there was no money being transacted?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Surely that is not quite correct because in fact the quota was arrived at based on a sum of money which reflected the average cost of treatment per patient. So there is this sum of money that the formula produces and that translates into the quota. If the money the UK owes us, let us put it that way, were to be more then the number of patients would be more would it not?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So the number is not fixed it is determined by a sum of money?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The sum of money is established by working out the number of patients for which the UK is responsible that is multiplied by the cost of the treatment of the UK pensioner which is the figure audited by the EU. That then yields a number of people which is the quota.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes but the quota is not fixed.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No. The quota is not fixed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I thought that he had just said that they wanted to get away from the quota being fixed and agree a sum of money, well it seems me the formula already is one that produces first the sum of money and then the number of patients.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

And the number of patients may vary and the quota may vary the fact is that we have been working on a number of patients of a reconciliation. They are working on new figures trying to flesh out the formula this is why I said in discussion earlier that we have not committed ourselves to that proposition, that is that in future instead of establishing a quota of patients which are willing to pay they are prepared to give us a sum of money for us to administer through our purchasing agency but we have not committed ourselves precisely because of what the Leader of the Opposition has mentioned, is it to our advantage or not.

ORAL

**NO. 974 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Can Government state what was the total number of sponsored patients treated in the UK for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to the end of September 2002, with the costs being met by the UK Government and what was this cost?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 955, 972, 975 and 976 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 975 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Have the costs for the total number of sponsored patients treated in the UK for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001 to the end of October 2001 being met by the UK Government now been received?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos 950 to 955, 972, 974 and 976 of 2002.



**NO. 976 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – NUMBER OF QUOTA PATIENTS TREATED IN UK**

Can Government now state what were the costs of the 26 quota patients treated in the UK for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February to end of March 2002 with the costs being met by the UK Government?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Representatives from the UK Department of Health have been in Gibraltar during the past few days and holding discussions with the Chief Executive. I am therefore able to provide details to some of the questions.

**Answer to Question No 950 of 2002**

The number of UK Social Security Pensioners, who are not also in receipt of a Gibraltar Social Security Pension, registered locally with the Group Practice Medical Scheme is just over 400. The UK will be confirming the final figure shortly.

**Answer to Question No 951 to 953 of 2002**

The number of Gibraltar Social Security pensioners who were not in receipt of a UK Social Security Pension resident in the UK during the period 1999 to 2001 are as follows:

|      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| 1999 | - | 27 |
| 2000 | - | 20 |
| 2001 | - | 15 |

### **Answer to Question Nos 954 and 955 of 2002**

The latest average annual cost of treating pensioners in UK in 2000 is not expected to be available until after July next year. As the hon Lady may know that figure is audited established by the EU Commissioners across the board of the European dimension and they only have audited up to now the cost of treating a pensioner in UK in the year 1999 and that figure is £1,776, they have not yet established the audited figures for 2000 or 2001 when the EU auditors confirm this I will be able to provide that figure as well.

### **Answer to Question Nos 972, 974 to 976 of 2002**

The total number of quota patients treated in the UK for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 was 120. We are still going on the notional figure that was established as I have explained to this House before the last time a reconciliation was made by the department of health officials in 1998 and we have been working on that figure up to now so in the past year 120 of our patients have been treated in the UK at the cost of the UK Government because that is the established quota. I had conversations, although they did their working with the Chief Executive et cetera I did have the opportunity to meet these gentlemen from the DOH and in respect of the other questions, that is the cost of treating our patients and the cost of treating our visitors et cetera they tell me that they are having problems in gathering information from the hospitals. The hon Lady may know that the system has changed quite radically in UK in terms of purchasing treatments in different hospitals, the Government DOH now works through the primary care trust who do the purchasing and therefore the hospitals are now not really incentivised to actually provide information directly to the DOH. They are having a lot of problems about getting information from the hospitals and the hospital trust directors so that means that the questions the hon Lady asks concerning the cost of the total number of sponsored patients treated in the UK for a particular period, the cost of treating the temporary visitors are as yet not available the DOH has not been able to provide it with that information but still I think the hon Lady will accept that we have gone a bit further this time in establishing the figures that both herself and myself are very interested in.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 950 TO 955, 972 AND 974 TO 976 OF 2002**

#### **HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I agree with the Minister that the formula I remember that he termed it as a notorious formula in fact when I asked a question on this matter in the last House of Assembly Meeting the Minister did say that there would be a visit from the UK officials so that the formula would be reviewed but he said at that time that he was not sure whether the complicated formula was actually being reviewed or it was just a matter of simply fleshing out the information which is available which was not there before. I take it that from his answer he is saying the latter is that correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

When I said reviewing the formula at that time I meant actually fleshing out the factors in the formula but I have a bit of news on that one as well. In the conversation there is nothing confirmed either from them or from us because we have to look at this carefully to see where we stand and to our advantage as well. What they said is that having made the calculations for example, if there are 408 UK pensioners in Gibraltar with UK pensions and there are 15 Gibraltarian pensioners in UK with Gibraltar pensions then what we have to do is deduct 15 from 408 that would yield 393 pensioners for whose treatment the UK would be responsible, that number of persons has to be multiplied by the average cost of treating a pensioner in UK which as I explained has to be established and audited by the EU. That will then yield a sum of money which in the past has been divided by 'f' in the formula which is the average cost of a Gib referral which has been in the past £10,000. What they are suggesting and it is only a suggestion at the moment is instead of working through the formula actually establishing a sum of money and crediting us with a sum of money to the Lambeth Primary Care Centre which is our purchasing agent in UK. That will do away with that notorious formula and just simply deal with a sum of money credited to our account, that might be certainly simpler but I am still not committed to that because I want to know how at the end of the day we come out whether in a favourable or unfavourable situation but that is interesting too that they are realising that this cumbersome process is not helping them and not helping us.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I am pleased that the Minister has given the House that information because it seems quite incomprehensible to us that there is a formula which is rather complicated but which at the end of the day it takes years to be able to actually gather the information and years for the GHA to settle with the UK and therefore I hope that the matter will be simpler and will be settled in a shorter space of time that what has hitherto been the custom.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Let me hasten to say that I do not make myself responsible for the creation of that notorious formula I think it goes back quite a number of years to her own administration or perhaps even before that but certainly not during our administration.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

To put the record straight the formula was presented to this House by the Hon Mr Azzopardi, perhaps not by the Minister but by him.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I confirm that I did sign the agreement with the UK that incorporated the formula and led to it being utilised for the benefit of our patients but this goes back a long way and the

actual basis of the formula was being kicked around before the 1996 election because I remember the Members of the Opposition when they were in Government issued a press release when David Davis came to Gibraltar in April or at least issued a press release confirming that David Davis who was the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, the junior minister had confirmed that they had reached an agreement in principle on the basis of the formula and so this formula was being kicked around even then though it was fine tuned and then entered into a formal agreement post 1996 and I think I did that in 1997 but let me say also that the whole basis of the entire sponsored patient arrangements were in fact entered into by the Hon Aurelio Montegriffo when he was Minister for Medical Services and I have seen a copy of the agreement which loosely speaking may have been improved on substantially by subsequent administrations but loosely speaking the principle of sponsored patient referrals had been established then in 1976 I think it was.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The actual agreement and I am glad that the Minister has given us credit for the healthcare agreement that we started with Mr Davis when he came to Gibraltar was an agreement in principle but the actual details and specifications and points within the formula were provided to this House by the Hon Mr Azopardi.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

In any event what I did give credit to was in fact the Hon Aurelio Montegriffo who in 1976 first entered into the agreement in the then AACR Government. I have said also that subsequent administrations improved on it, we did enter into the final agreement in 1997 and I think it has been to the benefit of all patients. Last year 120 patients were paid for under that scheme and I think we are all happy that that scheme exists.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Absolutely and I would ask the Minister, he is giving credit to the Hon Aurelio Montegriffo who is my uncle but he is not giving credit to us when the healthcare agreement was actually started by my administration with Mr Davis when he came to Gibraltar but that is a matter that if he does not want to accept well it is up to him.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The hon Member is supposed to put questions but she has an insistence usually of having the last word on these matters. The last word should be had by the party that is answering the questions but not the party that is questioning and I have given credit to her it is just that she is not listening to me correctly. I have said in order of chronology this arose in 1976 the first credit is due there the agreement was improved by subsequent administrations which necessarily must include her administration and the most recent agreement and I have said this for the third time now, was entered into by our government in 1997 and it is an arrangement which patients in Gibraltar benefit from,

we are all happy that it exists, if it can be improved on further well and good but it should continue in existence.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

The Minister said that the last word should rest with the Government, it is also true that the last word might rest on this side of the House because if they do not want to answer a question they do not have to answer a question and therefore it bears no relation as to who has the last word.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I will answer the question based on historical facts rather than just vague assumptions. The historical origins of who was the mastermind that created this formula, it was not the Hon Mr Azopardi and I can give the hon Member some historical facts. I have been speaking about this notional figure of 120 that was accepted at the last formal meeting of the DOH with our own people in 1998 but the actual figure of 120 quota patients goes back to a previous similar meeting of the DOH with our own people in 1996 when they made the type of reconciliation that they are doing now but based on a formula, 1996, which had already been in existence for a number of years. The hon Lady cannot just simply deny this with her body gestures but those are facts these are historical facts and they are recorded in records and minutes which I have obtained because I have taken a particular interest in this area as I have mentioned before. It is a favourite area of mine this algebra thing I have a passion for algebra .....in any case there is no question of blame or anything it is just that it has been there and we are using a scheme which has already been there and as my Colleague said we hope to fine tune it, improve it, for the benefit of our patients and of our tax payers.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I know that this is question time but when the ministers make assertions about something happening I am more than glad to provide the minister with details of the agreement that we had , as far as the formula is concerned but I think that the debate has actually extended itself from where I wanted the minister to reply and all I am saying, that I am pleased as the Minister after years of the agreement that was announced by the Hon Mr Azzopardi to have come to the same conclusions as us that this is taking a very long time to process and therefor any improvements are not only welcomed by the Government but that they are more than welcomed by the Opposition Members.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It has taken a long time but it is non of our doing it has taken a long time to establish these figures because of the system.

**ORAL**

**NO. 977 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PATIENT REFERRALS**

Can Government state since the 1<sup>st</sup> April to the end of September 2002, what was the total number of patient referrals to the UK?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The total number of patient referrals for the period in question is 546.

ORAL

**NO. 978 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many patients have been given a choice of being treated in Spain as opposed to the UK, as sponsored patients, and have elected to go to Spain since 25<sup>th</sup> April 2002 to end of September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of 91 patients have so far taken up the option of treatment in Spain.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 978 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Can the Minister confirm and I want him to take note of what I am saying that in the last House of Assembly Meeting he answered that 39 had elected to go then we reminded him that whether those 39 were the total that had been asked whether they wanted to go to Spain or whether the 39 was out of another total and therefore can he confirm now whether the number that he has given me which is 91 is it that the 91 have been asked, have elected to go or 91 have been asked out of 100 or so many?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The option is not given individually to patients as they come for consultation. The option is a general open offer which the Government have announced that now within the service provided within the referral and sponsored patient scheme there is the facility of seeking treatment and consultation in Spain subject of course to the agreement of the clinicians or the consultants here agreeing that this is the best option for the patient. So it is a general offer, it is an open offer and as I say 91 patients have taken it up and they actually went for treatment to Spain because the clinicians locally agreed that it was just as advantageous to them as going to UK.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Yes, but he has not answered the question, he has not, and he agreed in the last meeting of the House that it was just as important to him as it was to us so that we would know how many people were actually saying 'no' and how many people were saying 'yes.'

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I cannot speak of specific individual cases, it is a question that there is a general offer and many patients very often they themselves come and say, "look can I go to Cadiz for the angiogram that Dr Maskill is recommending that I should have or angioplastic surgery I would prefer to go to Cadiz," and if the clinicians here feel that they can make an appointment, also they have to fit within waiting times as well as in UK, that it is indicative clinically, then the facility is provided and 91 patients have availed themselves of that facility over the period from April to September 2002.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore what the Minister is saying is that they do not actually have a sort of an indication of how many are saying 'no' and how many are saying 'yes' they just know of those who are saying 'yes', am I correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

A total of 91 have obviously said 'yes' and gone.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But the Minister does not know how many have said 'no'?



**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I suppose in some cases the clinician has said 'no', in other cases the patient has said 'no' and if we take away from the previous question, 546 patient referrals to UK presumably those either did not want to go Spain or the clinician did not think it indicative that they should go to Spain.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

It is just because of the answers that I got last time in the House, I thought the Minister would actually provide us with an indication of how many were saying 'no'. If they are not collating the information then all he needs to say is, "no we do not have the information," we just know how many are saying 'yes'.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The information is there 546 went to UK and 91 patients went to Spain.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I know, I think we are at cross purposes, I know that 546 went to the UK all I was asking is does the Minister know how many of those that are being asked are not going and I am not getting that answer?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

We are not at cross purposes we are flogging dead horses.

ORAL

**NO. 979 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – BARCELONA CLINIC**

Can the Minister for Health confirm whether the arrangements he announced in the last House of Assembly meeting, with a Clinic in Barcelona for patients requiring testing for Thrombophilia are already in place?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Yes. The specimens are sent to a private Clinic in La Linea and they are couriered to Barcelona. The private Clinic is run by Sr Arrimades who is a Pathologist in the Clinical Chemistry Section in La Residencia in La Linea. The results are back within a week.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 979 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The issue was not how quickly the results were received, I think the issue was the time it took for these tests to be sent to the UK which according to the Minister were not very adequate because of the time it took to get to the UK therefore what strikes me is that if the tests have to go to La Linea and from La Linea they have to be taken to Barcelona, a flight to Gibraltar to London we are talking about two and a half hours and therefore if Barcelona makes a difference of half an hour is that half an hour so crucial or are there some other elements involved?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

For some reason or other it is much quicker now and time of course in this matter is of the essence. These blood samples are very labile and they need to be analysed quickly and it seems that definitely our own pathologists are very happy indeed with the present arrangements as they overcome the problems that they had before with the specimens actually degenerating over a period of time. The situation is vastly improved because of this arrangement and I personally am very happy because at the end of the day what we all want is the benefit of our patients.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But that is why I was asking the supplementary because the Minister said, ".....for some reason or other," and I was concerned about "for some reason or other" because.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I said, "for some reason or other," because I do not know the intricacies of the whole mechanism I am not in the thick of it but certainly I am told by those who are, people in the front line, the clinicians that they are extremely happy about the service that they are getting and that they are having hardly any problems similar to those they had before when the samples were sent to UK when a great number of the specimens were degenerated, they are very labile, and they were having serious problems in attending and being able to attend to the needs of the patients.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So if the time element is involved I take it that then the tests once they get to the La Linea clinic are being what flown over to Barcelona or transported by road or.....?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I do not know the answer I have got is couriered. I presume the chap takes a plane to Barcelona.

ORAL

**NO. 980 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – PURCHASE OF AN ECHOCARDIOGRAPH**

Has the Minister for Health been able to find out the costs involved for the Gibraltar Health Authority to purchase an echocardiograph so that our patients do not require to go to Spain?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The cost involved in the purchase would be between £80,000 and £110,000. We also have to take into consideration the specialist staff who would be required in order to proceed with echocardiography locally.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 980 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore my supplementary follows in the line that I would ask the Minister whether the Government are seriously considering the purchase of this equipment?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes. We are considering the purchase of our own equipment which is part and parcel of the equipment earmarked for the new hospital.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

In which priority? I do not know if the Minister has the same system as we had when we were in Government but as far as equipment were concerned there was one priority, priority number two, priority number three, priority number of four. Are they keen that this equipment should be made available?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

If the decision has been made it is because we are keen to have it.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The Minister did say in the last meeting of the House that the GP's were actually referring the patients who required this testing to a clinic in Spain, can he confirm whether GP' s are, because he did say that they would be looking in general terms as to GP's being able to refer patients directly to medical institutions in Spain other than for echo-cardiographs is this being studied?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

All these issues come under consideration, expanding our services but obviously things fall into place as they are considered in depth and see the pros and cons. There are many other services that GP's may wish to expand in their referral system but at the moment the only one that has been decided and we are committed to is echo-cardiography.

**ORAL**

**NO. 981 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – MALAGA CLINIC**

Can the Minister for Health state how much money was spent by the Gibraltar Health Authority with regard to patients being sent to the Malaga Clinic for scans in May, June,, July, August and September of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The cost of Malaga scans for the period was £1,085.60.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 981 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

In the last meeting of the House the Minister said that he was going to investigate why the costs were low compared to Algeciras, does he know for example whether Malaga is being used solely for patients who require MRI and whether indeed there are very few patients that are going to Malaga?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, it is a question of numbers. There are many more patients being sent for scans in Algeciras than Malaga. That is why we spend much more money in Algeciras than Malaga.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But are the bulk of the patients being sent to Malaga being sent for MRI Scans?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I could not answer that here and now I would have to check from the clinicians.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I would just want the Minister to know because that is precisely what he thought was happening but I would urge him to look because apparently there are patients that are sent also to Algeciras for MRI's and therefore I wanted to know why send patients to Malaga and why send them to Algeciras.

ORAL

NO. 982 OF 2002

THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO

**VALUE FOR MONEY AUDIT**

Can Government say of the recommendations which they have accepted from the Value for Money Audit, on which date each of these have been implemented and the savings subsequent to implementation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH

Answered together with Question No 983 of 2002.



**NO. 983 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – VALUE FOR MONEY AUDIT**

Can Government confirm which recommendations by the Principal Auditor in his Value for Money Audit into the overall cost of meals provided at the Gibraltar Health Authority Hospitals, have been accepted by the Government and those which have not?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Gibraltar Health Authority has taken seriously the Principle Auditors Value for Money Report but that does not necessarily mean that we have accepted all the recommendations. The Gibraltar Health Authority has already taken on board a number of the recommendations contained in the report into catering for instance, the audit goes beyond the overall costs of meals and examines other issues such as quality, hygiene and safety. The object of the Gibraltar Health Authority when taking on board these recommendations has been primarily to improve quality, hygiene and safety. Investment into environmental improvements and up-to-date industrial catering facilities have already taken place. Issues raised in the report such as flooring, refrigeration, tiling, cleaning, cooking areas have already been dealt with. Replacement of ageing catering equipment is now complete and new requirements are subject to periodical review by the director of operational services together with the senior catering staff. The senior catering staff visit hospital wards regularly to ensure that the standard and the desirability of food being provided meet client expectations, and we have also issued a catering questionnaire to patients which has been circulated amongst the in-patients in order to seek suggestions, recommendations, from them to improve the quality and the desirability of the food being provided. There has also been an investment in continued education of our catering staff and two cooks have attended courses on diet cookery. In addition alternative options recommended as a means of catering provision that is cook/freeze, cook/chill, which were already being considered by the Authority have been

taken on board and have been included in the operational plans for the new general hospital. The Gibraltar Health Authority has also recently invested in the employment of a second dietician, we had one we now have two, in order to assist in the enhancement and provision of special dietary requirements. One of the dieticians can now concentrate more on community service and the other dietician can then focus on ward service in the hospital and of course it is just simply impossible to give details of dates when each of these very wide provision of facilities and improvements have been introduced because they have been on-going. The recommendation from the Principle Auditor to increase the charge for meals supplied to night staff was not accepted.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 982 AND 983 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So therefore is the Minister saying that nearly all of the recommendations except one have been accepted and another thing is that I have asked the Minister in my question, because he said in the last Meeting of the House that he would provide the information, that had there been any saving subsequent to the implementation of these recommendations he has not answered that bit of the question.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The question of savings which of course is the Principle Auditor's intent has to be compensated and matched with the investment that he also recommends in terms of capital expenditure in all the recommendations that he makes for improvement of facilities as I have described.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But really if there are any savings it will be reflected in the Auditor's Accounts eventually and therefore they will be revealed and as we are talking about his recommendations going back to the year 1999 I think, he said he could not give me dates, is it that the Minister since then does not know whether there have been some measures that have reduced the costs?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, I do know of some measures that have reduced the costs. Certainly the overtime payments have been drastically reduced by the Director of Operations quite dramatically because it was seen that there was a very manifest abuse there and he has successfully carried out this exercise which has meant a considerable cost saving.

ORAL

**NO. 984 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – KITCHEN FACILITIES**

Can the Minister for Health confirm whether the Gibraltar Health Authority will continue to have kitchen facilities at the Europort Building with the existing staff of St Bernard's Hospital?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The Government are considering studying the possibility of providing cook/chill or cook/freeze facilities in the near future. This would entail the preparation of the food outside the hospital premises and then regenerate it within the hospital. As regards the staff, the existing staff will be retained by the GHA and will be engaged in the new catering arrangements.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 984 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So the answer is 'no' to the question and therefore if the food will be as the Minister has explained prepared outside of Europort Building but the cooks will still continue to be engaged does it mean that the cooks will prepare the meals and from where will they prepare the meals?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I said Government are studying the technicalities of this system at the moment but if it is carried through the meals will be provided outside the hospital in a dedicated and equipped area and the staff will be engaged as they are now in the preparation of the food.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So really what the Minister says about the staff I want to be clear that the staff is the Gibraltar Health Authority existing staff?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If it is decided to do that how does that affect the facilities in the Europort Building? At present presumably the plan involves having a kitchen there the same as there is in St Bernard's does that plan alter that or not?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I can only repeat what I said before that we are studying all the logistical and technical aspects of this to see whether we would see there would be advantages in the system which may I say are quite common in many hospital establishments, certainly in UK and very much in Spain and our practitioners here are studying at all levels especially the dieticians and the management are studying the efficacy of these systems, they have gone and visited for themselves how it is working and whether it meets better precisely the dietary needs and the versatility and the varied diets that many hospital patients need and that in this system it is much easier to meet those requirements. All those technical and clinical aspects are being studied before we can commit ourselves and it is only when that is seen that we will see exactly how the design of the new hospital will need to cater for this or not.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I appreciate it but my question was presumably in the existing contract with the existing contractor refurbishing the Europort Building, it is on the premise that there will be a kitchen there and the food will be prepared in the building in the kitchen. If it is found based on all those factors that the Minister has mentioned that the other alternative is going to be looked at does that mean any change for the present construction of the kitchen or does it not mean that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member is right. If provision for the initial food preparation is sited elsewhere the requirement for catering facilities in the hospital will be different to what they would be if the initial food preparation, there will always have to be some food preparation area because the food does not come ready to deliver to the bed, so certainly there would have to be a difference and there has to be some flexibility until this decision is made in the hospital design. The hon Member I know is aware that it is not just the hospital that is presently provided with food from the hospital kitchen, the prison is also provided with food from the hospital kitchen and other Government residential facilities may be able to benefit from that so if the system works, if the system succeeds in delivering to the various different consumers the quality and type of food with the necessary differentiation that is required that is the basis upon which it is being studied at the moment on the basis that a facility outside the hospital would be better placed to provide the service to users other than the hospital. So that question of the final design of the hospital is still in the air until that decision is made there is plenty of time.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Presumably the initial design, if this is something that is being looked at now, initially the plan was that it would be in the same building so there is a stage when the change in that design there may be plenty of time but there has to be a cut-off point presumably?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Absolutely. The initial design is adaptable, I think that there is a preponderance of wait in the minds of the designers which suggests that this decision will be made I am not sure whether it is justified that assumption but there is adaptability leaning towards the assumption not yet established that we are going to go down that route and there is a moment in time I would not be able to tell the hon Member when it is when the contractor needs to know and this is not a decision that one can keep open.

**NO. 985 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – GYNAECOLOGIST CONSULTANT**

Can Government confirm whether a resident Consultant Gynaecologist is no longer occupying his post with the Gibraltar Health Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

I think the question to avoid the wrong impression and I am sure that it is not intentional by the hon Lady should have read, "...Can Government confirm whether a second Consultant Gynaecologist is no longer occupying the intended post?" Years ago this Government decided to increase the complement of Obstetrician Gynaecologist from one to two the reasons were that in that area emergencies are quite common and with one Gynaecologist on 24 hour call there was obviously an indication that a second Gynaecologist would be appropriate and therefore we actually recruited a second Gynaecologist in July 2001 but towards the end of that year the first Consultant the one who had been there initially retired early due to ill health and then the complement fell again reduced to one. However, in the course of the past three months we have maintained our commitment to having two Consultants in post and we have been filling the post on a locum basis whilst the recruitment process got under way and there was one Consultant who was considered for the post and had been working as I say as a locum prior to taking up as he hoped and the Authority hoped would be employment on a permanent basis. However, the Consultant left Gibraltar and these permanent arrangements were not finalised therefore we have again initiated the recruitment process once again but may I again make it clear that at all times we have retained on a permanent full time basis the service of a Consultant Gynaecologist.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 985 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So really if I understood the Minister we had a situation in July 2001 that the resident Consultant the first one retired, a replacement was found.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No the replacement was already there.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

.....the replacement was already there and then they engaged another Consultant and that is the Consultant that has left.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is right.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

When did that second Consultant leave?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I cannot give a date, he had been working as a locum and he decided not to continue and I have to admit also the Authority also decided that they would not go along into a permanent engagement of this Consultant so he has left Gibraltar.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

But that was the nature of the question when the resident Consultant Gynaecologist is no longer occupying this post, and since when that was the nature of the original question?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No the question is, " Can the Government confirm whether a resident Consultant Gynaecologist is no longer occupying his post with the Gibraltar Health Authority?" a very deceptive question which I had to correct because it gives the impression to all and sundry that we do not have a Gynaecologist in Gibraltar.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I think as the Minister said before, “we are flogging dead horses” here, now it is my turn to flog the dead horse because if they have two resident Consultants and I ask when a resident Consultant ...*[INTERRUPTION]* yes, confirm whether a resident Consultant *[INTERRUPTION]* and at the end of the question I have “and since when”, yes. I will read the question – “Can the Government confirm whether a resident Consultant Gynaecologist is no longer occupying this post,” a resident if they have two it has to be one, “is no longer occupying his post with the Gibraltar Health Authority and since when?”

**MR SPEAKER:**

It is not in the question.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not in the Order Paper.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

It is in the questions that we have submitted.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It is very simple if the hon Lady wants to know exactly when he ceased to work for us and left I can find out I do not know the date because I was not given notice of that at least there must have been a mistake in printing or whatever.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

There has been a misprint there Mr Speaker.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Does the Minister know whether the disengagement was a friendly one or whether it happened that the person concerned happened to stop appearing at the clinics, would the Minister know about this?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I would not like to comment on the ins and outs of that situation I think there are personal elements involved and are obviously held under confidence and I do not think it would be



proper. I am giving the facts as they affect the Authority and the service that we have given that gentleman who was a locum for a while did not go through with the original intention which was to engage him on a permanent basis. We are now therefore still pursuing a recruitment process because we do want to have a second full time Gynaecologist in post.

ORAL

**NO. 986 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – SPECIALIST TRAINING FOR NURSES**

What steps have been taken to provide for specialist training for permanent nursing staff employees of the Gibraltar Health Authority, to enable contract nurses to be replaced?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No 987 of 2002.

