

**ORAL**

**NO. 1066 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT**

Can Government provide an update on the status of the tender for the Sewage Treatment Plant?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

As previously communicated in answer to Question No. 643 of 2005 in the last meeting of the House, the appointed consultant was undertaking a preliminary study and assessment of the project with this having now been completed. Submission of the consultant's report is expected soon after the New Year.

ORAL

NO. 1067 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**PUBLIC HIGHWAYS**

Can Government state the areas of Gibraltar's Public Highways that were resurfaced during the period October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question No. 1068 of 2005.

**NO. 1068 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**PUBLIC HIGHWAYS**

Can Government state the major works in respect of Gibraltar's Public Highways that they propose to put out to tender up to the end of March 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Over the past months a number of projects relating to the Public Highway have been put out to public tender. These include the Engineer Lane and Bell Lane beautification contract, the first phase of the new link road through Orange Bastion to Fish Market Road and the first phase of the works to replace the balustrade and footpath along Europa Road.

In addition, the Highways Term maintenance Contract was awarded in October 2005 and the contractor has already mobilised. They are proceeding in line with the programme of works set out for them and areas such as Cathedral Square and the roundabouts at Winston Churchill Avenue and Line Wall Road are under way.

With regard to future projects, public tenders for the beautification works to the southern end of Main Street from Southport Gates to Convent Place will shortly be invited. These works will, apart from enhancing the street scape in the area, also include the provision of new infrastructure, with the new sewer and storm water drainage runs being an important element of this. These will replace the old systems which have experienced collapses in the recent past.

It is also intended to proceed with the public tender for the second phase of the Orange Bastion/Fish Market Road project which extends up to the Waterport area.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1069 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CALPE TENANTS ASSOCIATION**

Given previous answers in this House, when will the envisaged action to tackle the problem of unsightly and unhygienic rubbish dumps in the area of Calpe commence?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Answered together with Question No. 1070 of 2005.

**NO. 1070 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CALPE TENANTS ASSOCIATION**

Why were the tenders received for Ape Proof Litter Bins at an estimated cost of £30,000 (Head 105, Subhead 5, Upper Rock Improvements and Maintenance) considered not to represent value for money so that the tender as originally conceived was not therefore awarded?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

As previously stated in answer to Question No. 648 of 2005 of the last House, funding for the construction of two new refuse enclosures at Calpe Married Quarters and Willis' House has this year been made available to the Department of the Environment, as has funding for the temporary up-grading of the existing bin cubicle at Willis's Road. Revised designs were prepared and negotiations have now been concluded with the contractor. Works on the construction of the first of these cubicles will commence after the New Year, with this being scheduled for completion prior to the end of the Financial Year.

During the financial year 2003/2004 a tender was invited for the provision of Ape Proof Litter Bins for the Upper Rock Nature Reserve. Although a number of bona fide tenders were received, it was considered that the tendered unit costs were excessively high and did not represent good value for money. This tender was not therefore awarded.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1069 AND 1070 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The Minister has not given us a start date but he has given us a finish date so that perhaps may be even more useful, can he tell us in relation to Question No. 1070 of 2005 exactly what the tender unit cost was in respect of each unit?

**HON J J NETTO:**

In relation to his first question, completion date as I said is before the end of the financial year but I do not know exactly when but it is scheduled to be before the end

of the financial year. In relation to his second question, I have not got that kind of information available with me.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

We would have thought it was information that was necessary for the Minister to answer the question as it was phrased, can I ask him to let me have that information?

**HON J J NETTO:**

The first thing that the hon Member should bear in mind is that this goes back to 2003/2004 at a time when neither myself nor my current personnel were at the helm, so to speak, dealing with these particular projects. The information which we have tried to produce in order to give him the information has been from the Procurement Office. So long as they have got the information I do not see any reason why I should not be able to pass it to the hon Member.

**NO. 1071 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**ENVIRONMENT – AIR QUALITY MONITORING**

Can Government state what action if any they are pursuing in respect of the concerns of many residents of the South District at the high levels of Benzene detected on occasions by the Government's own air quality monitoring stations?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Many residents of the South District have not, as far as Government are aware, expressed concerns at the alleged high levels of benzene. The limit value for benzene for the protection of human health is set out in our Public Health (Air Quality Limit Values) Rules and in Council Directive 2000/69/EC. This corresponds to an annual average of  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  with a margin of tolerance at present of an additional  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  reducing on 1 January 2006 and every 12 months thereafter by  $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . This means that for 2005 the annual average limit value is  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  reducing by  $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  annually to reach  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  by 1 January 2010.

Because this present limit of  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  is set as an annual average, it must be accepted that there will be many individual hourly readings which will be above this level.

If we therefore consider an hourly reading about  $20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  as a possible cause for concern for residents of the South District, we find there have been 27 hourly readings above this level out of 7713 hourly readings taken since monitoring for benzene commenced on 4 February 2005 and up to 10.00 am on 5 December. This represents 0.35 per cent of all readings.

The vast majority of these 27 hourly readings are directly related and attributable to road traffic and are centred around some 15 days usually around 9.00 am which represents peak traffic conditions. These levels are expected at a road side monitoring station in a position such as ours.

There are also a handful of hourly peak benzene levels usually registered at around 5.00 am to 6.00 am which are not identifiable as related to traffic or other specific sources and which we continue to investigate. However, because of their very sporadic occurrence (3 March, 24 August, 1 December) and short duration it is very difficult to try and determine their source. We continue however to work on this.

Having said that, we are extremely confident that come the end of the recording year, when we will be able to calculate our annual average and compare it to the EU limit levels, we will be well within not only the present limit values but also the more

stringent one of 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> set for 2010. As a matter of fact our average so far this year is only 2.28 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. We, of course, accept this does not represent the full year's reading but we do not expect much deviation from this.

I am also pleased to be able to inform the House that we are expanding our monitoring capability and that right now we are installing equipment which will enable us to monitor four additional ambient air pollutants. These are – arsenic, cadmium, nickel and poly-aromatic hydrocarbons. Monitoring for these pollutants will start within the next few days.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1071 OF 2005**

##### **HON F R PICARDO:**

Let me thank the Minister for that very full answer but in his earlier answer in answer to Question No. 657 of 2005, he told us that a lot of the spikes were really likely to be suspect spikes. In fact I will be able to quote his reference if he does not recall what he said. Does he now believe, therefore, that the spikes that I referred him to at the last meeting of the House were not suspect spikes at all?

##### **HON J J NETTO:**

I do not recall saying all of those particular readings were suspect, I did say to one in particular was suspect and that was information given to me by people in the Environmental Agency. Now the hon Member has to realise that this particular monitoring stations, the equipment there are extremely sensitive, so much so that when one happens to have a car with the engine on next to the air monitoring station, at that particular moment there will be a very high reading of benzene. That is something that if it happens, so to speak, at 7.00 am by the time that an officer of the Environmental Agency goes to work and pops in to the monitoring station at 9.00 am, he will find that there is no trace whatsoever of benzene of that occurred at 7.00 am. It is something which they have looked at very seriously themselves and they have been able to relate it to movements of traffic because along with the levels of benzene they are also looking as to the level of carbon monoxide, two ingredients which happen to be very much linked to traffic movement. So the one thing that is pointing one can safely say is that those levels of benzene are very much related to those particular traffic movements, particularly very early in the morning because it is next to the road which is very busy as far as people going to work.



**NO. 1072 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**ENVIRONMENT - RECYCLING**

Why has the project to introduce recycling previously awarded to tender by Steelmac Limited not proceeded with that party and when do the Government expect that the project will get under way?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Steelmac Limited was not awarded a tender for recycling as no such tender has been advertised. This company made an approach to Government to set themselves up to provide such a service to the community and this received the Government's support. The parties entered into an agreement for the provision of this service but shortly thereafter a number of operational difficulties arose that delayed the commencement of the project. Those difficulties were eventually overcome but the company has recently informed the Government of its inability to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract. Government are therefore presently considering the situation and assessing their options. Government nevertheless remain fully committed to recycling.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1072 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister tell us where he believes that the Government's assessment of their options will lead them?