**NO. 987 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – ENROLLED NURSES**

Can Government now state whether Enrolled Nurses not in possession of the required GCSE's set by them can now apply to be able to train up to the level of Staff Nurse?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The School of Health Studies has already taken many steps to address this need namely the delivery of specialist training locally for example, in intensive care, and of course referring and sponsoring staff nurses and local nurses for specialist courses in UK and the Diploma course for our own students enable them to continue their studies after the Diploma in areas such as for example, midwifery et cetera. With regard to the conversion courses for enrolled nurses it is something that I am very keen on and I have expressed my feelings on that matter before. As an educator I believe that nurses with experience equivalent to academic qualifications, I can understand that the world of academia is scrupulous and keen on establishing academic qualifications but there has to be and I understand that and it is correct but there has to be also an understanding of.....I have been at this for some time as the hon Lady knows from previous questions and I am glad to say that in the recent validation report by the Sheffield University they have now recommended that with their help we could devise our own course tailored to our own needs. At the moment we are depending on a course which is issued by EMAP College which is a licensee to deliver such courses but they require as an entrance requirement, not GCSEs by the way, but registration with UK Central Council. Our enrolled nurses are not registered with a UK Central Council so although the course is on offer on a distance learning basis and actually funded by the Education Department if it is taken up, hardly any have taken it up, precisely because of this entry requirement, what I am hoping to do and I am very pleased that there has been a breakthrough here with Sheffield University who after all are the validating Authority that we can work out a

tailor made course aimed at nurses, enrolled nurses locally who have a track record of competence and commitment and experience so that they will be locally certified and up to level 1 Nursing Status but I can assure the hon Lady that I have been working at it but nevertheless the weight of the world of academia weighs upon it and after all I have to also bow and yield to the validating authorities because we also want that to be a recognisable qualification and not just a Mickey Mouse one.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 986 AND 987 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So if I understood the Minister correctly the answer is that yes, that Sheffield University will allow those enrolled nurses which we convinced them originally when we were in Government that it should be kept on by the Gibraltar Health Authority and therefore we put arguments to him which I think he has used in order to convince Sheffield University. Obviously this is a policy that the Government introduced which we are not in favour of because nurses have to go through a three year course anyway and the Government decided to introduce a certain amount of GCSEs for applicants into the nursing grade and this is one of the problems that it has caused because enrolled nurses were there before and they did not have to have the entry qualifications. So if this happens then I am glad that they are being convinced as we were as convinced in Opposition. On the question of the employees of the Gibraltar Health Authority to enable contract nurses to be replaced the Minister has said that yes that they agree but he has not given a lot of information, all that he has said is that the nurses have been sent to the UK but if I could refer him to the Gibraltar Health Authority Annual Report 2001 he will see there that already the GHA is saying, ".....the current manpower level remains supplemented with contracted mental health nurses from the UK, however the plan is to eventually fill these posts with trained Gibraltarian RMN nurses as cultural integration is important." This was in the year 2001 when the report came out and all I am saying because the Minister said midwifery and he did not mention RMNs, the difficulty that I have is that I do not want to be told that I am actually asking a question because there is another question in the Order Paper that asks for the list, I am asking the Minister whether he can confirm that there are already Gibraltarian nurses in the UK specialising as RMNs yes or no?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Are there local nurses in UK specialising as Community Mental Nurses or RMNs because there is a distinction?

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Whatever.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

There is a distinction between a specialised Community Mental Nurse and a General Registered Mental Nurse. I am not too sure whether at the moment we have anyone training in that speciality but certainly there is no reason why there should not be.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I think that the Community Nurses do not necessarily have to be an RMN therefore what I am asking is what the report says here, can he confirm that there are indeed Gibraltar nurses who are supposed to fill these posts that are presently in the Gibraltar Health Authority with contracted nurses from outside Gibraltar, the UK, are there any Gibraltarians who are there to specialise as RMNs to replace the contracted nurses?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

If there are none there will be because we are committed as per the quotation from our own Annual Report that we are intending and keen and planning to have local nurses substituting those that have to be recruited at the moment.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore that was my point that the Minister will confirm that even though the suggestion was there in 2001 it has not happened yet, am I correct, or has it?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

There may be some training in UK specialising in Mental Nursing but I do not have the answer with me. I know that there are quite a number of nurses already training different specialisms but one of them could be Mental Nursing.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Therefore the Minister agrees that he can provide us with the information if there are any?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Of course.

ORAL

**NO. 988 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – CONTRACT NURSES**

Can Government confirm how many contract nurses are currently employed by the Gibraltar Health Authority, listing the speciality in which they are employed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

The contract nurses currently employed by the Authority and the specialities in which they are employed are as follows:

|                      |   |           |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| Staff Nurses         | - | 15        |
| Psychiatric Nurses   | - | 5         |
| Sick Children Nurses | - | 3         |
| Theatre Nurse        | - | 1         |
| Staff Midwives       | - | 9         |
| Enrolled Nurses      | - | 3         |
|                      |   | —         |
| <b>Total</b>         | - | <b>36</b> |
|                      |   | —         |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 988 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Are we saying that there are three enrolled nurses contracted?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is the information I have.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So therefore if they are contracted they must be contracted from Gibraltar because contract nurses of that grade is no longer existing in the UK?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

The information that we were seeking is that if we have 15 staff nurses and we have three RMNs and a whole variety of different specialities I want to know whether the Minister is engaging local staff in going to the UK if they come from the UK in order to replace them with local staff, that is the question that I have been asking?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

We are not sending local staff to train as enrolled nurses, as the hon Lady knows they do not exist in the UK how this has crept into the answer, enrolled nurses contracted presumably from abroad that is enrolled nurses here whatever their qualifications there may not have been a vacancy for a Staff Nurse but they have been agreeable to be engaged as an Enrolled Nurse, it could be that maybe.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

It seems to be very unlikely but in any case, I have put two questions here in relation to the same matter, "What steps have been taken to provide specialist training for permanent staff of the Gibraltar Health Authority to enable contract nurses to be replaced?" and another which says, "How many contract nurses?" now that the Minister has given me the list it seems odd that there are 15 staff nurses with a contract can he say whether those 15 have been employed for a certain number of years because there are vacancies and have they been brought from outside?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Because there are vacancies and they have to be recruited from outside as it always was the case even during the previous administration. [INTERRUPTION ] of course they did recruit staff nurses we did not have enough staff nurses locally trained now through the School of Nursing increasing the complement of locally trained with diplomas in nursing, Level 1 Nurses, and gradually the need for recruiting from abroad will be minimised.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I take the Minister's point but it is just that if we are talking about contracts for nurses and the norm has always been that most of the nurses that have been contracted are RMNs or Midwives for the simple reason that they need extra specialist training after they become staff nurses. It just seems, will he not agree, that 15 staff nurses seems to be an exorbitant figure?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Would the hon Lady object that if we need an increased complement of staff nurses and find that we need 15 staff nurses and locally we have not got the trained personnel to fill those vacancies would she object to our recruiting on a contractual basis which are normally on a temporary basis staff from abroad as we do for all other specialities. If we need staff nurses we recruit staff nurses, if we need a midwife we recruit a midwife, if we need a psychiatric nurse we recruit and by need I mean if we have not got the resources locally trained. More positively and in the long term we have a definite programme of training in the nursing school precisely to be able to rely less and less as we go along on precisely this recruiting process from abroad.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

All I want to know is because of my two questions and in view of the report of the Gibraltar Health Authority where in the year 2001 they are recommending already that nurses should be sent to specialise.....

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

We are doing so.....

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

.....the Minister has said that he does not know how many there are. All I want to know is I want the information because this is the gist of my two questions?



**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Lady has expressed surprise that there should be as many as 15 staff nurses on contract and that she does not recall there having been that many in her time, I am not surprised that she does not recall it because she presumably does recall that in her time not only did they not increase the complement of nurses as we have done but she did not even use to fill the vacancies that used to be made when people use to retire. So, in a climate in which one is not filling even existing vacancies in nurses it is not surprising that she did not have the problem of having to recruit nurses from abroad. She was running down the nursing complement for many of the years that she was in office so it is perfectly understandable that she should not herself have come up against this problem the only people who come up against this problem are people who recruit nurse vacancies when they arise and even more so people like the Government of the day that increase the nursing complement in order to improve the level of healthcare available.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I think we are getting a bit fed up in this House of listening to the Chief Minister everytime that we put a question in and he does not know how to answer it he blames us for what we used to do. In order to put the record straight I did not run down.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes you did.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I did not run down, these are the tactics of the Chief Minister everytime they do not want to answer a question.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Minister said that there was a programme. Is it in fact the case that they have actually got planned when these contract nurses will be replaced? Presumably the intention if it is a programme, the intention is that if they have identified the needs and the people that need to be sent and the time scale within which this will happen, is it something as formal as that?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

As regards the staff nursing complement definitely, there is a structured phased programme which is part and parcel of the courses and programmes run by the School of Health Studies and Nursing. As regards the other specialisms which require training in UK, yes, there is also a programme but definitely it depends also on the accessibility or the desirability of the local nurses wanting to train in that particular specialism.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Presumably people are encouraged to go and train so that they can be replaced?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That is what I meant. The broad programme is there, the long term programme is there, the aspiration is there but of course one depends on many factors which are rooted in the local staff not all of them may be even able to leave their families and their work here to go to train in UK.

ORAL

**NO. 989 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA - POST OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Can Government state whether they have now reached a decision on the new salary for the post of Chief Executive of the Gibraltar Health Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

No we have not reached a decision on the new salary for the post of Chief Executive of the Gibraltar Health Authority.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 989 of 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

This again is a rather long drawn affair, can the Minister confirm whether the Chief Executive is actually receiving remuneration on an acting basis compared to the previous Chief Executive's salary or is he down to his old salary?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I can confirm that he is not receiving an acting salary compared with the previous Chief Executive.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Seeing that this matter is taking such a long time for the Government to resolve how do they see the question of the new salary of the Chief Executive being resolved seeing that it is so many years still in the offing?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It really is not appropriate for the hon Lady to pretend that the Government will conduct negotiations on the matters of pay with an individual named member of staff across the floor of the House in Question Time.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

I have not said that.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Lady has got to understand that her repeated posing of this question makes her sound like a trade union representative of the staff member in question. If the hon Member were to ask when is the Government going to confirm or when is the Government going to finalise the occupancy of the post of Chief Executive of the Gibraltar Health Authority that would be a perfectly legitimate question but to go further than that and to question the level of pay, whether this man is receiving an acting or whether he is not, and when is the Government going to agree to pay him the full amount it becomes an exchange on the personal circumstances of a particular employee, not even a category of employees one employee and I really do not think it is appropriate. There are issues at stake. As the hon Lady says this is a long running question. The Government are looking at issues to do with the future management of the Health Authority and how the various offices should be held and does not want to make a decision on this particular issue that she asks it is not the first time that she has asked this question and she knows, except in the context of that structural discussion. In the meantime the officer discharging the role receives the salary of the grade that he is which I understand is a Senior Officer. This was the man who was Finance Officer originally, he was then when Mr Jackson was recruited as the Chief Executive of the Health Authority a salary package was devised for a Chief Executive with that degree of experience, depth, and breadth in hospital management, Mr Jackson with the Government thing was beginning to do a very good job unfortunately died unexpectedly, the question then is "do we simply promote the next chap up and pay him the same salary package as was devised for a person with Mr Jackson's range of expertise?" it raises a difficult issue and it has been grappled with and really that is as much that we can say to the hon Lady.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

For the last few years.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We note the explanation which is the one that we have been given before and I do not see why the Chief Minister thinks that there is something wrong in us asking periodically the same question to see if anything has changed from the last time it was answered and the answer is that there has been no change?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

There is nothing wrong with that question, there is nothing wrong with asking the question if particularly the opposition think that the Government are taking too long about dealing with it. It is absolutely proper that they should ask the question as often as they like, "when is the Government going to settle the post of Chief Executive of the Gibraltar Health Authority?" that is a perfectly proper question, the question which I am suggesting is not appropriate to be discussed across the floor of the House is the financial package attaching to the individual who is presently acting whilst a permanent arrangement is put into place. That is the aspect of it because otherwise we find ourselves discussing the pay of one individual civil servant.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I know he would prefer that we clear with him the questions just like everybody has to clear with him the answers but I am afraid that is another innovation that he is trying to introduce in this House. He has never objected to the formulation of the question which has been put always in the same terms and he has given the answer before.

ORAL

**NO. 990 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**GHA – COOKS**

What action has been taken by the Government to confirm the appointment as permanent and pensionable in respect of the cooks employed by the Gibraltar Health Authority on temporary and non-pensionable terms since 1998?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

All our cooks are now permanent and pensionable with the exception of one who was appointed on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2002 and he will be required to do his probationary year.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 990 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Does that mean that since we put the last question they have been made permanent and pensionable is that the case?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I think chronologically it is since they asked the question but certainly not a cause of effect it is not because of the question.

ORAL

**NO. 991 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**TRAINING LEVY**

Can Government state how much money has been collected from the Training Levy up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

A total of £1,007,798.05 has been collected from the Training Levy up to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 991 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Will the projection of £2.2 million be met seeing that the collection is now £1.1 million?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It looks very likely not only chronologically, we are six months and it is £2 million over a whole financial year so it looks like chronologically but I am also sure, also intrinsically in terms of the development of training programmes, it is very likely to be adjusted to the forecast estimates.

ORAL

**NO. 992 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME**

Can Government state how many cadets passed through the Vocational Training Scheme up to the end of May of the years 1999, 2000, 2001?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

|                           |   |                           |   |              |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 1998 | - | 31 <sup>st</sup> May 1999 | - | 38 trainees  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 1999 | - | 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2000 | - | 93 trainees  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2000 | - | 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2001 | - | 138 trainees |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2001 | - | 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2002 | - | 141 trainees |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2002 | - | to date (10.10 02)        | - | 101 trainees |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 992 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

I have asked this question because in the last House he answered that the end of May 1999 of all the trainees in the Vocation Scheme, nine were employed, at the end of May 24 were employed, and at the end of April 2001, 46 were employed. What happened to the remainder of those that were not employed, for example, there were 21 in May 1999 is it that they now go again into the Vocational Training Scheme or does the department keep a register to see what happens after they are trained?



**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The Training Unit does not keep a log of the development after their training programme, the answer will lie mostly with the Employment Services once they go through the training programme there is liaison between the Training Unit and the Employment Services Agency and after that it is up to them to see the trajectory in employment of these young people.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

So therefore the figure that the Minister gave of those that were employed is that the Training Department was actually informed that the person that had the training was going to stay with them at the end of the training is that correct?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes that is correct. That would be young trainees who were then taken on in full employment by the employers with whom they were placed for the training programme.

**NO. 993 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**TELECOM SERVICES**

Can Government state how many applications for the provision of telecom services are presently under consideration, how many new licences have been granted and for what services, and whether any applications have been turned down?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

No applications for the provision of telecom services are presently under consideration. Two General Authorisations have been granted, one to Equant (Gibraltar) Limited, which provides the airline booking system used by travel agents and the other to GibNet Limited which is an Internet Service Provider. These two licences are published on the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority's website ([www.gra.gi](http://www.gra.gi)). One application has been turned down from a company wishing to provide data and Internet communications to, primarily, betting companies established in Gibraltar. Two applicants, Broadband Gibraltar and Datatronix have been informed that they will be granted Individual Licences. The draft forms of licence are being finalised and will be sent to the companies for comments before final issue. Gibtelecom will also be issued with new forms of licences to replace those granted to Gibtel and GNC. All these licences will also be published on the GRA's website in due course.

ORAL

**NO. 994 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GIBTELECOM**

Can Government state whether the developer of the site beside the Haven in John Mackintosh Square is Gibtelecom's or a subsidiary?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICES, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT AND YOUTH**

In answer to previous questions in this House I have made it clear that the Government no longer considers it appropriate to provide commercially sensitive information on Gibtelecom. The Telecommunications Ordinance was brought into operation over a year ago, and providing information on Gibtelecom's business plan could give a commercial advantage to their competitors and thereby be detrimental to the interests of the Companies concerned. The hon Member should approach the companies directly, and it would be for them to decide whether they are prepared to release information on their plans for business premises. Nevertheless, I can add that the Government as a shareholder would be supportive of any commercially viable and realistic proposals for rationalising Gibtelecom's real estate, following the bringing together of GNC and Gibtel into common ownership.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 820, 821 AND 994 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

What aspect of the information that I am asking does the Minister consider to be commercially sensitive?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

It is a statement of general policy that I have repeated several times that information on the companies and their business span like, for example, changes in business premises is commercial information and it is a matter for the companies it is not a matter for me to answer in this House.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

But what is commercially sensitive about moving premises and should it not be a question of public knowledge when people apply for planning permission to develop a site, already in the street they are saying that it is a Gibtelecom development so that it will go to the height of the Haven and like that they will be able to have an entrance into the exchange which is in the Haven and in the City Hall and that they will have the whole unit there. That is the rumour in the street, the commercially sensitive information. I am asking the Minister to confirm whether that is the case or not, I do not see what use a competitor can make of that which is commercially sensitive?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I cannot answer for rumours in this House, I have indicated in the last part of my answer that the Government will support a move which rationalises in an adequate way changes of premises, the company I could say from my knowledge as shareholder is looking at various options, nothing has been decided, nothing is in plan, there is no developer either as Gibtelecom or as a subsidiary doing anything anywhere as yet but if and when it is decided then the company will make the announcements but at the moment there are intentions and considerations on the lines that the hon Member is suggesting but I can tell him that there is nothing definite but the Government would support such a move. The only thing that I would add is that the company has made an offer to purchase a plot to develop new offices more than that I cannot say anything because it is commercial information there is nothing signed and there is nothing confirmed.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Were the company to vacate Mount Pleasant or part of it, can the Minister confirm that that property will pass on to the Government of Gibraltar?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

That property belongs to the Government of Gibraltar.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I am asking the Minister whether he can confirm that if it is not used for telecommunications purposes and Gibtel vacates part of it or the whole of it whether it will in turn pass on to the Government of Gibraltar, is he saying yes to that?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am saying that it is not a question of passing on, that it is already the property of the Government of Gibraltar on which Gibtel has a lease which there is still a period to run. If Gibtelecomm decides to vacate it then obviously it will be Gibraltar Government property to develop according to the Government's needs.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

But regardless of the length of the lease Gibtelecom can only use it for the purposes of providing telecommunications under the licence and for no other purposes.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I am not familiar with all the terms of the lease but I assume that that would be so, I do not think there would be much option for things other than providing telecom service but I am not familiar with the terms of the lease.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Will the Minister confirm that in fact their use of those premises is to discharge their functions under the licence and that in fact they are not free irrespective of the expiry date of the lease either to put it to a different use or to dispose of it as a company to a third party?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

No I cannot confirm that simply because as I have said I am not familiar with the terms of the lease.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am asking the Minister will he undertake to look at the lease and see if that is the case?

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

Can I ask what exactly it is he would like to know?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Our understanding is that the occupation of the premises which goes back to the days of Cable and Wireless is tied to the premises being used for the purpose for which the licence is being granted and consequently independent of the expiry date of the lease the telecommunications company is not free under the terms of that lease either to put those premises to a different use if they decide to move their telephone business elsewhere, or to put those premises in the market for the unexpired period of the lease if they become vacant, that they revert back to the Crown in the event that they are not being used for the purpose that they have been licensed.

**HON LT COL E M BRITTO:**

I would look into it and confirm it, I would have thought that the hon Member is probably right from the usual leases that the Government issues but I cannot at this moment confirm it. I will look it up.

ORAL

**NO. 995 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**MOD – HOUSING**

Can Government state whether they are expecting any MOD Housing Units to be handed to them in the near future?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

At present the MOD have not identified any housing units for transfer to GOG in the immediate future.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 995 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

There was a rumour that part of Chilton Court and part of the RAF quarters at North Front may be coming, has the Minister any idea on this at all or is it just mere speculation?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

There are always rumours about lots of things. I have not heard that rumour and certainly in my discussions with MOD which happen from time to time less frequently than perhaps I would like, they certainly have not raised that possibility with me.

ORAL

**NO. 996 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HEAD 106 – SUBHEAD 5**

Can Government state how much of the amount provided in Head 106, subhead 5; Heritage and Planning Projects, has been spent to date as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 and on what projects?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

A total of £32,231.88 has been spent under Head 106, Subhead 5, Heritage and Planning Projects on the following projects:-

|                                      | £         |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Forbes Quarry                     | 8.38      |
| 2. Demolition of 10 Fish Market Road | 5,103.26  |
| 3. Old Ovens Town Range              | 362.24    |
| 4. Prison                            | 25,990.00 |
| 5. Survey of Clocks                  | 768.00    |



ORAL

**NO. 997 OF 2002**

**THE HON J L BALDACHINO**

**EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND**

Can Government state what has been the receipt from the contribution of the European Social Fund to Gibraltar Development Corporation, Employment and Training up to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The total receipts from the contribution by the European Social Fund to Gibraltar Development Corporation, Employment and Training up to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 is £7,879.00.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 997 OF 2002**

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

Is there any more money that has to be received under that heading from the European Union?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

These are receipts in relation to specific projects that have been approved under Objective 3 so when we approve more projects more will be received. This particular receipt was in relation to a .....

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

No. What I am asking is there any in the pipeline from projects that have been submitted?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes, there are some but I cannot give the hon Member details on that I do not have them with me but I think that there are some in the process of being applied for.

**HON J L BALDACHINO:**

And do Government expect to reach the estimated level of £0.5 million?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes we expect to use all the money allocated to us under Objective 3.

ORAL

NO. 998 OF 2002

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**CATALAN BAY**

Has the development licence now been issued in respect of the Little Genoa project at Catalan Bay?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

No, the development licence is expected to be signed shortly.

ORAL

**NO. 999 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

Can Government say how many meetings of the Development and Planning Commission have taken place since 9<sup>th</sup> May 2002 and on what dates?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

There were three meetings of the commission as follows:-

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June,

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August,

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

ORAL

**NO. 1000 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**SHEPPARDS MARINA**

At what stage is the Development and Planning Commission's consideration of the proposed development by Monaco Ocean Village Ltd at Sheppard's Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

An outline Planning Application Permit was issued on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1000 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Was this the development where there were several representations made by the residents of Marina Court and is the development going ahead with those complaints having been taken into consideration?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes it is. The development in respect of which representations were made by the residents of Marina Court. As a result of the representations, meetings were held between the residents of Marina Court and the officials from the Development and

Planning Commission I am not sure if all together but certainly they all met each other as it were, many of the points that had been raised by the Marina Court Residents were accommodated some were not. I cannot recollect which were but I think the majority of the issues were in fact addressed. I think one of the major ones was the obstruction of the construction of part of the development in front of the first floor of the Marina Court development which would obstruct the views and I think there was an accommodation there and that has not been proceeded with, as I said most of the points were addressed if not all.

ORAL

**NO. 1001 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ROSIA BAY/VICTUALLING YARD**

How many parties have submitted a tender for the re-development of the area surrounding Grand Magazine, the Victualling Yard and Rosia Mole for which tenders closed on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Four tenders were received.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1001 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are Government in a position to say who the tenderers are and the nature of the developments proposed by each of them?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I cannot recollect the practice that we followed on other occasions. I am not sure if we have given details of names of tenderers at least until there has been a formal decision.

I can certainly tell the hon Member that obviously there are four tenders, they have been assessed by my department and we have also sought the comments of the Heritage Trust. Firstly because there are heritage issues that arise at the Grand Magazine Site where the Grand Magazine is located and obviously in relation to the Victualling yard but also because of course the Heritage Trust actually holds the lease of the Victualling Yard. We have consulted them, they have evaluated it, our advice is that only three of the four tenders actually meet the tender conditions broadly speaking though of course even among the three that `broadly meet the tender conditions there are some differences and some elements are missing from some of them. I would be reticent to specify the names of the tenderers until such time as we are able to notify them of the decision, the Government have reached a decision on this matter quite recently and the parties need to be officially notified of that decision. I would not want to make the parties known or make the decision known at this stage until obviously there has been official notification from the Government directly to the parties. The hon Member wants to ask me in the ante-room I am happy to share the information with him but certainly not in a public fashion.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

By when will they expect to be in a position to actually make public the adjudication of the award, are we talking about weeks or days?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I think it will be fairly quickly it will be as long as it takes for my department to give instructions to the Crown Agents to issue the relevant letters and then publish the notices in the Gazette.



ORAL

**NO. 1002 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ROCK HOTEL**

Are Government now in a position to say who is conducting the environmental impact assessment into the proposed two projects at the Rock Hotel?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The applicants have not confirmed who will be entrusted with undertaking the EIA or whether such an assessment has already been initiated.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1002 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Was the Environmental Impact Assessment part of the conditions which the Government attached to going ahead with considering this application?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The Environmental Impact Assessment is not a condition to consent to proceed with the project. It is a pre-requisite to the application being considered. Under the Impact

Assessment Regulations there are some developments which require an EIA to be done and there are some developments for which an EIA can be ordered and it is in the discretion of the Minister to order them. The Minister on advice from the Town Planner who in turn will have sought advice from consultants usually. In this case a screening opinion was requested by me from the Town Planner who had received a screening report from a company called Scott Wilson who are planning experts and as a result of that I ordered an EIA. When the EIA is obtained and submitted the Planning Commission will then consider that part of the application which would be affected by the EIA.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the case then that the Minister has ordered his own EIA which will be independent of whatever the developers or the people who have applied to the Planning Commission have ordered?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I am advised that this is not really how it works. I order the EIA, the developer then commissions consultants who submit an EIA, I suppose it has never arisen yet because the EIA Regulations are fairly new they have only been put into place in the year 2000 as a result of directives of the European Community I suppose it may be that the Commission can make its own EIA but the procedure which we follow for which we sought advice from local authorities in the UK I understand it is very similar to the procedure they would follow which is to order an EIA and then get the developer to submit one to go to the expense of doing that because for example, I am advised that an EIA in respect of this project could cost anything between £30,000 and £40,000.

ORAL

**NO. 1003 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PROTECTED CELL COMPANIES**

Can Government say how many Protected Cell companies have been registered in Gibraltar to date, whether any applications are pending, and whether any applications have been rejected?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1004 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1004 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PROTECTED CELL COMPANIES**

Are there any applications under consideration to form a Protected Cell Company in Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1003 of 2002**

One insurance company has been licensed as a Protected Cell Company (PCC), namely White Rock Insurance (Gibraltar) PCC Limited. There are no applications pending and no applications have been rejected.

**Answer to Question No 1004 of 2002**

There are no applications currently being considered to form a protected cell company. There are enquiries from time to time.

ORAL

**NO. 1005 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**BANKING LICENCES**

Have there been any new banking licences issued in May, June, July, August or September 2002 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1006 of 2002.

**NO. 1006 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**BANKING LICENCES**

How many applications for a banking licence are currently under consideration?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

No new banking licences have been issued since May 2002 to date or are currently under consideration. I should point out a slight inconsistency in a previous answer to this House to Question No 609 of 2002. I answered then that no applications had been granted in April 2002. That was correct at the time the question was submitted and the answer drafted. However, unknown to me the FSC had finally granted a licence on the day before the last Question and Answer session.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1005 AND 1006 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Was that Safra Bank?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

No.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister give the name of the Bank in question?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

What is it?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

It is a new operator who wants to announce a new operation in Gibraltar and will do so shortly but I do not want to make the announcement for it.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it already displayed on the website of the Financial Services Commission or is it up to one to and go and look?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I have not checked.

ORAL

**NO. 1007 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ABBAY NATIONAL**

On what date were the Government informed of Abbey National's intention to change the nature of their presence in Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1008 and 1009 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1008 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ABBHEY NATIONAL**

Can Government say whether Abbey National will be handing back their banking licence and setting up as a representative office?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1007 and 1009 of 2002.