**HON J J NETTO:**

There can be a couple of options, this particular company may wish to change its position and adopt the original position and come back to us, that is one particular option. If they choose not to do so Government need to see that the bins that were purchased were purchased by Government and European money, Government need to find out whether legally we are entitled to obtain those particular bins back into Government for the purpose of actually putting a tender out, perhaps somebody else may wish to approach the Government on similar terms that Steelmac did originally, or indeed other options. This is a particular facility that may also be able to be incorporated in a much wider context like an environment park, so indeed there are

various options and possibilities but obviously we are not there. We are where we are at the moment and we need to see what is going to happen with this particular company in relation to the agreement and the contract that we signed.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Anybody who hears the Minister's argument repeatedly will not doubt that he is committed to recycling, seeing as he recycles his arguments in every House, but let me just try and concentrate on this particular issue. Is it that the Government are saying that they are still in negotiations with Steelmac or not?

**HON J J NETTO:**

We are not in negotiation as such, I do recall that Steelmac made an approach and had a meeting with one of my Civil Servants but there is no negotiation as such. We are not re-negotiating the clauses that were signed in that particular contract, it is a matter for Steelmac to honour it or not to honour it but we are not in negotiations with Steelmac.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

One of the other things that the Minister said was that perhaps another party might approach Government to suggest that they might be able to comply with those conditions, are the Government open to proposals from the public or from companies?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Well, in the past we have been open but it might be that we have to go to tender again, not again because this particular company, Steelmac, did not go to tender but we might go to tender. It is an option, it is not one decided but it is an option.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

If that is one of the options when do Government expect to be in a position to tell us whether they have decided to go to tender or if they have decided to take another course?

**HON J J NETTO:**

We will be in a position once we have made our minds up, obviously we have not made our minds up yet so I am not in a position to tell him.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Let me not labour the point, when do the Government expect to make up their minds? That is what we are trying to get at.

**HON J J NETTO:**

When we are ready.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I think that shows the type of commitment that there is to recycling. Does the Minister not realise that if they say that they are committed to recycling they must surely be able to tell us when it is that they expect to deal with this point, or does he not?

**HON J J NETTO:**

I simply do not agree with the hon Member's proposition.

**NO. 1073 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**OESCO**

Will Government state what is the estimated cost of the noise insulation works which have been announced in respect of the OESCO power station at Europa Business Centre?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Government are not presently in a position to state what the cost of the insulation works at the OESCO power station is likely to be as details have yet to be finalised and this work is likely to be the subject of a future tender.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1073 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister then tell us exactly what he meant in his political broadcast when he told the whole of Gibraltar that works would start soon?

**HON J J NETTO:**

What it means is that there is a commitment by the Government to do the insulation of the OESCO power station soon, that is what it means.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

But what exactly does soon mean in the Minister's vocabulary? Does it mean in this financial year, does it mean in the next financial year?

**HON J J NETTO:**

Soon means what the dictionary says so I suggest he goes and checks the dictionary.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Will the Minister not agree with me that soon certainly does not mean after we have done everything that we should have done before we announce the process?

**HON J J NETTO:**

No, we do not agree.

ORAL

**NO. 1074 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT**

When was the post of Human Resources Officer for the Buildings and Works Department vacancy opened, how many individuals applied for that post, how many were interviewed, what has been the result of that interview procedure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No. 1075 of 2005.

**NO. 1075 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Of all the applicants who have applied for posts in the Buildings and Works Department and who are under the age of 30, how many were not interviewed for the post because the RGP informed that they have minor offences (such as speeding, making a nuisance by playing loud music, failure to vaccinate a dog, et cetera)?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1074**

The post of Human Resources Officer, Buildings and Works, was advertised on 21 April 2005. A total of 23 applications were received. All the applicants were interviewed. The decision to select and appoint a candidate remains under consideration.

**Answer to Question No. 1075**

The minor offences mentioned by the hon Member would not result in candidates not being interviewed for posts in Buildings and Works.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1074 AND 1075 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Can the Minister give us a date by which they believe they will appoint the Human Resources Officer?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

No.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1076 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – PRE-LIST**

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

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1077 to 1082 of 2005.