**NO. 1009 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ABBEY NATIONAL**

Can Government say how many people were employed in Abbey National Gibraltar before their decision to change the nature of their operation in Gibraltar, and how many are employed after, giving a breakdown by nationality, full-time or part-time in each case?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1007 of 2002**

Senior Executives from Abbey National had a meeting with the Finance Centre Director on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2002. In that meeting Abbey National explained to the Government their intention to change the nature of their business in Gibraltar. Abbey National also informed the Government that their staff in Gibraltar were to be informed of their proposed change that day.

**Answer to Question No 1008 2002**

Abbey National has handed back their Banking Licence and re-established itself as a representative office in Gibraltar.

**Answer to Question No 1009 of 2002**

Abbey National has informed Government that 26 people (full-time) were employed within the Bank at June 2002. Government employment records do not reflect that exact figure but that may be due to the late filing of termination forms. From Government records there are currently 19 employed of whom 10 are Gibraltarians and nine are other British nationals. It is expected though that some more jobs will be shed in the reorganisation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1007 TO 1009 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The 19 that are recorded with the ETB is what is left for the representative office is that correct?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

At the moment.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

How many were there before they rundown?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

A total of 26.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

As a matter of clarification everyone was full-time there were no part-timers?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes that is what I am told. This is at June 2002 they may have had part-timers before that because I have seen the ETB printout and some people are marked as part-time but obviously before June 2002 and ceased to be in employment before then.

ORAL

**NO. 1010 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HISPANO COMMERZBANK**

Have Government been informed by Hispano CommerzBank of any intended changes to their operation in Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1011 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1011 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CREDIT AGRICOLE**

Have Government been informed by Credit Agricole of any intended changes to their banking presence in Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1010 of 2002**

In relation to Hispano ComerzBank , one of the General Managers from this bank met with the finance Centre Director on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2002 and in a meeting (which was at the time held on a confidential basis) informed him of the bank's intentions to scale down their Gibraltar operation over a period of time. He stated that there was no Gibraltar causal factor behind their decision. He informed us that the staff had already been told in confidence of the bank's plans. In the interim the bank continues to have a banking licence and as far as we are aware has not made any public statements as to its intentions. As questions were being raised in this House the Bank has agreed that Government could reveal the substance of the August meeting. I do not have any confirmation because they have not made an announcement I do not know if they are still reviewing the situation nor what this means this is two and a half months ago.

**Answer to Question No 1011 of 2002**

Credit Agricole have not informed the Government of any intended changes to their banking presence in Gibraltar.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1010 AND 1011 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to the first one of the two the Hispano ComerzBank can the Government say whether the scaling down involves becoming a representative office like Abbey National or handing back their licence completely and leaving Gibraltar and having no presence here.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I do not have that precise information . My information is that it is going to be scaled down whether it is scaled down to a representative or scaled down to complete withdrawal I do not have that information all I have been told is that it is going to happen over a period of time but that was the nature of the conversation nearly three months ago I understand that no one has yet been made redundant I do not know whether they are reviewing it.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the Minister in a position to say how many people were employed on the 6<sup>th</sup> August before the scaling down was due to take effect?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Fourteen. Eight Gibraltarians and six other nationals. The other nationals are three Spaniards and three German nationals

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are those figures for the 6<sup>th</sup> August or do they refer to today and if they are 6<sup>th</sup> August has there been any scaling down since?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The printout that I have is today but I was told that this is what they had, obviously we can verify that. Can I just correct that slightly because I noticed, curiously of the 14 jobs on my list one of them was taken on the 7<sup>th</sup> October. A Gibraltarian clerical staff was taken on the 7<sup>th</sup> October I hope that means that they are reviewing the position.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Credit Agricole does the Minister have the number of people employed by them?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

No.

ORAL

**NO. 1012 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**LAND RECLAMATION WITHIN THE HARBOUR**

Are Government in a position to say who will conduct the feasibility study into the viability of carrying out land reclamation within the harbour?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1013 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1013 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**LAND RECLAMATION WITHIN THE HARBOUR**

Can Government say whether they have now commissioned a report for land reclamation within the harbour and whether this report has now been submitted to them?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1012 of 2002**

The Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company has overall responsibility to ensure that the study is carried out. It intends to subcontract individual parts of the study to specialist companies.

**Answer to Question No 1013 of 2002**

The Government have commissioned a report for land reclamation and I can confirm that an initial report has been submitted to Government.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1012 AND 1013 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say what the report actually concluded?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes the phase 1 report was conducted over the period January to March 2002 and it was submitted to Government in March. It identified various options which could be undertaken, various options as to the sort of type of reclamation one could do, the size of it and the angle that one could and all of that business. The Government discarded three options but kept two as preferred options. Government then added a further option to maximise land use by reclamation to the greatest extent and as I say the report really only dealt with definition of boundaries and land areas which could be created and made available together with a sort of parameter indication of costs. There are as I say, that was phase 1 of the report we still need to do phase 2 and 3 of the report. Phase 2 is the investigative studies which commenced in May 2002 and phase 3 is the site investigations which is what has gone out to tender to specific specialist companies. For example, they have to do a topographic inventory, a geotechnical investigation and environmental screening report and an underwater survey amongst other things and that needs to be done by different entities.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Minister said that in relation to phase one of the report one of the aspects looked at was the definition of the boundaries within which a reclamation could take place, can the Minister say what boundary is being looked at, where it is if this is envisaged to happened?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I am not sure if I can find ,I know what he wants...

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

What I understood by the answer was that this was the physical boundary that the delimitations of the land of the sea which would be reclaimed and the question was what is that boundary and where is it?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The answer is yes, the hon Member has understood me correctly I am not sure if I can explain my self without a map but let me try and explain it. It is the area in front of

Rooke to the south of the Calpe and Med Rowing Clubs which would lead on to Coaling Island, It is that type of broad area but of course there are different permutations. The idea would be to conduct the reclamation [INTERRUPTION] there are different permutations and obviously users that would need to be reallocated and the idea would be to conduct a reclamation but also to run a road to continue Europort Avenue through to Queensway. I think that would be a valuable infrastructural project if we were able to conduct it.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The second area which the Minister mentions in relation to phase 1 was the, if I understood him correctly, an indication, was also given of the costs, is the Minister in a position to tell the House what that would be?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Cost of the reclamation not cost of the study. Yes I can but I prefer to do it privately because we might go out to tender and I would not want to announce it so that people will pitch in precisely somewhere in the middle of that.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The actual cost of the study itself is that known to the Government?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The three phases is expected to cost about £100,000 I am not sure if that is total project cost or our part of it because some of it is EU funded. The cost of the initial study I think is around £25,000 but I could be wrong.

ORAL

**NO. 1014 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NO 4 RODGER'S ROAD**

Can Government say at what stage is the development at 4 Rodger's Road following the award of the tender in August?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The DPC has received an application to demolish parts of the building that will not form part of the proposed development. The application is being processed amongst the relevant Government departments and other authorities before a decision is taken by the Development and Planning Commission. In addition to this the draft development licence is currently being finalised with Government and completion is expected shortly.

ORAL

**NO. 1015 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS LTD**

Can Government say how the project by WATG Projects Limited for a development at Queensway Quay Marina came about?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1016 to 1020 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1016 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS LTD**

Can Government say in what timescale the Development and Planning Commission is expected to take a view on the application for planning permission by WATG Projects Ltd at Queensway Quay Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1015 and 1017 to 1020 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1017 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS**

Can Government say whether an Environmental Impact study will be commissioned before the Development and Planning Commission considers the proposed project by WATG at Queensway Quay Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1015, 1016 and 1018 to 1020 of 2002 .

ORAL

**NO. 1018 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS LTD**

What weight will be given to traffic considerations and access with respect to the application for planning permission by WATG Projects Ltd at Queensway Quay Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1015 to 1017 and 1019 and 1020 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1019 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS LTD**

Can Government say who has ownership of the narrow hammerhead of land of Ordinance Wharf which is currently used for mooring capstans for ships, and which is the intended access point to the proposed new development by WATG Projects Ltd at Queensway Quay Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos 1015 to 1018 and 1020 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1020 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**WATG PROJECTS LTD**

Are Government satisfied that there will be sufficient manoeuvring space for yachts following the plans submitted by WATG Projects Ltd for a development at Queensway Quay Marina?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1015 of 2002**

The proposed development is substantially within the boundary of the Queensway Quay Marina and has come about as a result of a proposal made by WATG Projects Ltd in mid 2001. GOG is currently in negotiations with WATG Projects Ltd as to the level of premium to be paid by them, for certain additional rights over and above the rights contained in the original documentation dating back to October 1991.

**Answer to Question No 1016 of 2002**

No details of the time-scale may be given as the scheme and its contents have not yet been assessed by the Commission.

**Answer to Question No 1017 of 2002**

The procedure for an environmental assessment shall be determined under the Town Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulation 2000. On the basis of the submission the Town Planner has to decide whether the development is a list two development, it is not compulsory it is a discretionary order, and an EIA development.

This will be determined when a screening report is submitted by the applicants. Since the drafting of the answer I am aware that a screening report has been submitted by the applicants.

**Answer to Question No 1018 of 2002**

Traffic and access issues shall be referred to the pertinent authorities for their comments. The Development and Planning Commission shall take into account these comments in determining this application.

**Answer to Question No 1019 of 2002**

The strip of land along the North edge of Gun Wharf is within the Queensway Quay lease. The area to the south of this is in the ownership of the Government. The access point to the proposed new development by WATG Projects Ltd is in the strip of land within the Queensway Quay lease.

**Answer to Question No 1020 of 2002**

The application shall be passed to the Port Authorities through the Ministry for Tourism and Transport for their comments and feedback relevant to the responsibilities that they have to monitor such as boat movements within the marina. Other authorities consulted shall be fire prevention and Environmental Agency.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1016 TO 1020 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Obviously we will table a number of questions in order to be able to make our own judgements as to this project. The Minister referred to negotiating a premium for additional rights, is he in a position to say what those additional rights which are being sought are?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The majority of the proposed project would be erected on land which is within the leased area which goes back to the original lease the 1991 lease. This is the lease granted to Taylor Woodrow in the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1991. The whole project goes back, the property was put out to tender by the AACR administration but the leases and the Development licences were granted by the subsequent administration, the Development licence in September 1990 and the lease in October 1991. About 85 per cent of the land on which they would propose to build the island project at ground level not at seabed level is

already within the leased area. At seabed level about 50 per cent is within the leased area. The user clause is quite wide and under the lease is to use it for the purposes of hotel, casino, conference, recreational, touristic, commercial, residential and other related activities so the user clause already under 1991 is quite wide. The negotiations with Government would entail the grant of that further additional plot of land which would enable part of a development to be carried out. I stress that the bulk of the development is already, the proposed development would be carried out within the parameters of the leased area granted in October 1991 by a lease to Taylor Woodrow.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the case then that in terms of the land, that needs to be reclaimed part of that which is actually sea, part of that is already within the lease that Taylor Woodrow had since 1991 and the other part belongs to the Government and that is what is actually under negotiation?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes, that is what I am saying. When I say land I really mean sea there is no land there it is all water but when I describe it as at ground level 85 per cent of the land is within the lease I mean of the water area on which they would want to reclaim at ground level and at sea level about 50 per cent. It would be the additional tranche up to 100 per cent at both levels that would be the rights the Government would be giving them. That of course is a quite separate negotiation, quite a separate process, I want to emphasise that because of the planning objections that have been received quite a separate process to the planning process which would go separately.

ORAL

**NO. 1021 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

What expert staff has been taken on by the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority following it being given responsibilities under the Misleading and Comparative Advertising Ordinance?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1021 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Who is then responsible for carrying out the duties under the Ordinance?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

The Government take a dim view of entities that try to appear in the Gibraltar market undermining our legislation. As I say that as the initial comment because I will explain why I

say that. The reason that the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority was given responsibilities under the Misleading and Comparative Advertising Ordinance is not because they are going to have general responsibilities to implement or enforce that Ordinance but rather because in one specific case on which we had taken legal advice it was decided that there should be delegated functions and powers under that Ordinance in case it was necessary to use them. Recently there was a telecommunications case where the Government issued a press release saying that the entity did not have a licence and could not just turn up in Main Street, hand leaflets to people and encourage them to take up the offer of the provision of telecommunications services from an address in the United Kingdom and from an entity which we then subsequently found out were not licensed either in the United Kingdom.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the Minister saying that this transfer which was carried out and published in the Gazette on 27<sup>th</sup> August is actually on a temporary basis for this particular case or will he administer the Ordinance in every other respect?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

No they will not administer the Ordinance in every case. My Colleague the Minister for Consumer Affairs will have the mechanisms in place to administer the Ordinance generally in accordance with his responsibilities in this area. This is to give them power if power is needed and it is necessary to action that power so that the GRA can take whatever action our lawyers deem appropriate and necessary. That is why it is there at the time we took advice on a variety of options and the lawyers advised that if we wanted to consider action under this Ordinance they needed to be empowered very specifically for this case. It has not been used yet may not be used if it is not necessary but certainly the GRA is not taking over administration or responsibility generally under this Ordinance.

ORAL

**NO. 1022 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**INTERREG III B**

What contact has there been with other relevant EU regions with respect to the allocation of funds under Interreg III B announced in December 2001?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

There have been a number of contacts made with other regions in the geographical areas of Western Mediterranean and Southwest Europe under the Interreg IIIB Community Initiative. As a result Gibraltar is a partner in two project applications submitted to the Transnational Secretariat for accessing funds under the Southwest Europe Programme and expects to participate in two other project applications under the Western Mediterranean Programme which has a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1002 NO 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say which country in Southwest Europe these regions are from?

## **HON K AZOPARDI:**

The partners in the projects under the Southwest Europe Programme are the Diputacion Provincial de Jaen, the Technical Services Department of the Government and then La Camara Municipal of Comicao General of the Western Pyrenees and in the other one I suppose that it is because it is not necessarily the Government since partners and so for example, I remember that we issued a press release inviting people to come forward if they wanted to and it is unlikely because of the expense of the programme that people would come forward and this is why Government are trying to take a lead so that we do not loose the money but this programme is also available for businesses and other entities to apply for funding so that looks like a non-governmental organisation. In relation to a geo-link programme our partners are the Diputacion Provincial of Castellon and Malaga, an association in Spain and the department of telecommunications here in Gibraltar. In relation to the Western Mediterranean Programme that has been taken forward by the Heritage Telecommunications division in Gibraltar but really it is the Museum here in Gibraltar that are really promoting the project in conjunction with the Museo del Puerto Santa Maria and the Universidad de Huelva and purely there because these are people who work together annually anyway. They come here every year to do the Gorham's Cave excavations they are very big supporters of Gibraltar and we welcome working with them and in relation to a project on migration and physiology of something biological that I cannot pronounce so I will not embarrass myself in the Channel of Sardinia the Sea of Alboran and the Straits of Gibraltar the Universitat de la Studi di Cagliari in Italy and the DTI in Gibraltar.



ORAL

**NO. 1023 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**EU FUNDING**

Can Government list the parties who have applied for EU funding since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002, indicating the amount of funding that was requested and the purposes for which it was intended, listing those applications that have been successful, those that have been unsuccessful, and those applications that are still pending?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Eleven applications for EU funding have been received since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002. Seven seeking European Regional Development Fund Assistance under the 2000-2006 Objective 2 Programme and four seeking European Social Fund Assistance under the 2000-2006 Objective 3 Programme. The details are set out in the schedule that I now hand the hon Member.

**Answer to Question No 1023 of 2002**

| <b>Objective 2 Programme 2000-2006</b> |                             |                                                    |                                                                                                        |                     |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Project Number</b>                  | <b>Grant</b>                | <b>Sponsor</b>                                     | <b>Purpose of Grant</b>                                                                                | <b>Status</b>       |
| <b>015</b>                             | EU £5,270<br>GOG £4,730     | D Duarte (Self Employed)                           | Purchase of Equipment, fit-out costs, set design/costume, rent and advertising.                        | Approved            |
| <b>016</b>                             | EU £2,680<br>GOG £2,680     | El Keki (Bakery)                                   | Purchase of machinery and equipment                                                                    | Approved            |
| <b>017</b>                             | EU £27,250<br>GOG £27,250   | Department of Trade, Industry & Telecommunications | A feasibility study investigating the conservation and beautification of the area near Orange Bastion. | Approved            |
| <b>018</b>                             | EU £505,430<br>GOG £505,430 | Technical Services Department                      | Phase IV of the Main Street Beautification Project.                                                    | Approved            |
| <b>019</b>                             | EU £4,821<br>GOG £4,821     | Redwood International Limited                      | Purchase of equipment, fit-out of new unit and professional fees.                                      | Under consideration |
| <b>020</b>                             | EU £4,774<br>GOG £4,774     | The Heather Life Clinic                            | Purchase of equipment and advertising                                                                  | Under consideration |
| <b>N/A</b>                             | EU £61,255<br>GOG £61,255   | Lyonnaise Des Eaux (Gibraltar ) Ltd                | Relocation of Landport Ditch Depot                                                                     | Not Eligible        |

**Objective 3 Programme 2000-2006**

|            |                                 |                         |                  |          |
|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------|
| <b>022</b> | EU<br>£16,299<br>GOG<br>£19,921 | Employment Service      | Wage subsidy     | Approved |
| <b>023</b> | EU<br>£17,896<br>GOG<br>£21,874 | Employment Service      | Wage subsidy     | Approved |
| <b>024</b> | EU<br>£17,896<br>GOG<br>£21,874 | Employment Service      | Wage subsidy     | Approved |
| <b>025</b> | EU<br>£28,790<br>GOG<br>£35,188 | Gibraltar Tourist Board | Training Subsidy | Approved |

ORAL

**NO. 1024 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP**

Can Government say how many conferences it has assisted with, sponsored or co-sponsored in May, June, July, August and September 2002 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The Finance Centre Division, Department of Trade, Industry and Telecommunications has assisted with, sponsored or co-sponsored the following conferences/seminars:-

1. Banque Populaire Asset Management seminar in Gibraltar in September.
2. ABN Amro Bank seminar in Gibraltar in September.

The Government sponsored the Calpe Conference 2002.

The Chief Minister hosted a dinner organised by the GTB for the Liberal Party International Forum on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2002 and this dinner cost £2,762.

**NO. 1025 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MINISTERS' OVERSEAS VISITS**

Can the Minister for Trade and Industry give the dates when he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002 to date, giving the event or function attended, the venue, the city and country visited?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

I have been away from Gibraltar on Government business on the following occasions this year:-

- From 24 - 26 January accompanying the Chief Minister to meetings with the Foreign Secretary at the Foreign Office, London, England.
- From 2 - 3 April for meetings with the UK Treasury primarily on tax issues at the Treasury, London, England.
- From 13 – 17 May at the United Nations Pacific Regional Seminar of the Special Committee of Twenty-Four on Decolonisation in Nadi, Fiji.
- From 21 – 23 May for the launch by AON Insurance Managers of White Rock PCC (Gibraltar) Ltd, the first Protected Cell Company to be set up in Gibraltar, and other meetings. The Launch was held at the Gibraltar Government Office in London.
- From 2 – 12 September for the 48<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Plenary Conference and General Assembly in Windhoek, Namibia and the 22<sup>nd</sup> CPA Conference of Members from Small Countries in Walvis Bay, Namibia.

ORAL

**NO. 1026 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**'LUXEMBOURG RENDEZ-VOUS' EXHIBITION**

How many persons from Gibraltar attended the "Luxembourg Rendez-Vous" in May this year, and how many were part of the Government delegation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No 1027 of 2002.

**NO. 1027 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**'LUXEMBOURG RENDEZ-VOUS' EXHIBITION**

Can Government give the total cost with a breakdown of attending the "Luxembourg Rendez-Vous" exhibition at the end of May?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1026 of 2002**

Three people from the Finance Centre Division , Department of Trade, Industry and Telecommunications attended the Luxembourg Rendez-Vous.

**Answer to Question No 1027 of 2002**

The total cost of attending the Luxembourg Rendez-Vous was £9,251.17

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| RIRG Exhibition Fees | £4,074.00        |
| Courier Services     | £480.00          |
| Hotel                | £890.00          |
| Flights              | £3,134.70        |
| Expenses             | £672.47          |
|                      | —————            |
| <b>Total cost</b>    | <b>£9,251.17</b> |
|                      | —————            |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1026 AND 1027 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

There is one query there and that is there were three people and the flight cost over £3,000 is a particular reason for that that the Minister is aware?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I do not know how they got to Luxembourg, I imagine there are no direct flights from Malaga I think they went via Malaga I suppose it is because they probably had to take two flights to get there.



ORAL

**NO. 1028 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**COMPANIES REGISTER**

Can Government say how many companies have been incorporated each month since 1<sup>st</sup> January this year and the comparable figures for last year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

|           | <b>2001</b>  | <b>2002</b> |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| January   | 437          | 304         |
| February  | 494          | 207         |
| March     | 427          | 308         |
| April     | 435          | 308         |
| May       | 577          | 336         |
| June      | 509          | 200         |
| July      | 498          | 367         |
| August    | 482          | 319         |
| September | 363          | 208         |
| October   | 349          | -           |
| November  | 421          | -           |
| December  | 186          | -           |
|           | <b>5,178</b> |             |

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1028 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the figure for December last year, 186, the average for December in any year or was that the first sign of the downturn that I think was mentioned at the time of the budget, that a downturn had taken place I believe it said at around December?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes, that was the first sign that we had. There has been a lot of speculation about why there has been a downturn, some people say it is the tax investigation, my own view is it may be partly to a tax issue but it is not only about the tax. If it were the tax thing it should have come down after July .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Which is when it started.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

...which is when the investigation was launched but if one looks at July figures in the year 2000 there were 500 companies in the year 2000, let me put this into context for the Leader of the Opposition, because there were 498 in July 2001. The figure of 500 in July 2000 was the highest ever for July so the fact that it was 498 in the year that they launched the tax investigation and the month after 482 in August and the month after that was 363 the really significant downturn occurred in December which is why my view is that it is not one factor but a combination of factors and I have said before that it is yes partly due to the tax investigation but also partly due to post September 11 downturn. It is also down to the global recession that people are immersed in and it is also due to certain instability that was created as a result of the Anglo-Spanish talks and two of those factors affect everyone in the world, the third factor the tax restructure affects all finance centres in the world because we are all facing the international initiatives at least in a regulatory sense and to a very large extent the tax harmonisation as well and the only thing that is individual to Gibraltar is the political issue. The downturn is not because of the political issue only because if one looks at other countries around the world and I have got statistics, the Leader of the Opposition will be interested, in the Bahamas, for example, the number of international business companies being registered in the Bahamas which is the equivalent to our tax exempt companies has dropped by 50 per cent. In the BVI there has been a 25 per cent reduction over the last two years. I mention the BVI and Bahamas because the way the finance centre is set up in Gibraltar, Bermuda is very much an insurance dominated market, Cayman has some 400 banking licences the offshore centres that we have concentrated on more company formation have traditionally been Bahamas; BVI so if one looks at company formation it is easier to compare ourselves to where these countries are but there has been a downturn even in the countries which have not focused on that, so for example, the Isle of Man and Jersey, there have been sharp descents in the overall number of active

companies in both territories I think it is in the order of 10 per cent in each. So, what I am saying is, it is not one factor it is a variety and it is very difficult to account to what extent the descent is due to each or what proportion of the descent is due to each of those factors but I think that one has to look at it globally so to answer the question of the Leader of the Opposition in a rather longwinded way, yes December was the first month but I think that it proves the fact that it started in December and it is not really about the tax investigation I think it is probably a combination of all sorts of factors that has then continued throughout the year.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The figures that he has given for the other jurisdictions what is he comparing 2002 with 2001?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I do not have the figures for 2002 for BVI, the 25 per cent reduction is for BVI in 2001. The 50 per cent reduction that I am given is the projected reduction for Bahamas in 2002 and I can tell the hon Member as well that I am also advised that new foreign company registrations in Bermuda are approximately 50 per cent lower this year than two years ago. It is better to use two years ago than the last year because it is 2000 that is really the bumper year for everyone which is before the dot.com crash.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The December turning point seems to be a Gibraltar phenomenon, the downturn in the case of the others has been spread over the year and before.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Actually what it proves in a way one can make this analysis that even though other finance centres were being hit by the global recession during 2001 our Finance Centre was doing very well. Even in a recession up until December last year when there was marked downturn I think as a result of combination of factors September 11<sup>th</sup> had its effect as well and I think that is true across the board because I was having a look at statistics not only in relation to company formation which illustrate precisely that fact that of course company incorporations have gone down in Gibraltar and they are down as they are everywhere else but if one actually looks at the numbers of companies being managed, so the real business being dealt with by the 78 licensees, the number of companies being managed, the number of trusts being managed, there has actually been an increase of about 37 per cent in the last two or three years. One looks at investment services licensees, insurance licensees, there has been big increases and so I think we have been fairly insulated from this global effect which I think was first really noticed in December 2001 and I do not think it is particularly helpful to make comparisons for people to say, "well it is down in 2001 from 2000," because 2000 was the record year. The real context is that we are probably at the same incorporation

levels than we were in 1998/1999 which is when the Finance Centre was growing towards a boom, so it is not too bad either.

ORAL

**NO. 1029 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**COMPANIES REGISTER**

Can Government say how many companies have been removed from the Companies Register each month this year and the comparable figures for last year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

|           | <b>2001</b> | <b>2002</b> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| January   | 125         | 9,816       |
| February  | 146         | 128         |
| March     | 121         | 140         |
| April     | 133         | 197         |
| May       | 125         | 1,089       |
| June      | 243         | 187         |
| July      | 170         | 154         |
| August    | 129         | 1,556       |
| September | 159         | 135         |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1029 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Are the months this year with the three large figures the result of the changes that were made in the legislation about people who had not made returns?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Yes, and I think he has asked me previous questions were I have explained that they were trying to do one big clean up and there was some discussion about the procedure and the notice period that had to be given before they could trigger that and I think these are the big figures that are coming out.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Do Government have any indication as to what degree that exercise is completed, how much more is there still left? These were companies that were considered not be active anyway, no?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I have a meeting with Companies House soon so I will ask them precisely that. The answer is I do not know but I have answered in the House before that the estimate as to active companies in Gibraltar is about 29,000 so I do not know up to what extent we are away from that now.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

As a result of these changes does the Minister know what is the sort of nominal figure at the end of 2001 and at the end of September, on paper how many companies we started off with at the beginning of January does he have that figure?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

No I do not have that figure.

ORAL

NO. 1030 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES**

What is the present position regarding, the three companies that as at the 31<sup>st</sup> January this year had failed to meet interest and capital repayments on the loans they had received from Government?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with 1031 of 2002.

**NO. 1031 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES**

Since the 31<sup>st</sup> January have any companies that have received financial assistance from the Government failed to meet interest or repayment requirements on their loans and if so which companies?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Answer to Question No 1030 of 2002**

The present position regarding the three companies that as at 31<sup>st</sup> January of this year had failed to meet interest and capital repayments on the loans they had received from Government are as follows:

- **J & B Enterprises Ltd**

The loan given to J & B Enterprises Ltd was in the principal amount of £39,457. On 11<sup>th</sup> September 2001 following an Order from the Supreme Court, Government took possession of the assets (sporting equipment) secured under Clause 10 of the loan agreement. The repossessed equipment is currently stored in one of the units of the Europa Business Centre. The Government are currently putting together a tender document for the sale of the goods.



- **Carlton Designs**

The loan given to Carlton Designs was in the principal amount of £3,000. This amount was written-off by the Treasury after it concluded that the monies were irrecoverable.

- **Zenith Printers**

The loan given to Zenith Printers was in the principal amount of £34,767. The Government are considering the options available to address this matter.

### **Answer to Question No 1031 of 2002**

Since 31<sup>st</sup> January of this year two companies have failed to meet interest and capital repayments on the loan they had received from Government.

- **Sky's Electromechs**

The loan given to Sky's Electromechs was in the principal amount of £13,060. The company was meeting the repayment schedule until March of this year. However, since then the company has failed to meet the repayments. The Government is currently pursuing the matter.

- **Comdeck Limited**

A loan was given to Comdeck Limited in the principal amount of £11,000. The company initially failed to meet the repayment schedule however the company resolved the matter with Treasury before legal action was taken.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1030 AND 1031 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Resolved means what that they have entered into an agreement to pay?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I imagine yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In the case of J & B Enterprises when the possession of the sports equipment took place I take it that they were not trading when that happened or is it that they were trading and put into liquidation?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I do not have that information.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is there any particular reason why in the case of Carlton Designs it was written off and thought to be irrecoverable?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

No I do not have that information. I can give it to him.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

What are the options that have been considered in the case of Zenith Printers?

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

Again a whole variety but I do not have that information with me, I would have to obtain the information and write to the hon Member.

ORAL

**NO. 1032 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**INVESTOR COMPENSATION DIRECTIVE**

Can Government say whether the approval by this House in July of the Investor Compensation Directive will be followed by passporting in investment services and if so when?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The matter is currently under discussion with HMG and the Government are hopeful that all issues will be resolved to enable the commencement of the Ordinance and the full enjoyment of passporting rights in investment services.

ORAL

**NO. 1033 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

Can the Minister for Sport confirm when the Government expects the old King’s Bastion to be converted to a Leisure Centre?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No. The project remains in the consultative stage.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1033 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

So the situation is exactly the same as when I asked the Minister for Sport when he said, “..... the recommendation for tenders is in the process of being prepared and tenders are going to be requested but there are still a number of balls in the air,” are there still a number of balls in the air then?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Lady cannot get a different answer simply by repeating the question twice in the space of a minute the answer is that the project remains in the consultative stage.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Have the Government overcome the difficulties that they said there were at the time that I asked the same question last year in respect of the heritage lobby?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not a question of overcoming difficulties. The heritage lobby or at least a significant part of the heritage lobby has always been of the view as I have always made clear in this House that the 1960's generating station building on Queensway should be demolished in order to expose the city walls on the North side of Kings Bastion. That is an issue which the Government have concluded. The Government have made the decision that the building will not be demolished, it will be incorporated into the Leisure Centre Facilities in Kings Bastion, the consultative stage is not about whether the building should or should not be demolished in the context of the heritage lobby's views but whether it is rather a consultation as to the content of the Leisure Centre.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

In the consultative period that the Government are in, have they already taken a decision as to whether the Leisure Centre will be privately run or run by the Government?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Government will announce their decisions at a time that the Government consider appropriate in the context of the project. We are not prepared to make announcements piecemeal until such time as the Government decide to proceed with announcing the project.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Are Government confident that the announcement will be made before their term of office?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I repeat my last answer.

ORAL

**NO. 1034 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**WESTERN BEACH**

Has the Ministry of Defence offered to hand over Western Beach to the Gibraltar Government?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(on behalf of the Minister for Trade, Industry and Telecommunications)**

Western Beach is not land held by the MOD for the purposes of defence and as such the MOD is unable to make any such offer. By prerogative right the foreshore, which is all that Western Beach actually is, belongs to the Crown in exactly the same way as all the other beaches in Gibraltar. The MOD request us that GOG should take over the maintenance responsibility but without proper landside access and the hon Member knows that the Government are resisting that proposition.

ORAL

**NO. 1035 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**GIBRALTAR'S IDD CODE**

Given that the British Foreign Secretary told the House of Commons on the 17<sup>th</sup> June that the objective of the British Government remains Spanish recognition of Gibraltar's International Dialling Code as the only viable long term solution to our telecoms problems with Spain, can Government state whether they have been informed by the British Government of what they propose to do in pursuance of that objective?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government are aware that the British Government have regular contact with the Spanish Government at official and Ministerial level and that they will continue to make clear to the Spanish Government that recognition of Gibraltar's IDD code is the only viable comprehensive, long term solution. The Gibraltar Government have no information as to how UK proposes to achieve that objective on its free standing merits.

ORAL

**NO. 1036 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

Are Government aware whether the European Commission has now updated the list of competent authorities in respect of the Application of Council Directives 93/75/EEC and 78/55/EEC, and if so, whether the Captain of the Port appears on the list as Gibraltar's competent authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Enquiries have been made of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Government can confirm that no update to the list of competent authority has to date been brought to our attention. However, the FCO are pursuing this matter with the EU.



ORAL

**NO. 1037 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**BREATHALYSER TEST**

Can Government state whether the practical matters related to the application of the law for the use of breathalyser tests have now been cleared by the Attorney General's Chambers and whether the RGP is now making use of the provisions laid down in the Ordinance?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The practical matters relating to the application of the law for the use of the breathalyser tests have been cleared by the Attorney General's Chambers. The RGP is at present not implementing the relevant part of the Ordinance but it is envisaged that it will start in January this year following a completion of the appropriate training programmes.

ORAL

**NO. 1038 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**LAND PROPERTY SERVICES**

Are Government now in a position to finalise the review of the contract of Land Property Services?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Baker Tilley report has been looked at and recommendations have been put forward by both Land Property Services and the Treasury. The Government have not yet concluded their consideration of these recommendations, but expect to do so before the end of this year. Basically what is proposed by the report is a change in the basis of remuneration to something more related to costs as opposed to revenue but this is something that needs to be negotiated in the context of the renewal of the contract. There has been quite a lot of delay (a) whilst the report was prepared (b) whilst the Government considered this, we are grateful to Land Property Services for the patience that they have shown but we are now determined to wrap this up by the end of the year.

ORAL

**NO. 1039 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**POST OF PERSONNEL MANAGER**

When will Government open the post of Personnel Manager?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government have considered the recommendations made in the Review of the Personnel Department which was undertaken earlier this year. It has been decided to restructure the department and to re-organise its functions. This involves a change in the title of the post of Personnel Manager which will in future be called Human Resources Manager. A number of administrative changes need to be put in place before the post is filled on a substantive basis but I expect this to be finalised before the end of the year.

ORAL

**NO. 1040 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**RADIATION READINGS**

Can Government state whether it has now engaged consultants to take radiation readings from transmissions of aerials and mastheads around Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Consultants (Radio Spectrum International Consulting Ltd) were engaged by Government to carry out an Electro Magnetic Frequency (EMF) emission survey. The team visited Gibraltar from 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2002 and submitted their report to Government on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002. Emission measurements were taken from a number of sites including offices at The Haven, which had been the main source of complaint and included the highest number of transmitters at any one site. The highest reading obtained in these offices is extremely low and represents a level of 1/412857 of the ICNIRP (International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection) public maximum exposure levels. This is well below the minimum levels recommended.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1040 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Did the consultancy include aerials and mastheads within the MOD or was that not included?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, I know that it certainly included a mast I think Government have in the Port Department at the top of one of the Port Department buildings, I know that it included that, I do not think it included MOD installations. What prompted the calling of the report in the first place was complaints from members of staff of the Government in the top floor of the Treasury Building on top of which these things stand that they were suffering an undue incidence of headaches so the Government obviously wanted to make sure that this could not be attributed to the mast and commissioned this survey as a matter of good employer practice to make sure that we were not exposing the employees and whilst they were here it extended to other Government sites. It has some value for the population at large but that was not the motive for calling it.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

I am glad to have that clarified because it first appeared in the Gibraltar Chronicle as an initiative of the Hon Mr Britto where he said that it was going to be done on a regular basis and that it was going to be kept monitored. My argument the last time which was not answered was if it is going to be done on a regular basis whether that consultancy ought not to have included people to be trained so that they could be done on a regular basis and what body is going to be the one that is going to receive that report to protect the public interest, would it be the Environmental Agency or would it be some other body?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am not aware of the answer given by my ministerial colleague mentioned by the hon Member, the readings on this occasion on the Treasury Building suggests that there is no need for on-going measurement, the readings as so far below the acceptable levels that unless there was some alteration to the strength of the transmissions passing through that mast there would seem to be no need. Whether the Minister meant that Gibtelecom as the operator were going to be conducting that which I think that they should if there is any issue there, if there is any issue there it would seem to be their responsibility, but certainly I agree with the hon Members if contrary to what I am now saying it is prudent to monitor these things on an on-going basis and if indeed unknown to me the Government have decided to do that on an on-going basis then I would agree with him that it would be logical to train up somebody in the Environmental Health Agency and to acquire the necessary equipment because as one knows these visiting consultancies are expensive.

ORAL

**NO. 1041 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

Will Government state what is the extra cost to Government per annum of setting up the proposed Electricity Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1042 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1042 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

Can Government state whether they have now resolved all the outstanding issues with the Union and Staff Associations over the setting up of an Electricity Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The potential extra cost cannot be calculated until the negotiations are complete and the final structure known. Good progress is being made in those negotiations, in a friendly and constructive basis, but there does remain a number of outstanding issues.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1041 AND 1042 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Would it be fair to say that whatever the extra cost is the bulk of it would be salaries?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not want to mislead the hon Member, the extra costs arising from a restructure of the terms and conditions of employment would obviously arise almost entirely from extra salaries. The Government are however intending in the context of a successful implementation of the Authority to look at the question of the plant and equipment in the station and that would almost certainly require extra investment in plant and equipment

and that would be extra cost but it would not be extra cost as a result of the change in terms and conditions of employment nor part of the negotiations in the sense of being part of the deal but it is on the table as one of the issues that people are aware of as they discuss the terms and conditions of employment.

**HON J C PEREZ:**

No, my question was actually looking at the recurring annual cost not any new plant that the Minister might decide in preference to keeping the contract of OESCO or whatever.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, any increase in recurring cost almost certainly or mostly will be extra payroll cost.



ORAL

**NO. 1043 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**CIVIL SERVICE – PAY REVIEW**

Can Government state whether the arbitration over the differences with the Union Prospect related to the 1999/2000 Pay Review for clerical grades has now commenced?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

This matter is the subject of informal discussion. It is not appropriate to comment further at this stage of the matter. It is the subject matter of what I think are going to be fruitful and formal discussions.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1043 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Could we say that the informal discussions could lead to the arbitration not taking place, is that the basis of the informal discussions?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

If the informal discussions yield fruit there would not be anything to arbitrate about, things have happened since we last met in this House in the UK, things have happened in terms of the pay review that has been agreed in the UK for the civil service for this year that have been announced after the summer which facilitate the resolution of the

issues that were left pending so it is not so much the question of the party saying, "Let us go back and restart the discussion where we had had them locally," but rather given that both sides are committed to parity principle the United Kingdom MOD which is the one that we are analogued has had structural changes to the method of pay calculation for the civil service and that has very helpfully in terms of timing cast new light on the party's ability to informally discuss the extent to which that provides a way forward on some of the outstanding issues. Fortuitous but there it is.

ORAL

**NO. 1044 OF 2002**

**THE HON J C PEREZ**

**POST OF COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS**

Has the vacancy for the post of Collector of Customs been advertised, and if so, how many persons have applied for the post?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Yes. One application has been received.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1044 OF 2002**

**HON J C PEREZ:**

Is the matter still at the level with the Public Service Commission it still needs to interview the individual and so on?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes I understand that the PSC is planning to hold its meeting sometime in the middle of November. There still has to be a meeting even though there is only one applicant because the PSC still has to satisfy itself the applicant is suitable for the post even though there is no other applicant.

ORAL

**NO. 1045 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HEAD 102 – SUBHEAD 1**

Can Government state what amount of the estimate in Head 102, Sale of Government properties has been received to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The amount received from Land Property Services Ltd and credited to the Improvement and Development Fund Head 102 – Sale of Government Properties, Subhead 1 – Land and Building Sales and Leases as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 is £434,282.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1045 OF 2002**

**HON DR R G VALARINO:**

I think the estimated figure on that Head was about £5 million does the Chief Minister have any hope that that figure will increase?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

We have every hope that that figure will increase. First of all the figure is an estimate for the whole year and secondly we are only part of the way through the year and this figure generally is a little bit of a stab because of course no one knows what demand there is going to be from people to buy their properties and even when people decide they want

to buy their properties the Government have little control of the exact timing. We hope to maximise it and get it as nearer to £5 million as possible but I think if the hon Member will see that if he compares every year's estimates with every year's forecast out-turn it hardly ever is a very accurate estimate.

ORAL

**NO. 1046 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government give a breakdown by estate of those homeowners who have purchased Government's share of their co-ownership homes in this financial year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1047 to 1051 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1047 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government state how many home owners have purchased Government's share of their co-ownership homes in this financial year and the total value of such sales?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1046 and 1048 to 1051 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1048 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government state as at the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2002 what the estimated value of the government's share of co-ownership homes is and the number of flats involved giving a breakdown by estate?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1046, 1047 and 1049 to 1051 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1049 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government provide the number of flats in which Government have a 50/50 'generic' interest broken down by estate?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1046 to 1048, 1050 and 1051 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1050 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR R G VALARINO**

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government say how many home owners have registered an interest in buying out the Government's share of 50/50 homes to date, giving a breakdown by estate?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1046 to 1049 and 1051 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 1051 OF 2002

THE HON DR R G VALARINO

**HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME**

Can Government provide the estimated value of the Government's share of Sir William Jackson Grove based on a 4 per cent per annum increase over the original purchase price?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No 1046 of 2002

The following is a breakdown by estate of the home owners who have purchased Government's share of their co-ownership homes in the financial year 2002/2003:-

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Montagu Gardens           | 6         |
| Montagu Cresecent         | 3         |
| Westview Park             | 3         |
| Harbour Views             | 23        |
| Sir William Jackson Grove | 2         |
| Bryptom                   | 3         |
|                           | —         |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>40</b> |
|                           | —         |

### **Answer to Question No 1047 of 2002**

The number of homeowners who have purchased Government's share of their co-ownership homes in the financial year 2002/2003, via the 50/50 discount scheme, and the total value of such sales, are as follows:

40 purchases = £767,815 (Monetary value)

### **Answer to Question No 1048 of 2002**

The following is the estimated value of Government's share of co-ownership homes and the number of flats involved, by estates as at 1<sup>st</sup> October 2002:-

|                           |             | <b>Cost</b>  | <b>Offer</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
|                           |             | <b>£m</b>    | <b>£m</b>    |
| Montagu Gardens           | 484         | 10.9         | 15.1         |
| Montagu Crescent          | 206         | 4.5          | 4.7          |
| Westview Park             | 118         | 4.8          | 2.4          |
| Harbour Views             | 732         | 13.8         | 11.3         |
| Sir William Jackson Grove | 251         | 5.5          | 3.3          |
| Brympton                  | 81          | 2.2          | 2.1          |
|                           | —           | —            | —            |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>1872</b> | <b>£41.7</b> | <b>£38.9</b> |
|                           | —           | —            | —            |

### **Answer to Question No 1049 of 2002**

The following is a breakdown by estate of the number of flats in which Government have an interest:-

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Montagu Gardens           | 484          |
| Montagu Crescent          | 206          |
| Westview Park             | 118          |
| Harbour Views             | 732          |
| Sir William Jackson Grove | 251*         |
| Brympton                  | 81           |
|                           | —            |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>1,872</b> |
|                           | —            |

- Additionally Government have an interest through its Option C on 215 flats and a further interest on 117 pensioner flats.

### **Answer to Question No 1050 of 2002**

The following is the breakdown by estate of the number of homeowners who have registered an interest in buying Government's share of 50/50 homes to date:

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Montagu Gardens           | 226        |
| Montagu Crescent          | 70         |
| Westview Park             | 37         |
| Harbour Views             | 282        |
| Sir William Jackson Grove | 76         |
| Brympton                  | 48         |
|                           | —          |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>739</b> |
|                           | —          |

### **Answer to Question No 1051 of 2002**

The following is the estimated value of Government's share of Sir William Jackson Grove based on a 4 per cent per annum over the original purchase price:-

|                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Cost                                  | £5,527,242.00 |
| 4% increase for 8 years               | £1,768,717.00 |
|                                       | —             |
| Estimated value of Government's Share | £7,295,959.00 |
|                                       | —             |

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1046 TO 1051 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In answer to Question No 652 of 2002 at the last meeting of the House the estimated figure was £52.7 million what is the explanation for the difference?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I would have to see the exact formulation of the question and the dates. There is a number of flats already which have been sold in the meantime and therefore those will be included in one total and not in the other. Depending on the date of that question there may have been a reduction. Had the 4 per cent business already been announced by then?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If I may quote the answer that was given in April was, "...the estimated value of Government's share of the properties based on a 4 per cent per annum increase over the original purchase price is £52.7 million the breakdown by estate is as follows...." And there follows a breakdown by estate where comparing the two for example, I note that there is a difference in Harbour Views which is shown as £19 million in April and £11 million now and given that we have just been told that the amount that has been sold to date comes to £0.75 million...

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Were they the same questions, exactly the same question?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes exactly the same question and exactly the same answer the estimated value of the share based on a 4 per cent per annum increase over the original price is £52.7 if that was in April one would have expected that it would be worth more six months later because it would have meant another 2 per cent on top. It is on page 536 of Hansard of the April Question and Answer Session, Question No 652 of 2002.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Does the hon Member say that the discrepancy affects principally Sir William Jackson Grove?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Well nor that this seems to be enough because there is a discrepancy there of £7.3 million and the difference between £38 million and £52 million is double that.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not have the answer to that these are the figures that have been passed up to me by the Treasury .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Sir William Jackson Grove is now given as £3.3 million and in April it was said to be worth £7 million .....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I need to see the exact question because to see whether the previous question was formulated in terms of the estimated value of Government's share of co-ownership as opposed to Government's shares of the homes. Somebody may have taken the view in the Treasury that some of Sir William Jackson Grove is not co-ownership but I do not know. The hon Member says there is a discrepancy between the answers I will have somebody in the Treasury look to see whether there is a discrepancy between the answers and if there is to explain it.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It is not that I am saying it as if as if I were speculating. We were told in April the value was £52 million and we are told now it is £38 million there clearly is a discrepancy. The question is the same and the answer is the same. It is Question No 652 of 2002 which was, "Can Government state which is the estimated value of the Government's share of co-ownership homes on the basis of the offer for sales at the level of 4 per cent per annum increase on the original price giving a breakdown by estate?", and the answer is £52.7 million and there is a breakdown by estate. Now we thought we were going to get a higher figure this year unless there had been sales which would have reduced it but we would like to know which of the two is the right figure?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

If there is a discrepancy as opposed to an explanation I shall have it established and pass it on to the hon Member.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that this money is intended to be credited to the residential property company and intended to finance the new investment in housing, I would have thought the Government would know whether they are talking about expecting something like £50 million or something like £38 million. I would understand if the figures were very close to each other but given the difference, do they not have a figure of what they think they can achieve by the sales if they are completely successful in their policy because that presumably is the money that they are going to re-invest?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That is the answer that has been given to me by the Treasury and I shall repeat, the hon Member believes that there is a discrepancy between this answer and the one that he

got at the last House, I will ask whether there is a discrepancy or otherwise an explanation and I will pass them on to him.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

What I am asking now as supplementary is given that this is in fact as I understand it the raising of this capital is what the Government are intending to re-invest what is it that they are expecting to be able to raise from the sales if they were to be completely successful, have they not had a figure ?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

As much as possible.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes but they do not know what the figure is likely to be.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It depends on how many people take up the offer, I told the hon Member in the last House that the funding did not depend on this that whatever could be raised would contribute to the funding. The hon Member does as usual, he gets part of what I have said, he moulds it into whatever form he wants and then he presents it back to me in a different form to which I gave it to him. This is not a question of the Government having a particular target for a particular amount we hope as many people as possible take up the offer to buy because that would give us as much funding as possible for housing and other things and relieve the Government of the need to have to provide the finance for those projects from other sources. That is what I told them the last time.



ORAL

**NO. 1052 OF 2002**

**THE HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO**

**TRANSFER OF BOATS AT WESTERN BEACH TO COALING ISLAND**

Are Government now in a position to state when they can expect the transfer of boats at Western Beach to the area of Coaling Island to commence?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The position remains the same as on the last occasion the hon Member asked this question.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1052 OF 2002**

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Does it mean that Government have not been able to resolve the pending matters they have with the MOD?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I mean that the position remains the same as on the last occasion that the hon Member asked this question.

**HON MISS M I MONTEGRIFFO:**

Have matters with the third party been resolved then, with the private company?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The position remains the same as when the hon Member last asked this question.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Has any attempt been made to progress the position from where it was the last time the question was asked?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes but discussions with the MOD on their new approach to land redistribution is slow.

ORAL

**NO. 1053 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8-A – SUBHEAD 8(D)**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8-A Subhead 8 (d) in respect of the £832,000 forecast out-turn for 2001/2002 being private sector fees for legal drafting, giving a breakdown by law firm showing the amounts paid to each firm and the date of payment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1054 to 1057 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1054 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8-A – SUBHEAD 8(E)**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8-A Subhead 8 (e) in respect of the £10,000 forecast out-turn for 2001/2002 being publications?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1053 and 1055 to 1057 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1055 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8 A – SUBHEAD 13**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8-A Subhead 13 in respect of the £596,000 forecast out-turn for 2001/2002 being private sector fees for legal advice, giving a breakdown by law firm showing the amounts paid to each firm and the date of payment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1053, 1054, 1056 and 1057 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1056 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8-A – SUBHEAD 14**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8-A Subhead 14 in respect of the £478,000 forecast out-turn for the year 2001/2002 being political lobbying, invited guests and official travel?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1053 to 1055 and 1057 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1057 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8-A – SUBHEAD 22**

Can Government provide a breakdown of Head 8-A Subhead 22 in respect of the £126,000 forecast out-turn for the year 2001/2002 being research, development studies and professional fees?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I hand the hon Member the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 1053 of 2002**

| <b><u>Law Firm</u></b> | <b><u>Description</u></b>          | <b><u>Amount (£)</u></b> | <b><u>Date of Payment</u></b> |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| M Llamas               | Consumer Protective Directive 97/7 | 6,630.00                 | 05.04.01                      |
| " "                    | Consumer Legislation               | 23,400.00                | 22.05.01                      |
| " "                    | Civil Aviation                     | 5,330.00                 | 25.04.01                      |
| " "                    | Civil Aviation                     | 6,825.00                 | 18.05.01                      |
| Hassans                | Telecommunications                 | 49,330.00                | 11.04.01                      |
| Hassans                | Telecommunications                 | 31,540.00                | 25.06.01                      |
| Hassans                | Tax Reform                         | 80,675.00                | 21.11.01                      |
| Hassans                | Tax Reform                         | 26,017.00                | 05.03.01                      |
| Triay & Triay          | Tax Reform                         | 41,060.00                | 21.11.01                      |
| Triay & Triay          | Tax Reform                         | 11,670.00                | 13.03.01                      |
| Baker Tilly            | Tax Reform                         | 29,925.00                | 21.11.01                      |
| KPMG                   | Tax Reform                         | 47,550.00                | 21.11.01                      |
| KPMG                   | Tax Reform                         | 20,287.00                | 13.03.01                      |
| BDO Fidecs Agent       | Tax Reform                         | 1,380.00                 | 05.03.01                      |
|                        |                                    | <hr/>                    |                               |
| <b>Total</b>           |                                    | <b>£381,619.00</b>       |                               |
|                        |                                    | <hr/>                    |                               |

**Answer to Question No 1054 of 2002**

|                                                  |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Butterworth Tolley – Halsbury Statutes           | £4,884.50        |
| Context – EU Legislation & Directives            | £2,050.00        |
| W H Everett & sons Ltd – Official Journals of EU | £ 739.07         |
|                                                  | <hr/>            |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>£7,673.57</b> |
|                                                  | <hr/>            |



**Answer to Question No 1055 of 2002**

| <b><u>Law Firm</u></b>   | <b><u>Date</u></b> | <b><u>Amount (£)</u></b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>White &amp; Case</b>  | 05.04.01           | 3,714.30                 |
|                          | 06.05.01           | 5,176.05                 |
|                          | 04.06.01           | 4,187.29                 |
|                          | 12.07.01           | 2,308.24                 |
|                          | 22.08.01           | 3,008.99                 |
|                          | 03.09.01           | 6,017.02                 |
|                          | 27.11.01           | 15,659.00                |
|                          | 10.12.01           | 3,385.00                 |
|                          | 20.12.01           | 155,837.28               |
|                          | 09.01.02           | 3,560.00                 |
|                          | 14.02.02           | 4,120.00                 |
|                          | 05.03.02           | 776.00                   |
|                          |                    | <hr/>                    |
| <b>Hassans</b>           | 25.04.01           | 22,384.40                |
|                          | 03.05.01           | 855.00                   |
|                          | 17.5.01            | 5,361.00                 |
|                          | 22.05.01           | 2,504.50                 |
|                          | 04.06.01           | 12,365.00                |
|                          | 25.06.01           | 750.00                   |
|                          | 23.08.01           | 3,749.00                 |
|                          | 11.09.01           | 6,978.00                 |
|                          | 09.11.01           | 3,210.00                 |
|                          | 07.12.01           | 4,530.00                 |
|                          | 20.12.01           | 29,732.90                |
|                          | 28.11.01           | 4,506.11                 |
|                          | 01.02.02           | 650.00                   |
|                          | 26.02.02           | 750.00                   |
|                          | 05.03.02           | 19,418.62                |
| 20.03.02                 | 5,945.70           |                          |
|                          | <hr/>              | <b>£123,690.23</b>       |
| <b>Attias &amp; Levy</b> | 03.05.01           | 10,040.00                |
|                          | 22.08.01           | 760.00                   |
|                          | 22.08.01           | 2,137.70                 |
|                          | 13.03.02           | 5,758.00                 |
|                          | <hr/>              | <b>18,695.70</b>         |

|                                             |          |                   |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| <b>Triay &amp; Triay</b>                    | 03.05.01 | 26,324.70         |
|                                             | 07.08.01 | 2,200.00          |
|                                             | 06.03.02 | 6,714.00          |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
|                                             |          | <b>35,238.70</b>  |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
| <b>Isola &amp; Isola</b>                    | 13.08.01 | 25,000.00         |
|                                             | 3.10.01  | 1,575.00          |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
|                                             |          | <b>26,575.00</b>  |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
| <b>Buhrani &amp; Co</b>                     | 25.05.01 | 725.15            |
|                                             | 03.12.01 | 4,800.00          |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
|                                             |          | <b>5,525.15</b>   |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
| Ray Pilley Solicitors                       | 02.07.01 | 300.00            |
| Charles Gomez & Co                          | 07.12.01 | 650.00            |
| Louis Triay QC                              | 20.12.01 | 3,000.00          |
| Miscellaneous                               |          |                   |
| Mr A Thorhill QC                            | 25.04.01 | 5,000.00          |
| Mr A Thorhill QC                            | 03.09.01 | 5,000.00          |
| Richard Plender QC                          | 25.05.01 | 10,000.00         |
| Royal Institution of<br>Chartered Surveyors | 25.05.01 | 275.00            |
| M Llamas                                    | 20.12.01 | 67,150.00         |
| Professor Fletcher                          | 20.12.01 | 4,000.00          |
| Mr Luc Argand Etude                         | 07.03.02 | 10,529.20         |
| Michael Beloff                              | 07.03.02 | 11,875.00         |
| Adam Lewis                                  | 07.03.02 | 6,664.70          |
| Mr Andrew Hochhauser                        | 13.03.02 | 25,000.00         |
| Mr Argand                                   | 28.01.02 | 585.77            |
| Cruz & Co                                   | 02.07.02 | 16,840.08         |
| Cruz & Co                                   | 08.02.02 | 11,316.83         |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |
|                                             |          | <b>174,236.58</b> |
|                                             |          | <hr/>             |

**Answer to Question No 1056 of 2002**

|                 | £                 |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Official Travel | 133,288.51        |
| Invited Guests  | 8,718.10          |
| Political       | 336,116.95        |
|                 | <hr/>             |
|                 | <b>478,123.56</b> |
|                 | <hr/>             |

**Answer to Question No 1057 of 2002**

|                                                          |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Post Office Review                                       | 2,220.40  |
| Buildings and Works Review                               | 1,205.05  |
| Input/Output Study                                       | 1,692.00  |
| Civil Contingency Planning Consultancy                   | 4,200.00  |
| IT Review                                                | 24,291.85 |
| Nuclear Submarine Study                                  | 69,480.96 |
| Gaming Study Review                                      | 3,346.65  |
| Port Pay Evaluation Study                                | 7,000.00  |
| Professional Fees IRO Montagu Crescent Structural Report | 8,525.80  |
| Consultancy Fees IRO Asbestos                            | 2,773.70  |

ORAL

**NO. 1058 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TAX REFORMS**

Can Government give the names of the persons involved in the committee that advised them on the tax reforms that were announced in July, and in what capacity each of them served on that committee?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1059 and 1060 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1059 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TAX REFORMS**

Can Government give the total cost, with a breakdown, of the money paid to the group that advised on its tax reforms?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1058 and 1060 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1060 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**TAX REFORMS**

What did the group that advised the Government on their tax reforms produce in exchange for the money paid?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government's Tax Reform Committee comprises of:-

- |    |                 |   |                                   |
|----|-----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Wilfred Smart   | - | Commissioner of Income Tax        |
| 2. | Frank Carreras  | - | Income Tax Office                 |
| 3. | Robert Vasquez  | - | Triay & Triay                     |
| 4. | Tony Provasoli  | - | Hassans                           |
| 5. | Chris White     | - | Hassans                           |
| 6. | Charles Serruya | - | Baker Tilly Chartered Accountants |
| 7. | Albert Mena     | - | KPMG Accountants                  |

The Tax Reform Committee has been responsible for advising upon and drafting the new company taxation legislation for Government. Members of the Committee were selected for their expertise and ability in these areas. The fees paid are set out in the Schedule I hand the hon Member. The total is £322,161.