**ORAL**

**NO. 1077 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

Can Government state how many applicants are on the Housing Waiting List currently, giving a breakdown of their flat requirements?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1076 and 1078 to 1082 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1078 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of each category of room composition, can Government state, as on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005 before the new pointage system was applied, how many applicants there were in each waiting list category?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1076, 1077 and 1079 to 1082 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1079 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

Can Government state, in respect of each month as from the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005, how many applicants were rejected on the grounds that they were homeowners who had chosen to sell their homes?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1076 to 1078 and 1080 to 1082 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1080 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

Can Government state, in respect of each month as from the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005, how many applicants were accepted because in the judgement of the Housing Allocation Committee the sale was really genuinely necessary?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1076 to 1079, 1081 and 1082 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1081 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of applicants already on the list can Government state, for each category of waiting list and for each month as from 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005, how many applicants had overcrowding points disallowed because other people who had sold their homes had moved in with them?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1076 to 1080 and 1082 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1082 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of applicants already on the list can Government state, for each category of waiting list and for each month as from 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005, how many applicants had overcrowding points allowed when other people who had sold their homes had moved in with them?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the statistical information requested.

**Answer to Question 1082**

**Answer to Question 1076**

There are 487 applicants on the pre-list as follows:

1RKB	-	313
2RKB	-	36
3RKB	-	85
4RKB	-	49
5RKB	-	3
6RKB	-	1

**Answer to Question 1077**

There are 748 applicants on the waiting list as follows:

1RKB	-	403
2RKB	-	52
3RKB	-	196
4RKB	-	84
5RKB	-	11
6RKB	-	2

**Answer to Question 1078**

There were a total of 670 applicants on the waiting list as follows:

1RKB	-	386
2RKB	-	47
3RKB	-	161
4RKB	-	65
5RKB	-	8
6RKB	-	3

**Answer to Questions 1079 to 1080**

No applications have been received from persons who have sold their houses after the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005.

**Answer to Questions 1081 to 1082**

No applicant already on the list has had overcrowding points allowed or disallowed for the reason stated in the question.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1076 TO 1082 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Could I ask the Minister to explain how they intend to allocate a home to the one person, I have to assume it is the same person, who has been on the 6RKB for some time, that is on the pre-list, when the time comes for that person to move to the official list and there are two people on the actual housing list proper that request a 6RKB. When do they hope to have a house ready of a 6RKB composition? Are they being refurbished, because I do not think there are any in the so-called affordable homes schemes? I am just comparing the statistical information given concerning people who are on the pre-list and people who are on the housing waiting list proper. What I am asking the Minister is are there any empty 6RKB homes that are being prepared to accommodate these people?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

I do not know if there are at this moment in time any 6RKB houses being refurbished, I do not have the list in front of me. Obviously they will be accommodated as soon as those rare flats, because there are not many I suppose, become available.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In answer to Question Nos. 1079 and 1081 which shows that that new prohibition which was, I think, an essential part of the new scheme on people selling and applying, there is no evidence since the scheme as announced of anybody trying to get on the waiting list in that category from the answer that we have had. Was there evidence that it was happening just before when the Minister brought the new rules in?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

There must have been evidence when the new rule was brought in.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Well look, people are known to make mistakes in life so therefore the fact that something was done on the premise that there was a need for it, we are trying to find out if there is evidence now that these rules have been brought in that people as a result are being rejected who might otherwise have been getting in. Do the Government have any notion of that?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

There is no rejection and over the last two and a half or three months there just happen to have been none who have applied. That is all it means.



**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I know that there have been no rejections so nobody has been rejected on the grounds that they have sold their house. That presumably means that nobody who had sold their house applied, but since the purpose of the scheme being changed was to stop this category where the Government said these people were getting an unfair advantage because they were selling out only to get back on the waiting list, do Government have any idea whether the fact that there were no applications for example since 5<sup>th</sup> August how that compares with what was happening before?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

People have just stopped applying if they were applying before, which they were.

**NO. 1083 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – ALLOCATION PROCEDURES**

Can Government confirm that the movement of persons from the pre-list for housing to the main list will not be affected by the award of points introduced on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005 under the Housing Allocation Scheme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

The question is not very clear, if what the Hon Charles Bruzon is asking refers to whether anything in the 5<sup>th</sup> August Regulations in any way stops or interferes seriously with the passage from one list to the other the answer is no.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1084 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – PRE-LIST**

Can Government state, of the applicants who had joined the pre-list after the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2003, how many were persons who had previously chosen to sell their homes and applied for Government housing?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No. 1085 of 2005.

**NO. 1085 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – PRE-LIST**

In the 12 months ending on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005, how many applicants moved from the pre-list to the main list and of these how many were identified as being homeowners who had previously sold their homes?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1084**

A total of 560 applicants joined the pre-list after 5<sup>th</sup> August 2003.

**Answer to Question No. 1085**

A total of 261 applicants moved from the pre-list to the main waiting list.

I wish to add that Government are willing to provide the Opposition with further detailed information of the sort requested specifically in the identification of home owners. However, given the intense administrative burden of extracting this information within five days, it can, if the hon Member wishes, be provided in due course.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1084 AND 1085 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Yes, I would like the Minister to provide the information requested at his earliest convenience, maybe within ten days if possible.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the Minister not agree that in fact, presumably the need to which he referred in answer to a previous Supplementary of mine to do something about home owners getting on the waiting list ought to be reflected in the answer to these two questions? Would he not agree that that would be the case?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

That is what I have just said, it would be information available but we would have to extract that.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But presumably at some stage the Department must have done something to come to that conclusion. It would be very peculiar if when it was extracted we found out that there was practically no such category, given that he has just told us that there was a reason otherwise it would not have been done.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Certainly the decision to alter the rules in that way amongst several other ways did not respond to some sort of a scientific assessment of the applicants, it was not an empirical study, it was done on the basis of complaints from people who said 'well look, why is this person on the waiting list?' and people waiting on the housing list had a tendency, I got some of this in my clinics where I see people, people pointing accusatorily at the Government saying 'ah, but see I do not move up the list but then people who have sold houses do'. So very often policy is made on the basis of weight of observations made by others which if they can be addressed should be addressed. The hon Member may be trying to establish whether or not the policy change was necessary, he may be trying to establish what empirical evidence there is that this problem existed. I suppose though that he is not arguing that if it does exist it should not have been put right. In other words, that people should buy often subsidised housing from a home ownership scheme, sell out, make and pocket a huge profit and then get into the housing waiting list competing with others for a further house. Now, I understand the hon Members' wish to see whether it was a malady that existed in the first place and therefore whether the change of rules was in fact necessary, but I do not think, I understand he may or may not wish to since we are here to answer and not ask questions, I have not detected that he is suggesting that it was an erroneous change if the problem did exist.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It is just that the Government press releases at the time made it very clear that it existed, we are not suggesting that people should be encouraged to sell their homes and go on the waiting list. What we are saying is that given the fact that this policy was introduced as something to stop what was going on, and the Government press release actually states that very clearly, and the unfairness of this and people taking unfair advantage, one would have thought that that would have followed an investigation to establish not just that somebody thought it was a case and complained but that it was actually happening. The question was designed to do that frankly in the expectation that the exercise had already taken place.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1086 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of the Housing Waiting List for the 1RKB, can Government say how many applicants from the 11<sup>th</sup> position down were adversely affected after the new pointage system came into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1087 to 1089 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1087 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of the Housing Waiting List for the 2RKB, can Government say how many applicants from the 11<sup>th</sup> position down were adversely affected after the new pointage system came into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1086, 1088 and 1089 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1088 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of the Housing Waiting List for the 3RKB, can Government say how many applicants from the 11<sup>th</sup> position down were adversely affected after the new pointage system came into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1086, 1087 and 1089 of 2005.