**Answer to Question No 1060 of 2002**

|                 | £                  |          |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------|
| Hassans         | 80,675.00          | 21.11.01 |
| Hassans         | 26,017.00          | 05.03.02 |
| Hassans         | 19,395.70          | 25.04.02 |
| Hassans         | 10,367.95          | 04.10.02 |
| Triay & Triay   | 41,060.00          | 21.11.01 |
| Triay & Triay   | 11,670.00          | 13.03.02 |
| Triay & Triay   | 4,545.00           | 08.05.02 |
| Baker Tilly     | 29,925.00          | 21.11.01 |
| Baker Tilly     | 8,025.00           | 22.05.02 |
| KPMG            | 47,550.00          | 21.11.01 |
| KPMG            | 20,287.00          | 13.03.02 |
| KPMG            | 7,087.00           | 05.06.02 |
| KPMG            | 6,902.22           | 12.06.02 |
| KPMG            | 7,275.00           | 23.08.02 |
| BDO FIDECS MGNT | 1,380.00           | 05.03.02 |
|                 | <hr/>              |          |
|                 | <b>£322,161.87</b> |          |
|                 | <hr/>              |          |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1058 TO 1060 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the case that the money was paid to the firms that the people came from and not to the actual person themselves?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am not sure that it is appropriate to delve into how these firms organise their internal accounting arrangements, it appears by the answer that he has had from me by the schedule that the recipient of the payment is the firm. I cannot say what they have done with it, certainly as far as the Government are concerned we chose the individuals not the firms because we were choosing the individuals because of their aptitude and skills and expertise in the areas in question. When the bill arrived it arrived from the firm and it was paid to the firm.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

There seems to be more firms than individuals given that two of the individuals are civil servants?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

They are all individual working firms.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I accept that, I think that the Chief Minister mentioned that there were two accountants, Albert Mena and Caruana?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No. There are seven of which two are civil servants and therefore we can disregard them, all the others are three lawyers, one from Triay and Triay two from Hassans, and two chartered accountants one from Baker Tilley and one from KPMG.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The BDO FIDECS payment then was in respect of what?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That firm helped the committee in the drafting or in the research but they are not themselves part of the committee.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Draft Legislation is the one to which the Chief Minister referred to in July when he said that this would be brought to the House at some stage and we would have an opportunity of debating all the issues?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes and it is quite voluminous it is not just a question of amendments to the Income Tax Ordinance there are seven or nine pieces of legislation involved in implementing the whole scheme and it really is a thick pile of papers in its totality.



**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given from what we have been told and what it has taken this committee to produce it, it appears to be quite complex, would the Government be in a position to let us have this once they have decided if they are going to go ahead so that we have the maximum possible time to be able to go through it before we get to the House to debate it?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, Government are acutely aware that it would not facilitate proper debate in this House if the hon members have only seven days notice for all this legislation.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So the answer is yes?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes hon Members will get more than the usual seven days notice by which I do not mean some minimal increase, by which I mean a reasonable period of time. I do not want to commit myself to a particular period of time but certainly we will maximise the period of time not just because it is only reasonable that for such complex legislation the Opposition should have as much time as is possible to prepare but also because indeed from the industry's point of view they cannot see the legislation for the first time when it appears on a green paper as a Bill and therefore the Government have in mind that there is a need to "publish" the text of this legislation early on and perhaps even before the legislative process actually begins in terms of publication of the Bill so I am confident that there will be quite a lot, more than usual. What Government are not going to do is circulate the legislation in the industry and not send it to the Opposition.

ORAL

**NO. 1061 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CASEMATES DEVELOPMENT**

Have the three units at the Casemates development that were put out to tender now been allocated, and if so when, to whom and for what type of business?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1062 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1062 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CASEMATES DEVELOPMENT**

Can Government say whether there are any vacant units at the Casemates Development other than the three that were put out to tender?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No 1061 of 2002**

Units 6E, 18E and 21B Casemates Barracks were put to tender on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2001. Only unit 6E has been allocated. Mr James Valarino was the successful tenderer. The unit was allocated in April 2002 for the purpose of a Moroccan Bazaar.

One tender for unit 18E was received and rejected.  
One tender for unit 21B was received but did not materialise.

**Answer to question No 1062 of 2002**

Unit 2/3 Casemates Square previously intended as an ice cream parlour and which is in the process of being repossessed is to be put out to tender together with units 18E and 21B Casemates Barracks already put out to tender unsuccessfully.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1061 AND 1062 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I understand that the three units have been put out to tender yesterday or the day before when the adverts came out in the press but the last time we discussed these in the House there were actually five tenderers who were interested in the three vacant units apart that only the Moroccan accessory shop seems to have been successful, there was also a confectionary, a pick and mix, a tapas bar and a specialist chocolate sweet shop, has the Chief Minister any information as to why none of these were successful?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I fear that the hon Member is presupposing that all of those applied for any one of the units. I think he will probably find that all those other ones that he has mentioned, the sweetshop and the tapas bar, they were applicants in competition with the Moroccan bazaar but only for the unit downstairs. The problem here is that the units at ground floor level are quite popular, the units across the top of the uncovered walkway on the first floor are less commercially popular so there are always more applicants for anything that remains vacant on the ground street level than for upstairs. As I said in my answer for unit 18E only one tender was received and indeed only one tender was received for 21B and then it did not materialise.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to 18E and 21B was a rejection of the two tenders to do with the type of business and if not what was the reason for the rejection?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

21B was not the subject of a rejection it was the subject of a bid that did not materialise in substance later. I have not got information of why the bid for 18E was received and rejected it might have been because the tenderer offered less rent than the going rate, it may be because it was for a user that was not considered appropriate, but I do not know.

ORAL

**NO. 1063 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

What is the amount of import duty paid on building materials on a monthly basis since April 2002 inclusive?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The amount of import duty paid on building materials on a monthly basis since April 2002 is as follows:-

|            | £         |
|------------|-----------|
| April 2002 | 25,386.44 |
| May 2002   | 25,336.40 |
| June 2002  | 24,843.90 |
| July 2002  | 30,487.56 |
| Aug 2002   | 19,497.72 |
| Sept 2002  | 23,493.36 |

ORAL

**NO. 1064 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**IMPORTS – COMPUTERS**

What was the value of computers imported into Gibraltar on a monthly basis since April 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The value of computer hardware imported into Gibraltar on a monthly basis since April 2002 to date is as follows:-

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| April  | £ 582,703  |
| May    | £1,297,114 |
| June   | £ 458,965  |
| July   | £ 691,434  |
| August | £ 547,372  |

ORAL

**NO. 1065 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ADVERTISING – LONDON TAXIS**

What is the cost to date with a breakdown of the advertising campaign on London taxis, and how many taxis carry the Gibraltar advert as at the end of August 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1066 of 2002.

**NO. 1066 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**ADVERTISING – LONDON UNDERGROUND**

What is the cost to date with a breakdown of the poster advertising on the London Underground, and how many Gibraltar posters are displayed as at the end of August 2002, listing the stations in which they are located?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The information requested is too voluminous so I will hand the hon Member the information requested. I would just clarify when he has had the documents in front of him he will see that the first four full pages is a list of the underground stations where the Gibraltar poster has appeared. On the fifth page he will see that there is the advertising cost. When this answer has been prepared for me the answer to Question No 1065 of 2002 suggests that the answer to it will be found with Question No 1066 of 2002 in here, I see no separate reference in the schedules to taxis but it is 52 taxis at just over £3,000 each for a year, so although I do not think the information is contained under that heading, "Total Advertising Cost," I just need to check that it is true that it is not contained so that the hon Member can know whether that figure relates only to the poster campaign or whether it is the poster campaign plus the taxis.



Answer to Question 1066 of 2002

**GIBRALTAR - UNDERGROUND POSTER CAMPAIGN**

| <u>STATION</u>   | <u>LINE</u>            | <u>1 - 31 JAN</u> | <u>1 - 28 FEB</u> | <u>1 - 14 MAR</u> | <u>1 APR - 2 JUN</u> | <u>3 JUN - 28 JUL</u> | <u>29 JUL-31 AUG</u> |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ALL SAINTS       | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| ALDGATE EAST     | DISTRICT               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       | 1                    |
| ANGEL            | NORTHERN               | 1                 |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| BARBICAN         | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMITH |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| BANK DLR         | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   | 3                 | 2                 | 2                 | 3                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| BAKER STREET     | JUBILEE                | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       |                      |
| BAKER STREET     | BAKERLOO               |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     | 0                    |
| BAKER STREET     | METROPOLITAN           |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     |                      |
| ISLAND GARDENS   | NORTHERN               | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 2                    |                       |                      |
| BANK             | CENTRAL                |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| BANK             | NORTHERN               |                   |                   |                   |                      | 2                     | 3                    |
| BAYSWATER        | DISTRICT               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      | 1                     |                      |
| BECKENHAM        | CROYDON TRAMLINK       |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| BECKTON          | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| BECKTON PARK     | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| BETHNAL GREEN    | CENTRAL                | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| BLACKFRIARS      | DISTRICT               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| BLACKHORSE ROAD  | VICTORIA               |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| BLACKWALL        | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   |                   |                   |                   | 3                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| BOWCHURCH        | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| BOND STREET      | CENTRAL                | 3                 | 3                 | 3                 | 2                    | 3                     | 3                    |
| BRIXTON          | VICTORIA               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| BROMLEY-BY-BOW   | DISTRICT               |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| CAMDEN TOWN      | NORTHERN               |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     | 1                    |
| CANNON STREET    | DISTRICT               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| CANNING TOWN     | JUBILEE                | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| CANARY WHARF DLR | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL   | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 4                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| CHANCERY LANE    | CENTRAL                |                   |                   | 1                 |                      |                       | 1                    |
| CHARING CROSS    | NORTHERN               | 3                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| CHARING CROSS    | BAKERLOO               |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| CROYDON          | CROYDON TRAMLINK       | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 6                    | 6                     | 1                    |

657

As at 2 August 2002

Continued...

Answer to Question 1066 of 2002

| <u>STATION</u>          | <u>LINE</u>          | <u>1 - 31 JAN</u> | <u>1 - 28 FEB</u> | <u>1 - 14 MAR</u> | <u>1 APR - 2 JUN</u> | <u>3 JUN - 28 JUL</u> | <u>29 JUL-31 AUG</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| CROSSHARBOUR            | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| CUSTOM HOUSE            | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| CUTTY SARK              | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| CANADA WATER            | EAST LONDON          | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| CYPRUS                  | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 3                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| DEPTFORD BRIDGE         | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| DEVONS RAOD             | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   |                      | 2                     | 1                    |
| EAST INDIA              | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 3                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| EDGWARE                 | NORTHERN             |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| ELVERSON ROAD           | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| EMBANKMENT              | DISTRICT             | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| EARLS COURT             | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| EAST PUTNEY             | DISTRICT LINE        |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| ELEPHANT & CASTLE       | NORTHERN             |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| EUSTON                  | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    |                       | 2                    |
| EUSTON                  | NORTHERN             | 2                 | 3                 | 2                 | 1                    | 3                     | 2                    |
| EUSTON SQUARE           | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMI | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| FINSBURY PARK           | PICCADILLY           |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| FARRINGDON              | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMI | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| GOLDERS GREEN           | NORTHERN             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| GREENWICH               | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL | 1                 | 1                 |                   | 1                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| GREEN PARK              | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       | 1                    |
| GREEN PARK              | JUBILEE              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| GREEN PARK              | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| HEATHROW TERMINALS 1,2  | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| HIGHBURY & ISLINGTON    | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| HIGH STREET KENSINGTON  | DISTRICT             | 1                 |                   | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| HAMMERSMITH BUS STATION |                      | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| HAMMERSMITH             | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMI | 1                 |                   |                   |                      |                       |                      |
| HAMMERSMITH             | DISTRICT             |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| HIGH STREET KENSINGTON  | DISTRICT             |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| HOLBORN                 | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       | 1                    |
| HOLLAND PAARK           | CENTRAL              |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     |                      |
| HYDE PARK CORNER        | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     |                      |

Continued...

As at 2 August 2002

| <u>STATION</u>         | <u>LINE</u>           | <u>1 - 31 JAN</u> | <u>1 - 28 FEB</u> | <u>1 - 14 MAR</u> | <u>1 APR - 2 JUN</u> | <u>3 JUN - 28 JUL</u> | <u>29 JUL-31 AUG</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ISLAND GARDENS         | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL  | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| KNIGHTSBRIDGE          | PICCADILLY            | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| KINGS CROSS ST PANCRAS | PICCADILLY            | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| KINGS CROSS ST PANCRAS | VICTORIA              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| LADBROKE GROVE         | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMIT | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| LANCASTER GATE         | CENTRAL               |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| LEICESTER SQUARE       | PICCADILLY            | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      | 1                     | 1                    |
| LEYTON                 | CENTRAL               |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| LEYTONSTONE            | CENTRAL               |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| LIMEHOUSE              | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL  | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| LIVERPOOL STREET       | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMIT | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| LONDON BRIDGE          | NORTHERN              | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| LONDON BRIDGE          | JUBILEE               |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| LOUGHTON               | CENTRAL               |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| MARBLE ARCH            | CENTRAL               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| MOORGATE               | NORTHERN              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| MOORGATE               | CIRCLE AND HAMMERSMIT | 3                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| MONUMENT               | DISTRICT              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| MANOR HOUSE            | PICCADILLY            | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       | 1                    |
| MANSION HOUSE          | DISTRICT              | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      | 1                     | 1                    |
| MITCHAM                | CROYDON TRAMLINK      |                   |                   |                   | 7                    | 7                     |                      |
| MUDCHUTE               | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL  | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       |                      |
| NOTTING HILL GATE      | CENTRAL               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| NOTTING HILL GATE      | DISTRICT              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| NORTH GREENWICH        | JUBILEE               | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    |                       | 2                    |
| NORWOOD                | CROYDON TRAMLINK      | 1                 |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| OLD STREET             | NORTHERN              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| OXFORD CIRCUS          | CENTRAL               |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| OXFORD CIRCUS          | VICTORIA              | 3                 | 3                 | 3                 | 2                    | 4                     | 4                    |
| PADDINGTON             | DISTRICT              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| PICCADILLY CIRCUS      | PICCADILLY            | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| PIMLICO                | VICTORIA              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| PRINCE REGENT          | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL  |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| PUDDING MILL LANE      | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL  |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 2                    |

As at 2 August 2002

Answer to Question 1066 of 2002

| <u>STATION</u>         | <u>LINE</u>          | <u>1 - 31 JAN</u> | <u>1 - 28 FEB</u> | <u>1 - 14 MAR</u> | <u>1 APR - 2 JUN</u> | <u>3 JUN - 28 JUL</u> | <u>29 JUL-31 AUG</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| QUEENSWAY              | CENTRAL              |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| RAVENSCOURT PARK       | DISTRICT             |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     | 1                    |
| ROYAL ALBERT           | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 3                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| ROYAL VICTORIA         | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| RUSSELL SQUARE         | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       |                      |
| SEVEN SISTERS          | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| SHADWELL               | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| SHEPHERDS BUSH         | CENTRAL              |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| SLOANE SQUARE          | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| SOUTH CROYDON          | CROYDON TRAMLINK     |                   |                   |                   | 5                    | 5                     |                      |
| SOUTH KENSINGTON       | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       |                      |
| SOUTH KENSINGTON       | PICCADILLY           |                   |                   |                   |                      | 2                     | 2                    |
| SOUTH QUAY             | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| SOUTHWARK              | JUBILEE              |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     |                      |
| STEPNEY GREEN          | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| STRATFORD              | JUBILEE              | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      | 1                     |                      |
| STOCKWELL              | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     |                      |
| STOCKWELL              | NORTHERN             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| ST. JAMES'S PARK       | DISTRICT             |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| ST. JOHNS WOOD         | JUBILEE              |                   |                   |                   | 1                    |                       |                      |
| ST. PAULS              | CENTRAL              | 1                 |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| SWISS COTTAGE          | JUBILEE              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| SOUTHWARK              | JUBILEE              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       |                      |
| TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD   | CENTRAL              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD   | NORTHERN             |                   |                   |                   |                      | 1                     |                      |
| TEMPLE                 | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| TOTTENHAM HALE         | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    |                       | 1                    |
| TOWER HILL             | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| VAUXHALL               | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      | 1                     |                      |
| VICTORIA COACH STATION |                      | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 1                     | 2                    |
| VICTORIA               | VICTORIA             | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 1                    | 3                     | 3                    |
| VICTORIA               | DISTRICT             | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 2                    | 2                     | 1                    |
| WALTHAMSTOW CENTRAL    | VICTORIA             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WARREN STREET          | VICTORIA             | 2                 | 2                 | 2                 | 2                    | 3                     | 2                    |

As at 2 August 2002

Continued...

Answer to Question 1066 of 2002

| <u>STATION</u>    | <u>LINE</u>          | <u>1 - 31 JAN</u> | <u>1 - 28 FEB</u> | <u>1 - 14 MAR</u> | <u>1 APR - 2 JUN</u> | <u>3 JUN - 28 JUL</u> | <u>29 JUL-31 AUG</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| WESTFERRY         | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WEST HAM          | JUBILEE              |                   |                   |                   | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WEST INDIA QUAY   | DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAIL |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WOOD GREEN        | PICCADILLY           | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| WHITECHAPEL       | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| WATERLOO          | BAKERLOO             |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       | 1                    |
| WATERLOO          | JUBILEE              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WATERLOO          | NORTHERN             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WATERLOO          | WATERLOO & CITY      | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 1                    | 1                     | 1                    |
| WIMBLEDON         | CROYDON TRAMLINK     |                   |                   |                   | 2                    | 2                     |                      |
| WESTMINSTER       | JUBILEE              | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 | 2                    | 2                     | 2                    |
| WESTMINSTER       | DISTRICT             | 1                 | 1                 | 1                 |                      |                       |                      |
| TOTALS:           |                      | 115               | 102               | 101               | 164                  | 146                   | 131                  |
|                   | TOTAL:               |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       |                      |
| ADVERTISING COST  | £ 304,931            | £ 32,450          | £ 34,000          | £ 10,000          | £ 82,253             | £ 73,114              | £ 73,114             |
| PRINT/PRODUCTION: | £ 3,217              |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       |                      |
| TOTAL COST:       | £ 308,148            |                   |                   |                   |                      |                       |                      |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1065 AND 1066 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

We would be grateful for that information. Can I ask the Chief Minister how long the two campaigns are expected to run?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The poster campaign is until the end of the year currently scheduled, the taxis because they did not all start at the same time expires between January and March of the coming year and so we have to decide whether to continue either or both of those campaigns.

ORAL

**NO. 1067 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**OFFSHORE BETTING**

Can Government say how many people are employed in the offshore betting industry, indicating how many are part-time and how many are full-time as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002, listing the companies where such persons are employed, and how many are Gibraltarians, how many are EU nationals and how many are non-EU nationals?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1068 and 1069 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1068 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**OFFSHORE BETTING**

At what stage are the two formal applications for a licence to conduct offshore betting from Gibraltar that were under consideration at the last Question Time in this House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1067 and 1069 of 2002.



**NO. 1069 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**OFFSHORE BETTING**

Can Government say whether there have been any new applications for a licence to conduct offshore betting from Gibraltar in May, June, July, August and September 2002 to date, and whether any applications have been approved or rejected in that time, or currently remain under consideration?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No 1067 of 2002**

Based on the latest available information supplied by the gaming operators themselves as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, a total of 537 persons were employed by 11 companies. I hand the hon Member the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 1068 of 2002**

Only one formal application that was under consideration at the last Question Time is still being pursued.

**Answer to Question No 1069 of 2002**

Eleven enquiries have been received post the information provided in answer to Question No 638 of 2002 of which further two resulted in formal applications and remain under consideration.

## ANSWER TO QUESTION 1069 OF 2002

**OFFSHORE GAMING COMPANIES - EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2002**

|                                                                               | <b>Gibraltarian</b> | <b>Other British</b> | <b>Spanish</b> | <b>Other</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Ladbroke (Gibraltar) Limited - Full Time                                      | 9                   | 23                   | 2              | 1            | 35           |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 1                   | 0                    | 0              | 0            | 1            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>10</b>           | <b>23</b>            | <b>2</b>       | <b>1</b>     | <b>36</b>    |
| Victor Chandler (Int) Limited - Full Time                                     | 39                  | 89                   | 8              | 46           | 182          |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 31                  | 20                   | 7              | 4            | 62           |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>70</b>           | <b>109</b>           | <b>15</b>      | <b>50</b>    | <b>244</b>   |
| Bet and Win International Limited - Full Time<br><i>(formerly Simon Bold)</i> | 6                   | 15                   | 2              | 10           | 33           |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 1                   | 0                    | 1              | 0            | 2            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>7</b>            | <b>15</b>            | <b>3</b>       | <b>10</b>    | <b>35</b>    |
| Stan James (Gibraltar) Limited - Full Time                                    | 8                   | 84                   | 0              | 4            | 96           |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 2                   | 4                    | 0              | 0            | 6            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>10</b>           | <b>88</b>            | <b>0</b>       | <b>4</b>     | <b>102</b>   |
| Trafalgar Betting and Gaming limited - Full Time                              | 2                   | 5                    | 0              | 1            | 8            |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 0                   | 0                    | 0              | 0            | 0            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>2</b>            | <b>5</b>             | <b>0</b>       | <b>1</b>     | <b>8</b>     |
| Gala Interactive (Gibraltar) limited - Full Time                              | 3                   | 5                    | 0              | 0            | 8            |
| - Part Time                                                                   | 0                   | 2                    | 0              | 0            | 2            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>                                                              | <b>3</b>            | <b>7</b>             | <b>0</b>       | <b>0</b>     | <b>10</b>    |
| Netgame Limited )                                                             |                     |                      |                |              |              |
| Rock Game )                                                                   | 4                   | 2                    | 3              | 4            | 13           |
| Eurobet (Gibraltar) Limited                                                   | 1                   | 1                    | 1              | 6            | 9            |
| Demmysportsbet.com Limited                                                    | 6                   | 2                    | 0              | 8            | 6            |
| Virtual Holdings Management Services (Gibraltar) Limited                      | 16                  | 10                   | 0              | 38           | 64           |
| <b>Totals:-</b>                                                               |                     |                      |                |              |              |
| Full Time                                                                     | 94                  | 236                  | 16             | 118          | 464          |
| Part Time                                                                     | 35                  | 26                   | 8              | 4            | 73           |
| <b>Overall Total</b>                                                          | <b>129</b>          | <b>262</b>           | <b>24</b>      | <b>122</b>   | <b>537</b>   |

Source: Office of the Financial &amp; Development Secretary

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1067 TO 1069 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to the two applications which were carried forward from the last House, the Chief Minister said only one of those two is being pursued, can he say what happened to the other one whether it was rejected or whether the client decided not to proceed?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

As I think I have said to the hon Member in the past and this is the closest that I can come to answering his question, these things rarely come to a rejection of an application. Applications are normally discussed, the business proposal is to discuss it with the Gaming Unit in the Treasury first, indications are given as to whether the application will fall within the Government policy parameters or not and if they do not the application is discouraged and it is not normally submitted but having said that I do not know whether this is a case of the applicant having been discouraged or whether the applicant having decided not to pursue it for some other reason which would be most rare that normally it is a problem of the bouncer deciding who he lets into the discotheque rather than anybody who is queuing up to get into the discotheque deciding at the last minute that they do not want to go in after all and there is a lot of demand for gaming licences in Gibraltar and it really is a question of the Licensing Authority picking the ones that will most contribute to the economy of Gibraltar whilst at the same time protecting Gibraltar from future jurisdictional risk, in other words the reputation and track record of the operator.

ORAL

**NO. 1070 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**VISAS FOR NON-EU NATIONALS**

What is the total number of visas issued in British consular offices in Morocco for non-EU nationals wishing to travel to Gibraltar on a monthly basis since March 2002 inclusive to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I hand the hon Member the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 1070 of 2002**

The total number of visas for Gibraltar issued in Morocco since 1<sup>st</sup> March 2002 up to and including 8<sup>th</sup> October 2002, on a monthly basis is as follows:-

|                                 |          |            |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------|
| March 2002                      | -        | 65         |
| April 2002                      | -        | 84         |
| May 2002                        | -        | 86         |
| June 2002                       | -        | 68         |
| July 2002                       | -        | 208        |
| August                          | -        | 112        |
| September 2002                  | -        | 53         |
| October 2002                    | -        |            |
| (up to and including 8.10.02)   | -        | 10         |
| <b>Total No of visas issued</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>686</b> |

The number of visas issued by Tangier, Casablanca and Rabat is:-

|                                          | <b>Tangier</b> | <b>Casablanca</b> | <b>Rabat</b> |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| March 2002                               | 56             | 1                 | 8            |
| April 2002                               | 65             | 12                | 7            |
| May 2002                                 | 63             | 8                 | 15           |
| June 2002                                | 40             | 14                | 14           |
| July 2002                                | 184            | 11                | 13           |
| August 2002                              | 93             | 7                 | 12           |
| September 2002                           | 47             | 3                 | 3            |
| October<br>(Up to and including 8.10.02) | 8              | 2                 | -            |
| <b>Total No of visas issued</b>          | <b>556</b>     | <b>58</b>         | <b>72</b>    |

ORAL

**NO. 1071 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MERCAMED GIBRALTAR**

What facility will Mercomed Gibraltar and Los Barrios contribute to Spanish companies who wish to establish themselves more permanently in Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1072 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1072 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MERCOMED GIBRALTAR**

What procedure will be used for Mercomed Gibraltar and Los Barrios to come under an EU registered umbrella company group?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The joint venture will initially offer advice and know how to businessmen in each place wishing to establish businesses in the other place. At a later stage the joint venture may offer short term business premises for the same purposes. Arrangements are in hand to register Mercomed Gibraltar and Mercomed Los Barrios which are two separate companies under the provisions of Council Regulation 2137/85 as a European Economic Interest Group (EEIG).

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1071 AND 1072 OF 2002**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Chief Minister say whether Mercomed Gibraltar on the one hand and Mercomed Los Barrios on the other are already established and already have premises?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

They are established in the sense that they are legally constituted, that there is one official in each of the "ayuntamientos" of Los Barrios and the Government of Gibraltar designated and tasked to work on the details of taking this project forward. It does not yet have premises outside of the Government of Gibraltar or outside of the "ayuntamiento" of Los Barrios premises.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can Government say in which Government department the official in the Gibraltar Government side of the equation is based?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The official in question actually is on the staff of the Procurement Unit because he has appropriate expertise and indeed an interest in this area. When the project is up and running it seems likely that this facility will be domiciled on an on-going basis in the department of Trade and Industry, when it starts actually considering business requests, at the moment it is run from No 6 because it is still in the phase of the launching of co-operation initiatives between Los Barrios and the Government. Whether when it passes from that phase to the up and running phase and it is domiciled in the DTI this particular official will move to the DTI or whether other arrangements will be made has not yet been decided.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Who are the shareholders of Mercomed, is it owned by another Government company or are the Government the only owner?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

In both companies, that is to say in Mercomed Gibraltar which is a Gibraltar company and in Mercomed Los Barrios which is a company incorporated in Spain in the Cadiz provincial registry, both the Gibraltar Development Corporation and the Los Barrios equivalent which I think is called "Iniciativa Los Barrios" are the share holders.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

What is the value of the share capital of the company?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think it has been set up initially with a very small share capital. Please accept this just as an indication I think that the Government's initial outlay was £10,000 or £15,000.



ORAL

**NO. 1073 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR QUALIFYING COMPANIES**

At what stage is the European Commission's investigation of the Gibraltar Qualifying Company?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1074, 1075 and 1076 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1074 OF 2002**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES**

Have Government any indication as to whether the European Commission intend to re-institute an investigation procedure in respect of the Gibraltar Tax Exempt Company as "existing aid"?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1073, 1075 and 1076 of 2002.

ORAL

NO. 1075 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR QUALIFYING COMPANIES**

Have Government had confirmation since May that the Commission no longer intends to pursue its investigation into whether the qualifying company legislation constitutes state aid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos 1073, 1074 and 1076 of 2002.

**NO. 1076 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**TAX REFORMS**

Can Government state what action has been taken since May to obtain confirmation from the EU Commission that the proposed tax reforms are compliant with State Aid Regulations?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question Nos 1073 to 1076 of 2002**

Since the Court's judgment, the European Commission has not taken any further legal steps in relation to the qualifying company legislation or initiated further proceedings in respect of the exempt company legislation. At the moment the Commission seems to be concentrating its attention on the proposed reforms. The proposed tax reform was formally notified to the EC Commission by the UK Government on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2002. Since then the Commission has been examining the reform and it is expected that it will open a formal investigation procedure shortly. Since the answer was drafted the Commission has now as the hon Members know formally opened the investigation.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1073 TO 1076 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In the informal exchanges that took place before August which we were informed of in the House in the last Question Time was anything changed in the tax structure as a result of that informal contact, I remember being told in July that the question of the tax on utilities was one of the issues that was under discussion with the Commission which might change if it was necessary?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, there had been informal discussions with the Commission as I have reported before to the House in pursuit of what was regarded as an off chance that the Commission might just wave the reform through which was a long shot, there are elements in the scheme which are more prone to being found, although we do not think any of them are in breach, but certainly there are aspects of the scheme which are more open to question or more susceptible to being carefully examined than others. When we have the detail of the Commission's decision we will have an indication of the reasons why they have in order to open the formal investigation which they have done the Commission only has to have a doubt it does not have to have made the decision so we will know what are the aspects of the proposal which has caused them to have the sufficient doubt or that degree of doubt which is necessary in order to sustain the opening of the formal investigation. At the moment we have not had sight yet of the detail of the decision and therefore we can only speculate as to what the reasons are. We know that there is the broad regional selectivity, we know secondhand it includes this business of some sectors of the economy only being subject to an additional profits tax in addition to the payroll tax, we know from speculative public statements which may turn out to be accurate public statements we know and indeed the Commission has recited this aspect of the reform in a statement we do not know whether that is to highlight that that is one of the objectionable areas, we know that they have focused on the existence of these caps, the quantum cap and the earlier percentage cap. We do not know whether that is an accurate list and certainly we do not know whether that is a full list so we will know what the reasons are when we get the list. Utilities which was the subject matter of the supplementary falls into the category of sectors of the economy that would be taxed additionally on profits together with financial services and .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Chief Minister mentioned last night at the Chamber dinner that there was one aspect that the UK Government had some doubts of but that that was not difficult to overcome, would that be the utilities as well in the case of the British Government or is it just something else?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No it is not the utilities but I really would not wish to air what the aspect of it is. The answer is that we want to reserve the strongest argumentative position on all of these issues because if we find ourselves in the position in the future where we proceed with bits of the reform and hold back other bits pending determination of the process with the European Community that process may indeed include court process. The virtue of this procedure is that the Commission not only has got to give reasons but then one can take the Commission to court for the decision that it makes, so we want, if we are going to find ourselves in court we want all the issues. There is no point being salami sliced once in the negotiation and then find that there are still issues that they go to court on, so we want all the issues left on the table so that if we do go to court we can have a ruling on all of them. If we are able to conduct a negotiation leading to a modification of the scheme which is acceptable both to the Government and to the Commission so that it puts a definitive and satisfactory end to the matter then in that context it is possible for the Government to give away points which at this stage would not wish give to give or weaken.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

When we are saying, “..we go to court..,” does it mean that this is an area where the Gibraltar Government can do it or will it have to be the UK Government ?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No. I am told that this falls into the category of those cases like the one we recently fought in which we have lockers.

ORAL

**NO. 1077 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**OPEN/CLOSED LONG TERM BENEFITS INSURANCE FUNDS**

Is it the view of the Government that the current level of receipts by the Open/Closed Long-Term Benefits Insurance Funds are sufficient to meet its expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

At present rates of interest, and current levels of contribution arrears, payments out of the fund exceed receipts. The Government are shortly to commission an actuarial report to advise on funding requirements.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1077 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact until now when we have been told since 1996 that the Long Term Benefits Fund would need to have further resources provided because it was reducing it was presumably on the premise that arrears were being ignored because they were being mentioned for the first time?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, I do not think that is a conclusion that the hon Member can draw. I think that there has been a hope over the last few years that an improvement in the arrears position

would make a very significant contribution to the recurrent funding gap. I think from the top of my head there is something like £18 million of arrears of social insurance contributions. Some figure of that order which would make just recovering half of that a very significant contribution to the fund. Let me say that according to the information that has been provided to me by the Treasury the funding deficit is more or less of the order that it has been in earlier years and mid-nineties, it is beginning to creep up a bit, there is an actuarial review due, I think that the hon Members did not have the actuarial review that fell due in their time because it was at the time the fund was up in the air or the fund had been suspended. It was during.....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It was all frozen.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, exactly frozen, it was all during the interregnum but we will know how much the deficit, what the capital funding requirements are, of course, at a time of low interest rates one has got to put in more capital just to produce .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The same income.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

.....but I suppose all this is taken into account by the actuaries and given the length of time over which the fund is going to be needed and all that I do not know what they are going to say but I clearly see that there is a need to inject capital funds into the Pensions Fund and the Government intend to do so, obviously the figure that we are asked to inject is something manageable, it will be injected in one lump, if it is not something manageable we shall have to put in place a programme over a number of years to bring the fund up to date. This funding deficit is something that is common throughout most state run schemes in Europe but I think that it is one of the areas that we should not leave as a problem to our future generations and we should be addressing refunding requirements at this stage as we go along and the Government intend to do that as soon as we have the actuarial report.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Did the Chief Minister say the actuarial report is due in this financial year or the next?



**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No I did not think I said it either way I do not know when it is due. I am not sure if it is even a question of it being due and I think that the Accountant General or the Chief Secretary have simply decided that one is appropriate perhaps because of the growing funding deficit I do not know, as to whether it will actually be conducted and finished during this financial year or whether it will be started this financial year I do not know but I will keep the hon Member informed about that.

**NO. 1078 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**HOUSING STOCK**

Can Government explain the changes in the Government housing stock shown in the 2001 Abstract of Statistics?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The figure in respect of the Government's pre-war housing stock shown in the 2001 Abstract of Statistics has been amended from 1,394 shown in 1997 to 831. This has been as a result of the revision of the pre-war housing list taking into account data obtained from the 2001 Census and removing properties which have been demolished, sold to tenants, et cetera. This revision, as explained in the footnote to Table 14, is ongoing and further changes may be made in future. The figure in respect of the years 1948 to 1952 has fallen from 671 in 1997 to 638 in 2001. This drop has been the result of the sale of Government properties to sitting tenants, for example, Shorthorn Estate. The figures shown in the 2001 Abstract for the years 1953 to 1977 are identical to those published in the 1997 Abstract. The 1978 to 1982 figure falls from 470 in 1997 to 401 in 2001 as a result of the sale of Rosia Dale. In respect of the years 1988 to 1992, the figure of 995 properties shown in the 1997 Abstract has been removed since they constitute properties constructed under the co-ownership schemes, some of which are in fact 100 per cent privately owned and the remainder 50/50, and therefore do not form part of the Government's housing stock exclusively. The 1993 to 1997 figure has been adjusted from 1,088 to 86 to reflect the 82 Government rented flats at Sir William Jackson Grove together with the four flats shown as Government stock in 1997 Abstract for the period 1995-1997. The 1998 to 2001 figure of 296 comprises the 88 units built at Bishop Canilla House together with the 208 units transferred to the Gibraltar Government at Edinburgh House, as explained in the footnote to Table 14 in the 2001 Abstract. I wish to take this opportunity to inform the hon Members that the general revision of the housing data is continuing and further changes could be made to the published figures in next year's Abstract.

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1078 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that the 1997 Abstract had a footnote which explained that the figures included dwellings which were part owned and provided rent free to the co-owner was it a policy decision that this should not be considered to be Government housing stock?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No it was a policy decision that it was inaccurate and therefore inappropriate to include under the heading Government Housing stock 50/50 properties. The phrase 'Government housing stock' has always meant housing available for rental to people on the Government Housing list for Government estates and things of that property. The fact that the Government owns through trustees a 50 per cent share of the hon Member's flat in Harbour Views does not render that Government's share of that flat part of the Government housing stock, the Government have no prospect of getting hold of it. It is not even renting it to him. Government are not deriving any income, it is not properly part of Government housing stock. Another approach would have been and I would have no difficulty with this to have changed the title of the whole issue so rather than call it 'Government Housing Stock' one could call it 'Properties in which Government have an ownership interest' or something like that then it would be accurate to put the homeownership properties and then with a footnote say, "...we only own half, 30 or 40 per cent of some of them," but whilst the figure that the statistic is projecting is Government Housing Stock, I think that the hon Member will agree that as that phrase is commonly used between us housing stock and it is understood, housing stock means housing stock owned by Government and available to the Government for rental to Government tenants and we just could not convince ourselves that it was appropriate to regard homeownership apartments in that category but to the extent of the policy decision has been to make sure that if the figure is trying to give information on one heading it should only give that information but there is no reason why it should not give information on other headings for example, if the Statistician wants to include next year Table 15 – Home Ownership Houses Built In Which The Government Has An Interest – fine, but as a different statistic so that each is accurate in the sense of the information that it is trying to convey.

• **HON J J BOSSANO:**

Then would the Government not consider that there should be a Table 15 given that there are going to be changes in the stock of co-ownership homes from the information we have had in the House that some are being offered for sale and investment is going to be in new property so that the statistics reflect the changing pattern of that.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know who decides what information is contained in the abstract, certainly no one has ever asked me whether this should be in or this should be out, I suspect that subsequent abstracts simply followed the model of the first abstract published in 1960, there may actually be a case for reviewing quite a lot of the content of the abstract as to whether some of the information in it is any longer relevant to modern Gibraltar in the form that it is provided and whether indeed there is another information that has become relevant in modern Gibraltar that is not in the abstract and certainly I suppose these decisions are made by the Statistician or the Chief Secretary, the hon Member wants to write to either of them and suggest that in next year's abstract they should have information on homeownership flats in which the Government has an interest certainly I would not object if my policy clearance is sought.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The inclusion of the MOD houses that have been handed over which is shown presumably as the age of the building being from the date the Government got it I thought in fact that in the past they had been included in the year in which they were constructed because I seem to remember the table changing where the property in a respective year went up retrospectively as it were, that is to say, when the MOD handed it over it came into Government ownership in that year but it was not reflected as being of that age and the argument on accuracy would appear to hold as true for that as it does for the question of what is Government housing stock given that it is dwellings built. Well, they were not built the day the MOD released it.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I know it has been included under 1998/2000 because it was subject during those years to a substantial expenditure in refurbishment but certainly the hon Member is right however much refurbishment has been done if they certainly were not built in that year I see that there is a footnote which we have already agreed is not an acceptable way of resolving other inaccuracies, there is a footnote that says that they were transferred to the Government in those years but the buildings were actually built between 1953 and 1957. The Statistician may want to deal with that figure differently next year I do not know.

ORAL

**NO. 1079 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA – NEW HOSPITAL**

What are the financial arrangements to meet the cost of the conversion of the Europort Building into a hospital?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Finance for the project is being negotiated with a private financial institution. The structural arrangements for the financing package are currently under discussion between the Bank's advisers and the Government and their advisers. The intention is to pursue what can broadly be described as a PFI lease-leaseback arrangement.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1079 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Has an exercise been done by the Treasury to compare this with the cost of borrowing money under the Loans Empowering Ordinance and financing it that way?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, indeed, it is common knowledge, in fact a debate rages in the UK at this present moment in time. It is common knowledge that PFI arrangements, financing

arrangements are always more expensive than Government borrowing because the rate at which a Government can borrow in their own name is necessarily always going to be less than the cost at which a financial institution will lend in the context of a structure in which an element of risk is transferred to it. I have seen those figures as to the difference in cost, it is a difference but spread over the number of years that the financing arrangement would be in place, the Government do not consider it material in the sense of provoking the contrary decision given of course that as the Chancellor of the Exchequer is less willing to admit than I am it is a way of preventing this expenditure appearing and enhancing a public debt. Anyone that does not come out clean and say that is treating his audience a bit .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That is what it is.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I beg your pardon?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That is what it is.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That is what it is, it is just a way of converting with an element of risk transfer to satisfy the accounting profession and the Public Audit Commission in the United Kingdom is just a way of converting a capital debt into an annual recurring debt servicing payment. Well, if it is legitimate for the Chancellor of the Exchequer it is legitimate for Gibraltar. If the costs had been massively greater there would have been an issue there but over the years I cannot remember if it is over 20 years the extra costs spread over that period is not I think such that would outweigh the benefits of keeping free the unused portion of our borrowing limits.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But given that the ceiling has not been touched for such a long time there ought not to be a problem with raising that ceiling if the Government thought that it need to, there is no difficulty in that is there?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know if there is a difficulty we have not tried in fact I have recently asked the Financial and Development Secretary to start prodding and getting that ball rolling, certainly by the application of any internationally acceptable as I alluded to briefly

yesterday by reference to any internationally accepted measure of prudent borrowing limits given the size of the economy it could sustain more than £100 million and if it was the hon Member persuaded the British Government that it could sustain £100 million with the economy as he inherited it in 1989 I think even he, I know he is always keen to deny me the kudos of any economic growth but even he presumably would admit that it has grown since 1989 if only during the years that he was in office. I think that there are plenty of economic arguments that would sustain an increase in the borrowing limits, whether in the current political climate that would be forthcoming or not for extraneous political reasons is another matter.

ORAL

**NO. 1080 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES**

As at the end of September, what was the value of Monthly Income Debentures and Pensioners Monthly Income Debentures issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The value of Monthly Income Debentures and Pensioners Monthly Income Debentures as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, is as follows:

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Monthly Income Debentures            | £18,833,600 |
| Pensioners Monthly Income Debentures | £25,762,600 |



ORAL

**NO. 1081 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

As at the end of September how many companies had declared taxable profit

- (a) above £35,000 and
- (b) below £35,000

for each of the tax years 1998/99 to 2001/2002, what was the tax assessed and paid in each category and can Government state in each category and for each year how many were qualifying companies and what were the amounts of tax assessed and paid by such companies?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1082 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1082 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

As at the end of September how many companies had been assessed by the Commissioner of Income Tax, without having made a return of taxable profit

- (a) above and
- (b) below £35,000

in taxable profit for the years 1998/99 to 2001/2002, what was the tax assessed and paid in each case, and for each categorically and each year what were the amounts of tax assessed and paid by qualifying companies?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 and 1083 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1083 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

As at the end of September how many companies in each of the tax years 1995/96 to 2001/2002 had been assessed for company tax, and what were the amounts of tax payable and paid in respect of each tax year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081, 1082 and 1084 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1084 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

What was the total amount of company tax collected in each month since March 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1083 and 1085 to 1090 of 2002.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1085 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

What is the current estimated amount of PAYE payable in the tax year 2000/2001 by area of employment and the number of employees in each area as follows:

- (a) MOD;
- (b) Gibraltar Government;
- (c) Government owned and joint venture companies;
- (d) Private Sector employment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1084 and 1086 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1086 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

What is the current estimated amount of PAYE payable in the tax year 2001/2002 by area of employment and the number of employees in each area as follows:-

- (a) MOD;
- (b) Gibraltar Government;
- (c) Government owned and joint venture companies;
- (d) Private Sector employment.

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1085 and 1087 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1087 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

What are the final figures on the amount of tax collected in PAYE in the last financial year by area of employment as follows:

- (a) MOD;
- (b) Gibraltar Government;
- (c) Government owned and joint venture companies;
- (d) Private Sector employers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1086 and 1088 to 1090 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1088 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

How much was collected in PAYE each month since March 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1087, 1089 and 1090 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1089 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – SELF EMPLOYED PERSONS**

Can Government state as at the end of September what were the amounts assessed in respect of self-employed persons for each tax year from 1995/96 to 2001/2002 giving the amounts discharged, confirmed and paid, and the number of taxpayers involved in each year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1081 to 1088 and 1090 of 2002.

**NO. 1090 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – SELF EMPLOYED PERSONS**

Of the amounts of tax payable outstanding in respect of self-employed persons for each tax year from 1995/1996 to 2001/2002 can Government say in respect of each year how many agreements to pay exist for each year and the total sum covered by such agreements?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Given that the hon Member appears keen to ask these questions frequently and at almost every opportunity and given also that the Government despite the very considerable administrative effort that it takes to put the answers together, is willing to answer the questions and provide this information I would sincerely urge the hon Member that we should try and come to some agreement whereby the Government provide this information to him outside of this House at periodical intervals that we can agree and that would give him the opportunity to place questions in the House on the basis of the information that he has already routinely received because it just seems pointless to use the mechanism of Question Time in the House to ask for statistical information. If the Government were unwilling to provide the statistical information then we would welcome Opposition Members resorting to the Question Time because it would give us the opportunity to fudge or to say, "...well you cannot have it because it is administratively burdensome," but as hon Members want the information and we are willing to provide it it seems unnecessary to have recourse to the mechanism of Question Time. All these questions seek purely statistical information relating to Income Tax administration. All the information requested is therefore contained in the bundle of schedules that I now hand to the hon Member.

## Answer to Question 1081

### COMPANIES OTHER THAN QUALIFYING COMPANIES

| YEAR OF ASSESSMENT                      | 1998/1999<br>£ | 1999/2000<br>£ | 2000/2001<br>£ | 2001/2002<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>Under £35,000</u>                    |                |                |                |                |
| No of Companies assessed                | 155            | 197            | 238            | 210            |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 367k           | 390k           | 536k           | 468k           |
| Total paid under                        | 330k           | 361k           | 535k           | 453k           |
| <u>Over £35,000</u>                     |                |                |                |                |
| No of Companies assessed                | 54             | 54             | 71             | 69             |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 6.3m           | 6.7m           | 8.7m           | 8.4m           |
| Total paid over                         | 6.3m           | 6.6m           | 8.7m           | 8.0m           |

### QUALIFYING COMPANIES

|                                         |      |      |      |     |
|-----------------------------------------|------|------|------|-----|
| <u>Under £35,000</u>                    |      |      |      |     |
| No of Companies assessed                | 6    | 8    | 4    | Nil |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 3k   | 5k   | 2k   | Nil |
| Total paid                              | 3k   | 5k   | 2k   | Nil |
| <u>Over £35,000</u>                     |      |      |      |     |
| No of Companies assessed                | 11   | 19   | 8    | 1   |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 880k | 1.7m | 517k | 82k |
| Total paid                              | 880k | 1.6m | 414k | 82k |

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1090 OF 2002**

**Answer to Question 1082**

**COMPANIES OTHER THAN QUALIFYING COMPANIES**

| YEAR OF ASSESSMENT                      | 1998/1999<br>£ | 1999/2000<br>£ | 2000/2001<br>£ | 2001/2002<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b><u>Under £35,000</u></b>             |                |                |                |                |
| No of Companies assessed                | 908            | 806            | 608            | 599            |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 1.8m           | 1.4m           | 1.2m           | 1.2m           |
| Total paid under                        | 1.2m           | 0.7m           | 0.3m           | 0.4m           |
| <b><u>Over £35,000</u></b>              |                |                |                |                |
| No of Companies assessed                | 52             | 50             | 27             | 38             |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 3.2m           | 3.1m           | 0.8m           | 2.5m           |
| Total paid over                         | 3.1m           | 2.7m           | 0.4m           | 1.9m           |

**QUALIFYING COMPANIES**

**Under £35,000**

|                                         |     |      |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| No of Companies assessed                | 18  | 18   | 14  | Nil |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 19k | 17k  | 11k | Nil |
| Total paid                              | 3k  | 1.5k | Nil | Nil |

**Over £35,000**

|                                         |     |      |      |            |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|------|------|------------|
| No of Companies assessed                | 2   | 7    | 12   | Nil        |
| Total assessed (i.e. total tax payable) | 18k | 0.3m | 0.5m | Nil        |
| Total paid                              | Nil | Nil  | 92k  | <u>Nil</u> |

Contd

**Answer to Question No 1083 of 2002**

|                 | <b>1995/96</b> | <b>1996/97</b> | <b>1997/98</b> | <b>1998/99</b> | <b>1999/00</b> | <b>2000/01</b> | <b>2001/02</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                 | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             |
| Assessed        | 15.7           | 15.3           | 17.9           | 24.6           | 87.1           | 24.3           | 17.4           |
| Discharged      | 5.3            | 4.3            | 6.9            | 11.3           | 72.7           | 10.9           | 3.9            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Paid            | 10.4           | 11.0           | 11.0           | 13.3           | 14.4           | 13.4           | 13.5           |
|                 | 9.4            | 10.2           | 10.2           | 12.4           | 13.0           | 11.6           | 11.0           |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Outstanding     | 1.0            | 0.8            | 0.8            | 0.9            | 1.4            | 1.8            | 2.5            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| No of Companies | 1438           | 1411           | 1450           | 1422           | 1489           | 1429           | 1098           |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |

**Answer to Question No 1084 of 2002**

The Corporation Tax collected in each month since March 2002 (net refunds) was as follows:-

| <b><u>2002</u></b> | <b><u>£m</u></b> |
|--------------------|------------------|
| March              | 3.4              |
| April              | 2.2              |
| May                | 0.8              |
| June               | 4.2              |
| July               | 1.3              |
| August             | 1.1              |
| September          | 0.9              |

These figures are subject to Treasury Blocks reconciliation.

**Answer to Question No 1085 of 2002**

Based on the Employer's Annual Statement Declaration and Certificate submitted up to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2002 the information sought is as follows:

|                                                     | £m          | Approximate<br>No of Employees |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) MOD                                             | 3.9         | 2,700                          |
| (b) Gibraltar Government                            | 14.5        | 5,200                          |
| (c) Government owned and joint venture<br>companies | 2.7         | 750                            |
| (d) Private Sector employment                       | 28.4        | 15,800                         |
|                                                     | <hr/>       | <hr/>                          |
|                                                     | <b>49.5</b> | <b>24,450</b>                  |
|                                                     | <hr/>       | <hr/>                          |

**Answer to Question No 1086 of 2002**

Based on the Employers' Annual Statement, Declaration and Certificates submitted up to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2002 the information sought is as follows:

|                                                  | £m          |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| (a) MOD                                          | 4.2         |
| (b) Gibraltar Government                         | 2.3         |
| (c) Government owned and Joint Venture companies | 2.6         |
| (d) Private Sector Employment                    | 28.4        |
|                                                  | <hr/>       |
|                                                  | <b>37.5</b> |
|                                                  | <hr/>       |

The total amount of PAYE tax deducted is 37.5 m.

The PAYE Deduction cards are currently being processed and it is not possible at this moment in time to provide the number of deduction cards returned.

### **Answer to Question No 1087 of 2002**

The total amount of PAYE collected in the financial year 2001/2002 is £55.4m analysed as follows:-

|     |                                              |             |
|-----|----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| (a) | MOD                                          | 4.2         |
| (b) | Government of Gibraltar                      | 20.0        |
| (c) | Government owned and Joint Venture companies | 2.5         |
| (d) | Private Sector Employment                    | 28.7        |
|     |                                              | ———         |
|     |                                              | <b>55.4</b> |
|     |                                              | ———         |

### **Answer to Question No 1088 of 2002**

The figures (net of refunds) and subject to possible adjustments when reconciled with the Treasury Books are as follows:-

| <b><u>2002</u></b> | <b><u>£m</u></b> |
|--------------------|------------------|
| March              | 4.43             |
| April              | 5.61             |
| May                | 4.33             |
| June               | 4.09             |
| July               | 7.19             |
| August             | 3.84             |

### **Answer to Question No 1089 of 2002**

|                 | <b>1995/96</b> | <b>1996/97</b> | <b>1997/98</b> | <b>1998/99</b> | <b>1999/00</b> | <b>2000/01</b> | <b>2001/02</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                 | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             | £m             |
| Assessed        | 7.7            | 8.0            | 9.6            | 10.1           | 44.2           | 10.0           | 3.1            |
| Discharged      | 4.9            | 4.6            | 5.6            | 5.8            | 39.5           | 5.0            | 1.1            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Paid            | 2.8            | 3.4            | 4.0            | 4.3            | 4.7            | 5.0            | 2.0            |
|                 | 1.9            | 2.4            | 2.6            | 2.8            | 3.0            | 2.6            | 0.7            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Outstanding     | 0.9            | 1.0            | 1.4            | 1.5            | 1.7            | 2.4            | 1.3            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| No of Taxpayers | 1177           | 1134           | 1158           | 1091           | 1060           | 927            | 467            |
|                 | <hr/>          |                |                |                |                |                |                |

### **Answer to Question No 1090 of 2002**

There are 227 taxpayers who have agreements to pay their tax liability for the years 1995/96 to 2001/2002.