**NO. 1089 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WAITING LIST**

In respect of the Housing Waiting List for the 4RKB, can Government say how many applicants from the 11<sup>th</sup> position down were adversely affected after the new pointage system came into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

**Answer to Question 1089**

**Answer to Questions 1086 to 1089**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>MOVING DOWN LIST</b>
<b>1RKB</b>	<b>231</b>
<b>2RKB</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>3RKB</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>4RKB</b>	<b>29</b>

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1086 TO 1089 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Of the 231 that were adversely affected for the 1RKBs did the Minister's office receive complaints about these?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

No complaints were received by me personally, I do not know if any other member of the staff at the Ministry for Housing received complaints.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that what we are being told is that as a result of the extra points being given for waiting time some people moved up the list and some people moved down and that meant that 231 moved down out of 313 on the 1RKB, was there not justification for giving greater weight to waiting time the effect that it was having on the list of people selling and joining the list?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

Not exclusively that.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister explain what is the rationale of the new policy, if it is not people taking unfair advantage which is all his press release talked about? For example, in cases where people get allocated higher points for dampness, for overcrowding, for not having a bathroom, for not having running water why is it that the Government think that even if nobody is taking unfair advantage, those people should still not carry as much weight as people who have been waiting a very long time in better housing conditions?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, because it is difficult to explain and people are reluctant to accept and understand that people who have been on the housing waiting list much less time than them, nevertheless overtake them and what was happening was that there were many people on the housing waiting list that used to go down the list and further down the list every year. They were on the housing waiting list for five years and instead of going up towards the top, as one would expect, they were in fact getting further and further down because there were people coming in either for the reason of the things we were discussing before, the abuse factors, or perhaps because the way the normal system used to operate whereby there were too many people getting too many additional points for factors which he and I may not think constitute abuse. In other words, it was not part of the selling home ownership and then coming in, that is what we call the abuse factor, but there were other factors which do not fall into that abuse category which entitled people who had joined the list much later to

additional points and people who think that waiting time is the principal factor on a waiting list, were nevertheless constantly being overtaken. Of course the reason why so many more people move down than up is because if one person moves up by five places that is tantamount to four or five people moving down. All the people that he has overtaken are included in the number of people who have moved down the list because they have all moved down by one, so it only takes one person to jump six places for there then to be five people, all of whom have moved down, and are on the list of people moving down.

So, there was a housing pointage system that had been in place for many years and which people in the Housing Department thought needed reform, not just to eliminate the abuse from selling of co-ownership homes and others but also to be fairer, without suggesting that before the people who had been advantaged with points were not also been fairly treated, but to treat more fairly people who had been waiting on the list. In other words, to give a higher premium value to pure waiting time on the list. That is what has happened. Whether the mathematical formula arrived at does that in precisely the right measure is another matter, but of course that cannot be scientifically calculated. There is an assent of transitional period in that where all the sudden movements take place as people get credited with historical points and then in future the additional points are obvious. So that is the reason and we think it is working fairly, but of course it is working fairly for some people at the expense of other people not making as much progress up the list as they would have made had we not changed the rules. There are winners and losers there is no doubt about it.

ORAL

NO. 1090 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – DWELLINGS BEYOND ECONOMIC REPAIR**

Can Government state how many Government dwellings are considered to be beyond economical repair?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question No. 1091 of 2005.

**NO. 1091 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – DWELLINGS BEING REFURBISHED**

How many empty Government dwellings are presently refurbished or in the hands of Buildings and Works for refurbishment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1090**

It will not be possible to come up with a figure which realistically reflects the current situation until the asset register is completed.

**Answer to Question No. 1091**

As of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2005, there were 39 flats being refurbished by Buildings and Works actively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1090 AND 1091 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

About a year and a half ago I asked the Hon Mr Netto, the former Minister for Housing, about the asset register and I think the answer was that this was an on-going thing. Surely Government must be in some kind of position to give us a rough idea as to how many empty Government dwellings need refurbishment. Does that make any sense to the Minister? Do Government not have at least some idea as to how many empty Government dwellings need repair work done or refurbishment?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

That is precisely the purpose of the asset register. If one goes down the route of being precise mathematically we have to be precise and it will take time for that precision to come through via the asset register. I could give wild guesses which is sometimes what the Opposition do, we want to be precise and that takes some time.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

I understand that but being precise is important but how many years is it going to take to be precise because I asked that question a year and a half to two years ago and I was told that this was an on-going thing. So therefore it will never be precise.

**HON C BELTRAN:**

I beg to differ, it will be precise, the time will come when there will be a figure. It could be another year and a half or two years.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Does the Minister honestly expect us to believe that this Government for the past 10 years have not been able to work out how many empty Government dwellings there are which require refurbishment?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

What I cannot believe is that in the eight years prior to this Government's 10 years nothing was done absolutely.....

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Point of order. The point of order is this and I have made it before. The Minister at Question Time is here to answer questions about the Government's running of the Government's affairs not to raise issues about the eight years that might have preceded their stint in government from 1988 to 1996. The Government have a majority in this House, if they want to bring a motion to criticise the previous administration they are free to do so, Question Time is about answering questions.

**MR SPEAKER:**

The question invited a comment of sorts rather than sought to elicit information it actually invited a statement. The question was 'does the hon Minister believe' it is not a question designed to elicit a specific answer so it did rather open up the ambit of the answer but I do rule that answers should be limited to answering the specific question rather than going into broad statements of present policy or broad criticisms of previous policy.

**HON C BELTRAN:**

I take the point but the point is in respect of the question of the asset register and the mammoth task of compiling a register of all the houses that exist in Gibraltar that may be repairable and so on is something that is historical. Really we have started to do something which could have been started much earlier and had it been started much earlier would now represent a much shorter time to be able to arrive at a conclusion today. The point I am making is that if the GSLP Government had done this we would have been in an easier position to do it now.

**MR SPEAKER:**

The question as I understood it for the Minister to answer was 10 years and I think that was the answer, it was not the last 18 years.

ORAL

NO. 1092 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – MINOR WORKS**

Can Government state how many Government tenants are currently listed as requiring work to be done in their homes by the Housing Department as landlords?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos. 1093 to 1095 of 2005.



**ORAL**

**NO. 1093 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – WATER HEATERS**

Can Government confirm that it is their policy to repair or replace defective water heaters of pensioner tenants?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1092, 1094 and 1095 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1094 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**HOUSING – MINOR WORKS**

Can Government state how long have the oldest orders of work in the Buildings and Works Department been outstanding?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1092, 1093 and 1095 of 2005.

**NO. 1095 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**HOUSING – MINOR WORKS**

Can Government state how many outstanding Orders of Work are there presently in the Buildings and Works Department?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1092**

The total number of Government tenants requiring work to be done in their homes is 2,050.

**Answer to Question No. 1093**

Requests from pensioner tenants for repairs to or replacement of defective water heaters are considered on a discretionary case by case basis.

**Answer to Question No. 1094**

The oldest works order refers to a very minor case of dampness and is dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1999.

**Answer to Question No. 1095**

There are presently 3,348 outstanding works orders in Buildings and Works.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1092 TO 1095 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Did the Minister say that with reference to Question No. 1093 regarding defective water heaters that they looked at each specific case?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

Yes.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

What are the general results of looking at each specific case? Is the general tendency to replace the heaters or repair them or not to?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

I did say that each case is considered on a discretionary basis.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

When the Buildings and Works inspectors visit these pensioner flats what criteria do they use to determine whether or not a particular water heater should be fixed or replaced?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

I think it is quite logical, I do not have the criteria list in front of me but I suspect that it would be things like how well off or not that person is, how well off or not the water heater is and so on.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Is it not Government policy not to repair water heaters of elderly people unless the Social Services Department makes a recommendation?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

No that is not the case. The Social Services Department I believe have a particular vote which they also use at their discretion as cases come in whether or not to replace or repair.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Is the Minister satisfied that six years is an acceptable time for a tenant to wait for repairs to be done at their home?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

No, of course I do not accept that and a similar answer is elicited now to the one I gave earlier on. The works orders are constantly coming in, this is a continuum going back many, many years and that is why there is always a tailback as it were. There is also prioritisation of works required, urgent, less urgent and so on, this was

a very minor piece of work that unfortunately, and I agree it should not take that long, thus staying behind but this is always the case over the years including previous Governments, they have also faced that problem and we have inherited huge amounts which will always create a tailback.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I would make the point of order I made earlier but I think that any ruling made is going to fall on deaf ears.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1096 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – APPLICANTS MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED**

Can Government state how many applicants on the Housing Waiting List to date are medically recommended, giving a breakdown of their medical category?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No. 1097 of 2005.