The total amount still outstanding covered by these agreements for each year of assessment is as follows:-

|           | <b>£m</b> |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1995/1996 | 77,739    |
| 1996/1997 | 77,317    |
| 1997/1998 | 118,185   |
| 1998/1999 | 233,390   |
| 1999/2000 | 338,253   |
| 2000/2001 | 406,590   |
| 2001/2002 | 259,935   |

### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1083 TO 1090 OF 2002**

#### **HON J J BOSSANO:**

In Question No 1083 of 2002 the number of companies shows a change from the answer that was given to Question No 668 of 2002 in respect of past years and it raises exactly the same issue as happened in Question No 668 of 2002 compared to the answers I was given in 2001 and in Question No 668 of 2002 when I raised the question the Chief Minister did not know the answer but promised he would find out and he never came back to me. I think one of the problems that we have in saying, "yes we do not need to burden the House with seeking information which the Government are prepared to give," is that when we actually put it down as a question we get it and when we get promises he is going to follow it up it tends to get lost in the system. Can I remind the Chief Minister that many years ago he agreed that we would be provided monthly with the import duty figures and it never happens unless we remember after a gap of several months and call his office and remind the people concerned. It does not happen automatically so whilst I take note of the offer that he has made from our point of view if it works fine, but if it does not work we will come back to putting questions here. So I suppose he does not have the answer on this occasion since he did not have it the last time. If we take Question No 1083 of 2002 where I am asking an identical question to the one that I asked in Question No 668 of 2002 to see what changes if any are taking place in the collection of company tax for past years whilst I accept that, for example, for 2001/2002 and perhaps for 2000/2001 one would expect changes because they are fairly recent when I find that in 1995/1996 the number of companies shown as 1438 changes, but the assessment does not change I questioned how is it that I get given the



same figure for the assessment of £15.7 million but that assessment is in respect of different numbers of companies each time I get the answer because I do not understand how that happens. I could understand it if the number of companies went up and the assessed tax went up with the number of companies what I cannot understand is how the tax office has assessed 1,436 companies according to the answer given in April to be liable to pay £15.7 million and in September there are two more companies but the £15.7 million has not changed and if we go back to 2001 there were two questions and two different figures for companies with the assessment not changing and that was the supplementary last time and it is the same supplementary again because the same thing seems to be happening.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I much regret that he was promised information that he has not received and I will see to it that the promise is kept promptly.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In respect of Question No 1082 of 2002 where we have the assessment made on companies which have not made a return, can the Government explain for example, if we take the case of the qualifying companies and we go back to the earliest of the years here which 1988/1989 there are 20 companies that have been assessed to tax without having made a return the answer given in April was that as at April there were 25. If we take the answer to Question No 1081 of 2002 we find that the assessment were profits had been declared was 15 in April and is 17 now. I would have expected that if there is an assessment made in a company which has not made a return the only way the number could go down was because they did make a return so I do not understand how it is that in September we are assessing less qualifying companies to tax for 1988/89 than we were in April this year, do the Government have any idea what is going on?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No I do not and I am not surprised that I do not because frankly I do not think it is reasonable to expect Ministers to have this degree of knowledge on the end of their fingertips about the minutiae of income tax administration which is the one area of Government in which Ministers conventionally least interfere. There must be an answer to that question, of course, which I suppose somebody in the Income Tax Department must know the answer to but I just do not think it is reasonable to pose a question of that degree of administrative detail as a supplementary to a Minister who has no contact or involvement whatsoever in the subject matter. I will make note of the hon Member's query of this and I will ask the Commissioner of Income Tax to produce the administrative answer.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

With all due respect I do not think it is just a question of minutiae and income tax, in almost every question it appears that the Ministers do not read the answers until they

stand up in the House and read them out because I would have thought that if the Chief Minister had looked at the answer that he has given me today it would have struck him as it has struck me that it is very peculiar that tax in respect of four years ago which qualifying companies are liable for six months ago should have gone down in six months. One would have expected if anything that the tax office would be catching up because the other peculiar thing which does not seem to have struck the Government and it has nothing to do with minutiae in our judgement or with the implementation of tax legislation is that there seems to be a very small number of qualifying companies paying any tax at all because we are saying that in 1989 there were only 17 companies that made a declaration, in 1988/89 out of 140. Given the interest that there is in the State Aid problem I would have thought it is very pertinent when we are looking at the risk to our economy of qualifying companies not being allowed to continue to monitor exactly what is the contribution that they are making and how many of them are paying so perhaps the other thing the Chief Minister can find out is how is it that so few of the companies of the 140 we were told by the Minister for Trade and Industry that are considered to be alive are being taxed, is it that the fact that they do not appear in answer to one question or the other means that no attempt has been made to tax them or that they have been found to be making losses or not having a profit. I think an answer to that question would be useful?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have to say to the hon Member that we have very different views, obviously we have very different views of what is the role of a Minister in a government and we have very different views about what parliamentary Question Time is for. It is without precedent in western parliaments that Questions of this degree of administrative statistical detail should be asked time in time out. In any other parliament in Europe where this happened the press would have a field day of laughter. The Government I believe different to the attitude the previous Government's in Gibraltar would have employed and which we used to get when we used to try and ask questions was that it required too much administrative burden, we nevertheless go to the trouble of getting the administration to prepare detailed statistical answers for the hon Member. If to boot the hon Member thinks that Ministers having provided the detailed information are going to open themselves to cross examination on politically as opposed to administratively irrelevant detail he had better think again because he must think that Ministers have nothing to do with their time than to pour over with the same degree of obsession the detail of these things that he is interested in doing and good luck to him if that is what he enjoys we are perfectly happy to provide him with the information to do it but we are not going to take the same degree of interest in the detail that he takes and he is dead right if he thinks that with all these schedules of detailed numbers and tables that I stay up at home until six o'clock in the morning pouring over the answers then I have indeed, far from having any difficulty, I derive a fair amount of satisfaction and pleasure from telling him that I do not read them and I do not analyse them, I provide him with the information and then I answer for Government policy that arises in respect of the question what I am not willing to do is to be engaged by him in an off the hoof impromptu debate on complicated statistical information on the basis of whatever questions he wants to ask which I am obviously cannot conceivably be equipped to response without notice to the question. He can have his information, all the information that he wants but we are not going to allow him to use Question Time to engage in a detailed debate on what he

thinks are the inconsistencies in the detailed, statistical and administrative information that we provide him with.

As far as the substantive supplementary that he has asked is concerned, as far as the Government assesses the situation, he has asked, "surely it is relevant from the point of view of the threats, risks, attached to the State Aid business," the only qualifying companies that feature prominently in the Government's thinking in terms of the need to accommodate them in the context of the tax reform proposal are the qualifying companies with a physical operating presence in Gibraltar. In other words the qualifying companies that are actually part of the domestic economy providing employment in Gibraltar and he knows that there are one or two he may remember from his days in office that there are one or two that are not in financial services. That is about as much as I can contribute to that. There is a read across to the tax reform but frankly if we lost all the qualifying companies that were not physically present in Gibraltar it would not be the end of the world but we do attach importance to resolving the position and ensuring that the tax reforms are accommodated as reasonably as possible the several, some quite large, companies that operate in Gibraltar, I do not want to mention particular tax payers by name but there is one particularly big one that operates in four wheeled drive vehicles and there are others that operate outside the financial services industry where resident domestic qualifying companies are usually found in the finance centre but there are two or three quite big ones outside of the financial centre and they are the ones that cause the problems to the Government in the context of the tax reform. As to the questions that he has asked about these figures I will pass on these questions to the Commissioner of Income Tax and have somebody write to him with an analysis of the few numbers in respect of qualifying companies in respect of which tax has been paid. That was the essence of the hon Member's question, why so few?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am going back several years because for 2001 and 2002 the answer is nil nobody has been assessed or made declarations so fair enough that is in the recent past that is a year ago but when we go as far back as 1988/89 and when we have been told in this House in answer to another question that there are 140 active trading qualifying companies and we are trying to make a judgement of the importance of this sector to our economy I do not think it is an unreasonable or an obscure statistical question to say, "well look if there is 140 how come so few of them seem to be assessed to tax?"

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not that it is an obscure question it is just that it is unreasonable to expect Ministers to have at their fingertips the answer to such questions when the question relates not to Government policy but to the detail of tax administration. I suppose the answer when we ask will be something like, "well the others do not have an income or the others are not trading profitably." There is obviously an answer to this but it is an answer buried in the depth of tax administration an area in which ministers traditionally do not tread and it is just not reasonable to expect political ministers to have that sort of knowledge at their fingertips to provide off the spur of the moment without notice to a supplementary question that is the nature of the point that I was trying to make. If the hon Member accepts my offer to provide him with the statistical information on a written and

systematic basis outside the floor of the House outside of Question Time then questions which are today supplementary would become the principle question because he would have had the information and his question 1008 would be not give me the statistics but why are there so few qualifying companies being taxed, that would mean that I would have the answer for him here today because the Commissioner of Income Tax would have had to look into the question and provide me with the answer and that is the point that I am making, that by making us give purely statistical information as the principle answer to the principle question it incapacitates us from having briefs of the supplementary questions which are the issues he is really interested in getting to the bottom of.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We are prepared to give that alternative a try but obviously the reason why the supplementary is a supplementary is for the reason that he has identified until I have seen the figures I do not notice the anomaly.

ORAL

**NO. 1091 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

Can Government say what action has been taken in respect of the 71 employers who had not made their 1996/1997 PAYE Returns by January this year and who were believed to be still trading?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No 1092 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1092 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

Can Government now say whether the 71 employers who had not made a PAYE Return for 1996/1997 by January this year, had made PAYE returns for any of the tax years subsequent to 1996/1997?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No 1091 of 2002**

Out of the 71 employers who had not submitted their 1996/97 PAYE returns by January 2002, it has since been established that 11 employers had not traded during the year 1996/97. A total of 27 employers have now submitted their 1996/97 returns and the remaining 33 employers are currently or in the process, of being chased.

**Answer to Question No 1092 of 2002**

As at 9<sup>th</sup> October 2002, out of the 71 employers who had not made a PAYE return for 1996/97 by January this year, 53 employers have submitted returns subsequent to 1996/97.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1092 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I do not know if the Chief Minister recalls, the supplementary that I put at that time was, "is it likely that the 71 will be appearing in subsequent years as the people who have not made the return?" and the answer is in fact 33 have made returns.

ORAL

**NO. 1093 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

As at the end of September how many employers had not yet returned their 2001/2002 Employers Declaration and PAYE Certificate and what is the number of employees affected?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1094 to 1096 of 2002.



ORAL

**NO. 1094 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

As at the end of September how many employers had returned the 2000/2001 Employers Declaration and PAYE Certificate and what was the total amount of tax deducted and the number of employees affected?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1093, 1095 and 1096 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1095 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX - PAYE**

As at the end of September how many employers had returned the 2001/2002 Employers Declaration and PAYE Certificates and what was the total amount of tax deducted and the number of employees involved?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with QuestionNos 1093, 1094 and 1096 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1096 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – PAYE**

As at the end of September how many employers had not yet returned their 2001/2002 Employers Declaration and PAYE Certificates and what is the estimated number of employees affected?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No 1093 of 2002**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, 215 employers had not yet returned the 2000/2001 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificate. The estimated number of employees affected is approximately 550.

**Answer to Question No 1094 of 2002**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, a total of 1,626 Employers had lodged their 2000/2001 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates. The total amount of PAYE tax deducted was £49,5 million and the number of employees was 24,401.

**Answer to Question No 1095 of 2002**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, a total of 1,480 employers had lodged their 2001/2002 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates. The total amount of PAYE tax deducted

is £37.5 million. The PAYE Deduction cards are currently being processed and it is not possible at this moment in time to provide the number of deduction cards returned.

**Answer to Question No 1096 of 2002**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, 417 Employers had not yet returned the 2001/2002 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificate. The estimated number of employees affected was approximately 5,700 which includes 3,500 Government employees and pensioners details of which have not yet been returned by the relevant departments.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1093 TO 1096 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I believe that when the notice comes out in the Gazette reminding employers of the legal requirement to return this it also reminds them that they can be made to pay a penalty I think it is of £10 per employee per month, is that ever made use of?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know, I do know that the Commissioner of Income Tax regards it as an administratively cumbersome statutory provision to implement. I do not know whether that means that he never applies it or whether he applies it in some cases but I know that the department is not happy with this business of calculating interests on a daily basis it is just unworkable.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

My recollection in fact is that it is a fixed penalty based on the number of persons whose cards have not been returned, it may well be that they do not think it would act as an incentive to produce a result but I am just wondering whether in fact it is being used at all?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I will find out what the practice is on penalties and write to the hon Member.

ORAL

NO. 1097 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GOVERNMENT LOAN FACILITIES**

Have Government borrowed any funds from their loan facilities in the current financial year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No.

ORAL

**NO. 1098 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR CHRONICLE**

Have Government now taken a decision on providing financial assistance to the Gibraltar Chronicle?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No final decision has been taken because the Company has not yet agreed internally the necessary reforms to place it on a proper financial and commercial basis for the future.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1098 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does that mean that the agreement that there was before is no longer there, I understood from the last time I raised this?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The agreement as between the Chronicle and the Government Agreement, it is not a legal or commercial agreement, what the Government have agreed to do to assist the Gibraltar Chronicle Limited to survive given that the Government take the view that it is

an important part of the media institutions in Gibraltar was conditional, I think I told the hon Member the last time, it was conditional on the Government seeing a restructure of what is an unworkable management ownership structure, working practices structures and things of that sort so that at least the Government could say to the tax payers, "look we have saved the Chronicle on this basis but it has been fixed and it is not going to become a regular call on taxpayers' funds." The hon Member has some understanding of the human relations, industrial relations dynamics of this sort of process, things are discussed and agreed and then that agreement slips away and it is not delivered bearing in mind that the ownership structure of the Chronicle makes the shareholders an ultimate brokers the very people who are being asked to surrender some of their entrenched working practices and terms so the Gibraltar Chronicle is not the sort of company where management can actually manage because management is answerable to the shareholders but in this case the shareholders are the employees who management are trying to manage and that is being in a great part a contributor to why the problem disclosed in the answer that I gave to the original question exists.

ORAL

**NO. 1099 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

What is the estimated expenditure from the Improvement and Development Fund to the end of September by Head of Expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos 1100 to 1102 of 2002.



ORAL

NO. 1100 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**I & D FUND**

What are the estimated receipts of the Improvement and Development Fund to the end of September by Head of Revenue?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos 1099, 1101 and 1102 of 2002.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1101 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CONSOLIDATED FUND EXPENDITURE**

What is the estimated Consolidated Fund Expenditure to the end of September by Heads of Expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question nos 1099, 1100 and 1102 of 2002.

ORAL

**NO. 1102 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CONSOLIDATED FUND REVENUE**

What is the estimated Consolidated Fund revenue to the end of September by Head of Revenue?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I now hand over to the hon Member the information requested.

**Answer to Question No 1099 of 2002**

The tentative expenditure of the Improvement and Development Fund from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 by Head of Expenditure, is as follows:

|              |   |                                          | £                 |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Head 101     | - | Housing                                  | 2,121,760         |
| Head 102     | - | Education and Cultural Facilities        | 869,572           |
| Head 103     | - | Tourism and Transport                    | 1,584,973         |
| Head 104     | - | Infrastructure and General Capital Works | 4,943,986         |
| Head 105     | - | Electricity                              | 174,716           |
| Head 106     | - | Industry and Development                 | 276,139           |
| <b>Total</b> |   |                                          | <b>£9,971,146</b> |

### **Answer to Question No 1100 of 2002**

The tentative expenditure of the Improvement and Development Fund from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 by Head Revenue, is as follows:

|              |                                 | £               |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Head 101     | - Contributions and loans       | -               |
| Head 102     | - Sale of Government Properties | 434,182         |
| Head 103     | - Grants                        | 37,952          |
| Head 104     | - Reimbursements                | 126,480         |
|              |                                 | <hr/>           |
| <b>Total</b> |                                 | <b>£598,613</b> |
|              |                                 | <hr/>           |

### **Answer to Question No 1101 of 2002**

The tentative expenditure of the consolidated Fund from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002, by Head of Expenditure, is as follows:

| <b>Head</b> | <b>Head Description</b>                | <b>Amount (£)</b> |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1A          | Education & Culture                    | 9,579,097         |
| 1B          | Training                               | 185,794           |
| 1C          | Health                                 | 22,208            |
| 2           | Employment and Consumer Affairs        | 259,358           |
| 3A          | Housing – Administration               | 310,599           |
| 3B          | Housing – Buildings and Works          | 2,955,833         |
| 4A          | Environment                            | 2,980,749         |
| 4B          | Technical Services                     | 6,331,084         |
| 4C          | Electricity                            | 5,870,915         |
| 4D          | Fire Service                           | 1,274,360         |
| 4E          | Post Office                            | 769,784           |
| 4F          | Sport, Leisure and Youth Affairs       | 458,103           |
| 4G          | Broadcasting                           | 626,000           |
| 5A          | Social Security                        | 7,523,785         |
| 5B          | Social Services                        | 1,123,370         |
| 5C          | Prison                                 | 482,697           |
| 6A          | Tourism                                | 1,281,787         |
| 6B          | Transport – Airport                    | 195,284           |
| 6C          | Transport – Traffic                    | 510,416           |
| 6D          | Transport – Port                       | 1,077,300         |
| 6E          | Transport – Shipping Registry          | 129,302           |
| 7           | Trade, Industry and Telecommunications | 1,126,633         |
| 8A          | Secretariat                            | 4,919,053         |
| 8B          | Personnel                              | 275,398           |
| 8C          | Civil Status and Registration Office   | 226,833           |
| 8D          | Gibraltar Regulatory Authority         | 126,000           |

|                                |                                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9A                             | Financial and Development Secretary            | 85,336             |
| 9B                             | Treasury                                       | 2,341,170          |
| 9C                             | Customs                                        | 1,926,591          |
| 9D                             | Income tax                                     | 510,896            |
| 10                             | Law Officers                                   | 186,576            |
| 11                             | Police                                         | 4,039,326          |
| 12A                            | Supreme Court                                  | 266,799            |
| 12B                            | Magistrates & Coroners Court                   | 152,829            |
| 13                             | House of Assembly                              | 395,751            |
| 14                             | Audit Office                                   | 187,125            |
| 15                             | Supplementary Provision                        | -                  |
| 16                             | Contributions from Consolidated Fund – Reserve | 14,700             |
| <b>Total Consolidated Fund</b> |                                                | <b>£60,728,841</b> |

### Consolidated Fund Charges

| Head                           | Head Description          | Amount (£)         |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1                              | Statutory Offices         | 237,886            |
| 2                              | Judicature                | 297,903            |
| 3                              | Pensions                  | 6,775,157          |
| 4                              | Employer's Contributions  | 1,366,960          |
| 5                              | Public Debt charges       | 3,501,826          |
| 6                              | Public Services Ombudsman | 67,415             |
| <b>Total Consolidated Fund</b> |                           | <b>£12,247,147</b> |
|                                | Summary                   |                    |
|                                | Consolidated Fund         | 60,728,841         |
|                                | Consolidated Fund Charges | 12,247,147         |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>       |                           | <b>£72,975,988</b> |

**Answer to Question No 1102 of 2002**

The tentative revenue of the consolidated fund from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 by Head Revenue, is as follows:

|                                         | £                  |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Head 1 Taxes                            | 43,742,765         |
| Head 2 Duties                           | 14,290,610         |
| Head 3 Rates                            | 3,175,032          |
| Head 4 Licences                         | 742,845            |
| Head 5 Revenue from Government Property | 1,722,900          |
| Head 6 Departmental Fees and Receipts   | 8,349,008          |
| Head 7 Government Earnings              | 1,808,966          |
| Head 8 Exceptional Item                 | -                  |
|                                         | <hr/>              |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>£73,832,126</b> |
|                                         | <hr/>              |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS 1099 TO 1102 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Head 102 shows expenditure in six months of £869,000 as opposed to the provision in the estimates of over £3 million is this an indication that in fact there is likely to be substantial underspend in this Head, in 102 the difference is £869,000 half-way through as opposed to £3 million for the whole year?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

From memory I cannot remember what those constructions were the Education and Culture facilities he already has the estimate but I suspect a lot of the underspend so far is related to the Theatre Royal on-going, was the Theatre Royal a part of that then?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes that is £2 million out of the £3 million.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

And the other one was ....?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The capital work between school hours and other refurbishment comes to £700,000 in a year, there are other things on school buildings but certainly two thirds of the budget is the Theatre Royal.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

This is not usually the Head where they underspend, in other words the Education Department normally wants more rather than less money to maintain schools and things of that sort so I doubt very much they are underspending on school refurbishment to the extent that there is an underspending on school refurbishment it is usually due it is very rare to JBS having a workload, the work gets delayed and gets postponed to the next financial year. There may be I do not know still some humbly paid work done in respect of the school hours, halls and things but certainly everything that is earmarked for the Theatre Royal should be spent by the end of the year because I think that there is an end of the year deadline and I am certain that project is now up and running and I would be very surprised if there was a much larger expenditure on that .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The other subhead was were I mentioned in Industry and Development were we have got something like £0.75 million as opposed to £1 million in the budget.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am sorry the hon Member has me at a disadvantage as I have not got the estimates in front of me I do not know what were the sort of projects that were in Head 106, is that the EU subhead, projects like the industrial park and things of that sort?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Interreg, Konver, Gibraltar Enterprise Scheme, Heritage and Planning and there are a number of token votes for them and stuff like that but the £1 million is made up predominantly in new projects yes and we are talking about £0.75 million having been spent so far.

**HON K AZOPARDI:**

I do not have the list of projects, obviously there are on-going approved projects that from time to time I have given details in the House about and which include private sector projects and also public sector one. I am not sure if part of the tranche of this would be part of the Lathbury Barracks Industrial Park. I know we are keen to start phase II quite quickly once we have gone out to tender with this and I imagine that a big proportion of the spend for the rest of the year will be dedicated to that. I do not

anticipate that there will be underspend but we can simply make available a list of details of the particular projects to the hon Member if he is interested.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Last year there was quite an underspend because the provision in this particular Head in last year's estimate was £3 million and £2 million was spent. It seems we are going the same way this year but what the estimates showed and I think we commented on in the year is, for example, in the Gibraltar Enterprise Scheme originally £130,000 had been provided and £49,000 had been spent and there was £150,000 put in this year and at budget time the indication that we had when we looked at those figures was that because sort of the bills had not come in before the end of the financial year the vote for this year was higher but it does not look like it from the first six months.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That seems to be true. I have to say that this business of the expenditure of EU funded projects is a constant problem on the one hand the Government have to work to deadlines because nowadays the rules for when one has to commit and spend the money by are much stricter than they used to be in previous programme documents like the one that the hon Member may have been familiar with when he obtained the first funding programme. On the one hand if the Government are going to say, ".....to make sure that all the money is spent we are using it all for public projects because the Government can then decide on the projects quickly and that way ....., " then the private sector says, "Well then the Government will be hogging all the funds so we wait, we publicise, we put out leaflets, we advertise and the private sector is actually remarkably slow in taking up these opportunities, some of them do, but there is not the sort of queue at the door so then the Government says, "We are running out of time we had better take the money over for the public sector," and I thought was just a Gibraltar problem but discussing this with DTI officials in the UK they tell me that this is throughout the community and throughout the UK with all the regions which have got funds that there are these problems of (a) reconciling the timescales with the distribution of funds between public and private on the one hand (b) deciding on the projects given the purposes for which the funds are available may not coincide with ones domestic priorities yet one has to match the funds, if they were all EU money one would say "just spend it regardless of whether it is a priority or not," but because one has to match it with Government funds one then finds oneself spending Government monies on projects that perhaps one would not have prioritised but which one decides to do so as not to lose the community funding and it is actually, I suppose a football manager with sort of six centre forwards to choose from would regard that as a nice problem to have but it is a problem which is constantly managed in the DTI by Francis Sheriff and an assistant which he now has for the purpose. There are projects, the Government are working on projects and there are finance centre projects. Government would not be so worried if there is an underspend from one year to another as against the Government's estimate. I think slightly more serious is if the underspend is against the European deadline so that the funding is lost.



ORAL

**NO. 1103 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GDP FIGURE**

Are Government now in a position to say in respect of which financial year the GDP was estimated to be £450 million?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The GDP figure of £450 million was a very preliminary estimate prepared by the Input/Output consultants in respect of the financial year 1999/2000 during the course of the Input/Output Study. This figure is now estimated by the consultants to be £417.5 million as published in the 2001 Abstract of Statistics.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1103 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I must say I have not noticed that there was a figure published in the Abstract of Statistics on GDP.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes there is and the hon Member might have heard me last night mentioning another figure for the following year which has not yet been published in the abstract obviously.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

These calculations then by the Input/Output study people are now considered to be what the final figures for those years?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

As the hon Member knows the Input/Output study are not National Accounts themselves, it is just an economic model, the National Income Accounts now on the basis of the systems had to be worked out and I understand from the Chief Secretary that they are being or have been worked out and are going to be presented to the me shortly. This figure of £417.5 million is the first fruit of the tools that Statistics had, the second one, the one that he heard me mention last night for the following year is the second fruit and I have asked the Chief Secretary to look into the point that we exchanged last time which is whether we are going to make any attempt to fill the gap in between.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The figure given last night for next year was what £427 million?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It was £433 million.

ORAL

**NO. 1104 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR COMMUNITY CARE LTD**

Can Government say as at the end of September what was the nominal and the market value of the holding by Gibraltar Community Care Ltd of 11.875 per cent 2005 loan?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002 the nominal and market value of the holding by Gibraltar Community Care Ltd of 11.875 per cent 2005 Loan Stock, is as follows:

|               |   |                                              |
|---------------|---|----------------------------------------------|
| Nominal Value | - | £36,438,000                                  |
| Market Value  | - | £42,016,658 (exclusive of accrued interest)* |

\* Accrued interest as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002 is £1,446,289.

ORAL

**NO. 1105 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**IMPORTS – PETROLEUM PRODUCTS**

What was the value and volume of imports of petroleum products each month this year and the comparable figures for last year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Figures in respect of the imports of petroleum products are provided to the Statistics Office by the importers themselves. The figures are provided in respect of any given year and a monthly breakdown is not available. The information requested, on an annual basis, for 2001 is as follows:-

**Imports of Petroleum Products**

|      | <b>Quantity (tonnes)</b> | <b>Value (£million)</b> |
|------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2001 | 2,574,436                | 288.2                   |

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION 1105 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

There is no figure then for the first nine months of this year, this is for the last calendar year I take it?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, they are not available monthly.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I accept that but they do not have a figure for the nine months either?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Do Customs have anything to do with the imports of petroleum?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have asked the same question when I have seen the answer to this one. Customs Department apparently keeps monthly records of import of petroleum products, historically the Statistics Office has never used these for the purposes of determining the total level of imports in any month or year since they are subject to significant inaccuracies because they are just doing it on the basis of monitoring the flow of goods whereas the companies then submit the actual amounts that they have imported. I suppose it must have something to do with the fact that all this arrives in a bowser in bulk and then Customs how do they know how much there is in the lorry or how much there is in the ship and this is an area where I think customs rely, they do keep some sort of figures but they have always been found to be so way out compared to the figures provided by the companies that the Statistics Offices have never used them ever in any of these figures. I have asked "Well is it appropriate to have a system which is self-policing to that extent is there some other system that can be introduced that at least provides something that we should be entirely in the hands of the importers to tell us the quantities that they import?" This does not have an enormous revenue implication because most of this stuff is not duty payable anyway but there are elements of revenue attached I understand but they are not as significant as the value might suggest but still as a matter of good administration there ought to be some other system

in place and that is being looked at. The hon Member's supplementary coincides with my own reaction to hearing the answer.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

When would the 2002 figures then be available, how long after the end of the year are they likely to be provided to the Government?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I will find out.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can I ask finally in terms of the policy that was being looked at which I think is still being looked at, it was being looked at in 1996 and I think it has continued of introducing a levy and storage, presumably the volumes that go through Gibraltar is a relevant consideration in that exercise no?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The William's Way transaction as it is called in internal Government jargon is now being looked at on a different basis to the basis it was being looked at when we arrived in office. It is no longer being looked at as a throughput fee which is the basis of what they were looking at for storage. It is now being done on the basis of a managed facility with the Government recouping the cost to it of that managed facility through increasing the duty on petroleum products to whatever extent we decide and indeed we have a few years ago added 3p to the duty rate per litre of white fuel and so the Government will raise the revenue by other means not necessarily by a throughput on the whole of the volume of petroleum products because it raises questions about the competitiveness of the port for the supply of bunkers et cetera .

ORAL

NO. 1106 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**IMPORTS**

What was the value of goods imported by land and sea, other than petroleum products each month since March 2002?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information requested is as follows:

|        | £000's |       |
|--------|--------|-------|
|        | Land   | Sea   |
| March  | 3,320  | 4,498 |
| April  | 3,390  | 5,236 |
| May    | 4,353  | 3,470 |
| June   | 3,770  | 7,732 |
| July   | 5,547  | 6,419 |
| August | 4,108  | 5,419 |

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1106 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I was under the impression that there was now more stuff coming in overland than by the port. These figures seem to be very close to each other.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes indeed I was just commenting that I am surprised at the level of the sea imports. I hope that the explanation for that is not something which I recently discovered that somebody wanted to treat as sea importation containers that arrive in Algeciras by sea were brought to Gibraltar by land and taken straight to the harbour for unstuffing in our harbour and sort of ignoring the land bit between Algeciras and Gibraltar and regarding it as a sea voyage to Gibraltar. I do not know if that issue was eventually resolved, I hope that the surprisingly high level of the sea figures is not explained by that because I remember when I heard this at the time thinking that this was a nonsense that the question is how they arrive in Gibraltar not how they arrive at some intermediate point in the international transport link but since we are both interested in the point I shall have it clarified and confirmed to him.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I think in fact when the figures were provided in answer to my previous question which was up to March this anomaly was not there so it seems to have crept into this answer this time but I think that before there was a very noticeable gap between the sea and the land imports.



ORAL

**NO. 1107 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SPANISH PENSIONERS**

Have there been any further exchanges between the European Commission and the UK Government since the UK replied on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2002, regarding the Spanish pensioners claim for revalued Social Security Pensions?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

To my knowledge there have been no further exchanges.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1107 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it reasonable to assume that if there had been the UK would have informed the Gibraltar Government or cannot we come to that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I cannot say with confidence that that would be so, certainly they have not informed the Government of anything.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The last answer that I got indicated that the ball was in the court of the Commission because the UK had replied, so on the basis of the knowledge that is currently available it would appear as if the Commissioner has not answered the February letter, is that correct?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I would have thought so because any reply on the part of the Commission would take the form of an infraction, pre-infraction letter which I am almost certain that the British Government would have wanted to bring to our attention if the infraction proceedings had actually been commenced.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So the last exchange really is at the stage whether the Commissioner either moves down that route or does not, is that the case?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That is the fear yes.

ORAL

**NO. 1108 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR'S NEW CONSTITUTION**

When was the letter to the Secretary General of the UN on Gibraltar's new constitution delivered and has there been any response from his office?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The letter was sent on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2002 and a reply has as yet not been received.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1108 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Was it just posted locally or was some other form of delivery adopted?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Even the state of the local post office would not account for a reply not having been received since the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2002, I think it was just posted locally but if it was also sent by fax which is the usual practice, I do not know if the usual practice was followed in

this case. Normally my correspondence of this sort would go by fax copy and then the hard copy would follow in the post but I do not know if that has happened in this case.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Would the Chief Minister mind checking given that it is a letter from both of us and that we do not want to be here just waiting patiently for something that has got lost in the post?

ORAL

**NO. 1109 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**COST OF REFERENDUM**

What is the estimated cost of holding the Referendum and to which head of expenditure is the cost being charged?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government will not provide information as to the cost of the Referendum until after the Referendum has taken place.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1109 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it that the Government do not want to say so in public for some particular reason?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Principally that, we just do not want to, there is such childishness going on in the context of the sniping at our referendum, I do not know if the hon Member has had a chance to see the front page of this morning's Chronicle, there is an article in the Guardian about some e-mail doing the rounds in the Foreign Office - If Saddam Hussein has his 100 per

cent, Caruana now has something to aim for in Gibraltar - or words to that effect. Frankly it is just not in Gibraltar's interest to provide them with a figure that they can bandy about. They have already described it as eccentric, no reason to arm them with information to actually quantify the degree of eccentricity. They have already described it as a waste of money, do we really want to give Mr Hain the opportunity to stand up in the House, look and he is the spending....."as they did with our advertising campaign so there is no, quite apart from which I do not know. There are expenditures, there are as yet unquantifiable expenses in respect of the observers, there is unquantified expenditure in respect of the overtime being done by a lot of the civil servants in the preparatory work, the conduct of the vote, the conduct of the count, I do not think that anyone has focused on even producing an estimate of the cost.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The other half of my question was, "to which head of expenditure it is being charged?" presumably there must be a provision in the estimates which was not there at the beginning of the budget which the Financial Secretary must be using to pay people. That presumably is not something that Mr Hain can make use of.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is obviously a matter for the Treasury whether at the moment it is being booked for example, there is a political development or something with Head under the Convent Place vote, I do not know what it is called the one that I pay all the usual.....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Visiting delegations?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well political visits, it is a general head or whether it is being charged to a suspense account and it will be.....there is a head there it usually has about £100,000 in it if that helps the hon member spot it quicker or whether it has been held on suspense. Head 8 – Secretariat, subhead 25 (a) Referendum Expenses.....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

New subhead.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is a new sub-head.

ORAL

**NO. 1110 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**REFERENDUM VOTERS LIST**

How many persons have been

(a) added to and

(b) removed from,

the Referendum Voter's List between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Drafts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

There have been a total of 1352 inclusions and 238 deletions so far from the Referendum Voters List between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Drafts. The total number of voters in the first Draft List was 19,378 in the second Draft it was 20,492. The net difference is therefore an increase of 1,114.

ORAL

**NO. 1111 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**REGISTER OF GIBRALTARIANS**

Can Government say what changes have taken place in respect of the number of persons entered in the register of Gibraltarians since 23<sup>rd</sup> April this year given in answer to Question No 685 of 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

In answer to Question No 685 of 2002 I said that there were a total of 35,244 persons entered in the Register of Gibraltarians on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2002. There were 35,768 persons entered in the Register as at 9<sup>th</sup> October 2002. This means that a total of 524 persons have registered as Gibraltarian between 24<sup>th</sup> April 2002 and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2002 inclusive.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1111 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Presumably these additions would have been reflected in the Referendum List?



**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I assume that they registered as Gibraltarians in order to be entitled and to get on to the list, of the other sort of people that are on the list there were people who may already have been registered as Gibraltarians but who had never bothered to obtain an identity card given that the list of identity cards was the starting point of the list. There were quite a lot of people even though we had written a lot of them in through some of the other lists used but there were still people particularly younger people coming through who had not done so.

ORAL

**NO. 1112 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CIVIL SERVICE – INDUSTRIAL WORKERS**

Have Government taken a view on introducing for industrial civil servants the same pay structure as is currently being negotiated for UK industrial civil servants?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government intend to continue to adhere to the principles of pay parity with the UK. The current negotiations in the (MOD) UK are being monitored. The final agreement will be looked at with a view to implement locally as it affects and is relevant to the Government's industrial workforce on the same basis as in past years.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1112 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

This in fact I believe introduces new salary scales with points and a 37 hour week, does that not have an impact on the alternatives that were being considered by the Government for the Buildings and Works, will that mean that the alternative that was being put in front of the workforce would have to be revised in the light of this new structure?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The exercise of comparing the offer with the new pay deal has not been done to see whether the offer is still an incentive, obviously if one needs something from people as he heard me say last night that one wants to incentivate out of them one has got to offer them more than they are entitled otherwise there is no element of incentive. The exercise of seeing where the new structure would leave the figures compared to the ones being mooted in the departmental restructure has not yet been done.

ORAL

**NO. 1113 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**NUMBER OF POSTS AT SENIOR GRADE**

Can Government say how many posts at senior grade level have been introduced to the public service since the beginning of this financial year, for which provision was not shown in the Estimates of Expenditure approved by the House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Two posts.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1113 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Government say where the two new posts are?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, one is the Chief Executive of the Social Services Agency and the other is the Assistant Chief Secretary at the Chief Secretary's Office.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the post of Assistant to the Chief Secretary in the civil service one in respect of which a particular union has got the negotiating rights or is that above the level the union negotiates?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The job was presently being done by an SEO given the development of the work in hand and the way that the job has expanded particularly in the context of EU related work, the Chief Secretary advised that the job should properly be graded at Senior Officer level and the Government have accepted that recommendation. There has not actually been a negotiation. I assume from what I have just said it follows that it is a view taken on the nature of the post rather than any view taken on the holder of the post as to whether he is entitled on a personal to holder but certainly, well I can tell the hon Member from what I see of the post working on a day to day basis that compared with other posts which are SEO's and other posts which are Senior Officers I think that the Chief Secretary's assessment was right which is why he has been authorised to proceed with it. I am not sure where the negotiating rights come in, the hon Member knows that there is now much more flexibility I think for which he was responsible for introducing into the system.....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Not with much success.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think the union's position Prospect is that they do not so much mind if the posts are shunted around so long as there is not a reduction in the net number of posts but this is an extra one.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So that means that the SEO post is still there?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It does not.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No it means that one SEO post has become an SO post.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

And in terms of the filling of the post did that have to go out for people to apply or was it decided that the person who was already doing the job should be upgraded in post as it where?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think he has been upgraded in post, the Chief Secretary assures me and I think this was used recently a few years ago in the DTI in the case of Francis Sheriff, that there are provisions for the upgrading of posts in favour of the holder, in other words short to the creation of a vacancy which is then filled by advertisement that when a post is regraded it is regraded in favour and for the benefit of the incumbent of that post at that time and that it is not usual for there to be contest so to speak when there is a regrading of the post given that the job is being done at the level with the difficulty and level of responsibility which has been the subject of the regrading.

ORAL

**NO. 1114 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**FRONTIER FENCE**

Have Government now decided how they are going to replace the frontier fence?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No. It is one of those projects that with all the other urgent things that have appeared on our radar screens has slipped down in our list of priorities. Let me assure the hon Gentleman that if he suspects that there is some sort of horizontal political issue here about whether the frontier fence is going to disappear or whether anybody is objecting to the frontier fence being refurbished please accept my assurances that there is no such issue. As far as the Government are concerned and no one has raised any issues, on the contrary this is a beautification project. It is just a question of whether we beautify the frontier fence first or the Europa Road, no one has raised any extraneous to beautification question in relation to this project there is therefore no sinister reason for the delay it is simple slippage in the project.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The reappearance of the question is not a reflection that we think in this House that there is a sinister motive behind it, it is simply to find out if there has been any change since the question was last answered.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member might say that and some people may choose to believe him but the fact that the Leader of the Opposition chooses to himself field the question relating to the

physical state of the frontier fence suggests that his concern is more than just whether it is beautiful or not beautiful but rather that it has some foreign affairs implication otherwise if the question were motivated simply by a desire to see the fence made more pretty I am sure it would be taken by those members of his team that normally ask questions on such issues.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The question is not a reflection of our desires it is a question seeking information and the reason why I put it is because I put it the first time the matter was raised and I have carried on putting it and if the Chief Minister recalls what I have said at the beginning I cannot remember how long it was, that the only issue that concerned me was not what colour because it is likely to be blue and yellow anyway, but whether it should be done at the tax payers expense or by the MOD who in previous years always claimed it was their fence and his answer was that if we left it to the MOD given the present state of mind in UK they might decide to do away with it that is why I have kept an interest in it.



ORAL

**NO. 1115 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**HOUSE PRICES**

Have Government investigated the feasibility of monitoring house prices?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION No 1115 of 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I take it that although it may not have been done the indication that it might be something worth doing if it was possible to do is still .....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes because the Government has Statistics Department, there are statisticians there, if monitoring house prices is an interesting worthwhile thing to do they should do it. There is no reason why the Government would not want housing pricing monitored it is true since we last spoke across the floor of the House there has not been any political

initiative taken at ministerial level to bring it about but there is no reason why it should not happen administratively in the Statistics Department if this is thought to be appropriate. I will try and have the matter put on somebody's agenda to see if at least somebody can give some thought to it.

ORAL

**NO. 1116 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EUROPEAN OPEN SKIES**

Have Government now received a final opinion over the steps that need to be taken to challenge Gibraltar's exclusion from the European Open Skies?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Yes. It is currently under consideration.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1116 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

How long have the Government had the opinion?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know, I think late September.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It was in September last year that the Government announced that they would be seeking such an opinion, is it that it has taken that long to put it together or .....?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Government do things as a matter of their policy and then really it is not for the Opposition to press us at the speed at which we must implement our own policies. If the hon Member wants to know dates in which Government receives internal confidential legal advice I am perfectly happy to share the information with him but frankly I do not think any issue arises of whether it has taken too long or too little time it is something that has taken along at the pace that these things take. I can assure him that a lawyer has not been working on the opinion for the full last 12 months it is not that it has taken 12 months because it has taken a lawyer 12 months to do it and if I told him last September that the Government would be seeking the opinion .....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Chief Minister announced it publicly in a press conference that this was going to be something that had a high priority and that they would be taking steps to do it so they have had a year to find out.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes and if it the hon Member's judgement that a year is too little or too late the Government do not rush into litigation of this sort nor is the Government going to rush into considering the opinion which raises many issues. The Government will take the matter slowly, there is no hurry, we are excluded, it is a long process anyway as he discovered when he tried something similar and this is something which is on the tracks. It is not the first item on the Government's priorities at this moment in time and it is something that goes forward in the ordinary course of business. We have received the opinion now, we have received a partial opinion a little bit earlier than this one, then it was finished off with this second opinion on a slightly different aspects of it, then there has been a need to go back to the lawyers that wrote the opinion asking them to clarify and build up the opinion on certain particular issues of it, the final ones have finally arrived the hon Member thinks that six months or seven months or 12 months is too long well it is a matter of opinion no one was treating this as a 100 yards sprint. If the Government decide to take legal action we will announce it and even if we decide not to take legal action we will announce it but at the moment we are not in a position to make an announcement as to when that might be, it will be one way or the other.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the legal opinion also provide a recommendation as to whether to proceed to take legal action or not or is that a separate issue?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Lawyers do not normally make recommendations of that sort, they give a legal opinion on the basis of the brief or questions put to them and then most lawyers give an indication of prospect of success leaving it to the client to decide whether that degree of prospect, legal opinions are always cast in ifs and buts and caveats anyway, leaving it to the client to assess whether on the basis of the advice with a degree of certainty that it attaches to the advice which varies is worth pursuing and in this case it is a particularly fine judgement because it is very new legal thinking so not only is it subject to all the usual uncertainties of legal action but indeed we would be seeking to have recourse to pretty novel procedures to try and achieve it.

ORAL

**NO. 1117 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EUROPEAN ELECTIONS**

What steps have been taken by the Government to seek Gibraltar's inclusion in the South West Region for the next European Elections?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Government have not yet specified a particular constituency to which it is seeking Gibraltar's addition. Therefore we have not taken any steps to seek Gibraltar's inclusion in the southwest region particularly. A further round of consultation between the Gibraltar Government officials and UK Government officials took place on questions relating to enfranchisement, logistics, generally on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2002. During the course of the meeting it was made clear to the Government that the region of the UK to which Gibraltar would be added would be for the Electoral Boundaries Commission to decide and that the Electoral Boundaries Commission would consult the Government and they have not yet done so. Let me say as I am sure the hon Member is aware that MP's from all parties and from all regions are queing up to request that we should be added to their region and there is a raging debate, intraparty debate taking place between London, the southwest and the Midlands which has waded in .

## SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1117 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The reason why I formulated this question in this particular way as opposed to when I last raised it was because on the visit when there was that unfortunate photographic incident with Drake the Chief Minister was reported as having announced there that they wanted Gibraltar to be part of that region that is what the report said that he had said then so I thought a decision had been taken.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No. What I said on that occasion was that the Government had formed the view that the southwest region would be appropriate, (a) because it was physically the nearest to Gibraltar and secondly because the Government felt that Gibraltar's participation in a predominantly provincial and rural constituency would give us a more visible participation than if we disappeared into an urban conglomerate like London where we would disappear in one borough so that is as far as my comments went I did not actually say that we were sort of putting in a bid let me say that what the hon Gentleman describes as an unfortunate photographic incident is something that I had chosen not to make a public comment on because the facts are not as they have been reported but I simply do not wish to dignify those that have chosen to put out those versions of the facts with engaging in a political debate. I think it is inappropriate for the Chief Minister of Gibraltar or for any Minister of Gibraltar frankly, given the effort that has gone in to building a carefully nurtured image for Gibraltar politically within the United Kingdom in the context of the current political battle that we are facing, the level of seriousness, democratic maturity that Gibraltar is trying to project abroad to risk it all going up in smoke by the Chief Minister of Gibraltar being photographed next to a man in fancy dress costume. Let me say that I was not the only one that declined to be photographed, MP's that were there Lindsay Hoyle for example took the same view. Serious politicians in England, Plymouth politicians do not get photographed with this man in fancy dress costume. So the suggestion that somehow offence was caused to the people of Plymouth is a complete figment of the imagination of the people whose allegations I had said I had chosen not to dignify with the response. No one has been put out by this remark indeed I understand that the man is quite controversial even in Plymouth and therefore if there are those who want to reduce the conduct of Gibraltar's very serious affairs to a pantomime they can do it certainly they cannot count with me in order to do it. I do not know if the hon Member knows but I arrived at Plymouth airport after a very hair-raising little flight in a very small aircraft that appears to fly too low for my liking and I disembarked from this aeroplane and I walked into the terminal and it is rather like arriving in Gibraltar or arriving at Heathrow or Gatwick. There is a whole sort of range of people in the arrivals lounge waiting for passengers to emerge and there I find sort of everybody's aunts and cousins waiting for their nephews and cousins and Francis Drake and a lady standing next to him sort of dressed as I suppose Sir Francis Drake's wife would have dressed at that time and these people were seriously standing there in the middle of the terminal hall and they actually wanted to drive me into Plymouth city dressed in this ridiculous costume. The costume is ridiculous not because

of anything that Francis Drake stood for but because it is ridiculous in the twenty-first century and therefore let me say that the decision which incidentally was communicated to them in advance contrary to some of the things that have been said that I did not wish to be photographed with Francis Drake is the correct one. There are people in Gibraltar with a different view I respect the different view in my judgement the interests of Gibraltar were best served by its Chief Minister not being photographed with somebody in fancy dress clothes of this sort and some people appear to have taken issue with the fact that they think I did not do so so as not to upset the people of Cadiz. That would be a jolly good reason for not doing it. If there is some particular interest of Gibraltar that is being achieved by doing it that people in Cadiz are being upset is too bad but to upset the people of Cadiz even if that were the reason, to avoid upsetting the people of Cadiz next to whom we live for absolutely no advantage to Gibraltar it would be in my opinion absolutely absurd and unnecessary. The people of Cadiz who feel that they were capriciously and whimsically sacked by Francis Drake at his leisure, one thing is not to offend the Spanish Government to which frankly we attach relatively little importance but a distinction surely should be drawn between not offending the Spanish Government and not offending the Spanish people particularly our immediate neighbours amongst the Spanish people with whom Gibraltar says we want to have good relations. Is that not what we say that we have no problem with the Spanish people that we want to be their friends, that our quarrel is not with the Spanish people but with the Spanish Government's aspirations so why should anybody think that it is worth offending those Spanish people for the sake of a photograph with Sir Francis Drake so I make absolutely no apology had that been the reason for my not taking the photograph, that would have been a perfectly good one and I would not have felt any need to make an apology for it, in fact it was not. Even the main reason, Lindsay Hoyle who took the same view of his photograph with him does not have any such concerns. Those are the reasons. I am glad the hon Member has given me the opportunity to say one or two things about the photographic incident.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It was simply to locate the place where the statement was made, can I just ask in clarification of his lengthy explanation when he says he was not going to go into town on arrival dressed in that costume it is not that they expected him to dress in the same costume as well is it?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Thankfully no, the proposal was that Sir Francis Drake in his uniform should chauffeur me with his wife sitting in the back next to me. As I did not go into the car I do not know whether she was going to sit at the back with me or at the front with him. In the event our London representative went with Sir Francis Drake and I went in the second vehicle which had been sent by the Golden Hind Association, two vehicles came and I went in the official one assuming that that was the official one and the official one was not the one chauffeured by Sir Francis Drake.



ORAL

NO. 1118 OF 2002

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**SINGLE MARKET IN GOODS**

Can Government say whether there have been any further developments in the test case as to whether Gibraltar is excluded from the Single Market in goods?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The indications that the Government have received is that the Advocate General's opinion is due in the Autumn.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1118 OF 2002

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Meaning anytime now?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1119 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SUPREME COURT OF GIBRALTAR – JUDGMENT**

Since the answer to Question No 689 of 2002, has there been any instance of a Supreme Court judgment being accepted for enforcement in Spain?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No. It is not that there has been no incidence in which a Supreme Court judgment has been accepted for enforcement. No does not mean that there has been some but they have not been accepted rather that there has been no request for the transmission to Spain of a Supreme Court judgment.

ORAL

**NO. 1120 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**REGULATION ON DENIED BOARDING COMPENSATION**

Can Government say whether there have been any further developments since May regarding Gibraltar's inclusion in the Regulation on Denied Boarding Compensation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Following on from the Government's disclosure on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March this year of an arrangement between the UK and Spain under which directives applying to Gibraltar Airport are to be excluded from the application of EU Law, the decision was consequently (and as announced on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2002) to exclude Gibraltar from the Denied Boarding Compensation Directive. I am sure to the hon Member the language is a touch confusing even to me as I have been reading it and therefore it might also have been to him but the hon Member will recall the statement that the Government made in which we say that Britain and Spain had agreed that they would take one case at a time and if there were implications they would agree to suspend, this one was subjected to that principle and excluded and there have been public statements to that .

ORAL

**NO. 1121 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INPUT/OUTPUT STUDY**

Can Government say what decisions have been taken in respect of the Input/Output Study since the report was submitted to Government on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2002?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The study consultants visited Gibraltar in July this year to validate data and complete their work on the Report. A final draft Report was submitted last week and the Government hope to receive a final report for publication shortly whereupon the Government intends to invite the consultants to make a full public presentation of the report and demonstration of the computer models and its future use capabilities. So, in effect what they have done is that they have sent what they regard as a final draft for final consideration and we now want them to convert that very quickly into the final report and when Professor Fletcher was last out in Gibraltar I agreed with him that he would come out in the autumn to give a public presentation of the model and of the report et cetera.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1121 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Presumably then we will get the opportunity on that occasion to be able to ask him things that we may be interested in having clarified. I think we were told at a very early stage that when the time came when it was all completed there would be an opportunity to discuss what the model does or does not do or is intended to do.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I suppose so I do not think a public presentation is going to present the hon Member with an opportunity to embark on a detailed cross-examination of the team, I am not sure that is what they have agreed to do but I suppose if it is open to the public the hon Member is free to attend the presentation.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Of course and I have every intention of doing so but the point is if he is going to be here for the public presentation presumably it is possible to arrange to see him.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes absolutely, no I said at the presentation itself will not be an opportunity to engage in an exchange.

ORAL

**NO. 1122 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**2001 CENSUS**

Can Government now give the date when they expect to publish the results of the 2001 Census?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government expect to be in a position to publish the final results of the 2001 Census towards the end of this year. Already some preliminary statistics on population and housing have been made public as part of the 2001 Abstract of Statistics.

ORAL

**NO. 1123 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**POPULATION FIGURES**

Can Government explain the discrepancies in the population figures published in the 2001 Abstract of Statistics attributed to provisional estimates based on the 2001 Census?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

There are no discrepancies in the published population figures. The population figure in respect of 2001 is shown in tables 1-3 of the Abstract of Statistic 2001 and stood at 28,231. Table 4 and 5 show the population categorised by age groups and by religion respectively and do not include the 745 UK-based civilians and the families of UK servicemen as full Census questionnaires were not completed by this group of persons as was the practice in earlier censuses thus these two tables give a population total of 27,486 that is 28,231 less the 745.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1123 OF 2001**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I was looking at the fact that unlike previous Census figures that have been published in 1991 and 2000 the figure of population showed by the Census is in fact much higher

than the calculation that was made until then and this is contrary to the experience in the past is there an explanation for this, in every other occasion it has been the other way around inbetween Censuses the estimates of people moving in and out of Gibraltar tend to produce a higher figure because they record when they come in but they do not record when they disappear, on this occasion for some strange reason the Census shows an under-recording of this?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am not aware of any explanation the estimating basis may have swung the other way in the estimating techniques and now the annual estimates turn out to be underestimates rather than over estimates as in the past but a Census is a Census these are people who are in Gibraltar on Census night and in that respect the figures cannot be inaccurate it is not like the problems the United Kingdom has just got into ironically the comments of our Census with its own where they have been shown to be inaccurate because the Census was being done on the basis of a random sample and calculated accordingly. Next time somebody raises with me questions about the quality of our statistics I shall bear that to the front of my mind by way of response. This is actually a Census one person at a time but if there is some statistical administration reason why what used to be underestimations have become overestimations I will, just to satisfy his statistical interest.....

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We are talking about something in the order of 1,000 in a population of 20,000 is not insignificant.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I will find out.



ORAL

**NO. 1124 OF 2002**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**TREATY OF UTRECHT**

Have Government now received the final opinion from the constitutional expert they engaged to provide advice on the issue of the supposed constraint on the peoples right to self-determination by virtue of the Treaty of Utrecht?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Yes.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO 1124 OF 2002**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can Government say how long they have had the final thing?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No but this is an opinion that we have had for some time in draft the hon Member will recall that this is the opinion that comes down squarely in our favour on the issues but creates obstacles that have not yet been overcome as to a forum in which we have those issues aired.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I understood when I last raised it which was quite some time ago that at that time that was not the final position, is it that there has been something further since then?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is this a French Constitutional expert?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes indeed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

And that further opinion has been in the Government's position for some time but it does not take us any further in terms of identifying a possible argument?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It does not take us any further on the forum issues.