**NO. 1097 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – APPLICANTS MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED**

Can Government state how many persons to date are medically recommended, excluding those that are described as applicants on the Housing Waiting List, giving a breakdown of their medical category?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

**Answer to Question 1097**

**Answer to Question 1096**

There are 46 applicants on the waiting list and pre-list who are medically recommended as follows:

A*	-	0
A	-	14 (under offer)
B	-	14
C	-	18

**Answer to Question 1097**

There are 217 persons medically recommended, excluding those that are described as applicants, on the waiting list and pre-list as follows:

A*	-	7
A	-	68 (under offer)
B	-	63
C	-	79

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1096 AND 1097 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

I notice that in answer to Question No. 1097 of 2005 where there are 217 persons medically recommended there are still seven marked 'A' with an asterisk, are those the same that were there two months ago when the Minister told me they would be reallocated a home immediately?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

The ones with an asterisk, the asterisk designates immediate allocation. Immediate allocation is what the Housing Allocation Committee concludes after looking at the cases. Immediate allocation comes about the moment there is a suitable flat. Medical cases require very specific flats, some even in particular areas of Gibraltar so it is not easy to come by these flats. I do not know whether they are the same cases.



ORAL

**NO. 1098 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – PRE-WAR FLATS**

Can Government state how many pre-war housing units have been allocated to date since the answer given to Question 664 of 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question No. 1099 of 2005.

**NO. 1099 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – NUMBER OF REPOSSESSED FLATS**

Can Government state how many Government flats have been repossessed to date since the answer given to Question No. 667 of 2005, giving a breakdown of pre-war and post-war?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1098**

A total of three pre-war flats have been allocated since the answer given to Question No. 664 of 2005.

**Answer to Question No. 1099**

One post-war flat has been repossessed since the answer given to Question No. 667 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1100 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many households have applied for rent relief in October and November 2005, and how many of these were approved?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1101 to 1104 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1101 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many households have received rent relief in October and November of 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1100 and 1102 to 1104 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1102 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many households were on full rent relief in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1100, 1101, 1103 and 1104 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1103 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many households have had the level of rent relief reduced in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1100 to 1102 and 1104 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1104 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – RENT RELIEF**

Can Government state how many households on rent relief have had this benefit terminated in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

**Answer to Question 1104**

**Answer to Question 1100**

The number of households that have applied for rent relief in October and November 2005, and the number that were approved is as follows:

October	-	8	(4 approved)
November	-	5	(2 approved)

**Answer to Question 1101**

The number of households that have received rent relief in October and November 2005 is as follows:

October	-	720
November	-	700

**Answer to Question 1102**

The total number of households on full rent relief in October and November 2005 is as follows:

October	-	78
November	-	74

**Answer to Question 1103**

The number of households that have had the level of rent relief reduced in October and November 2005 is as follows:

October	-	52
November	-	47

**Answer to Question 1104**

The number of households on rent relief that have had this benefit terminated in October and November 2005 is as follows:

October	-	16
November	-	12



**NO. 1105 OF 2005****THE HON C A BRUZON****HOUSING – ARREARS OF RENT**

Can Government state how many tenants have entered into agreements to pay arrears of rent in October and November 2005 and what is the total of arrears covered by such agreements?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

The information requested is as follows:

**Answer to Question 1105**

	<b>Number of Tenants</b>	<b>Total of Arrears (£)</b>
<b>October 2005</b>	16	37,955.35
<b>November 2005</b>	19	38,713.54
<b>TOTAL</b>	35	76,668.89

**ORAL**

**NO. 1106 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – REFERENDUM HOUSE**

Can Government say whether the faulty lift at Referendum House has now been repaired and if so, on what date was it working again?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1107 to 1109 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1107 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – REFERENDUM HOUSE**

Can Government say on what date was a request made for the spare part needed to repair the lift at Referendum House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1106, 1108 and 1109 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1108 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – REFERENDUM HOUSE**

Can Government give the cost of the spare part that was needed for the repair of the lift at Referendum House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1106, 1107 and 1109 of 2005.

**NO. 1109 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – REFERENDUM HOUSE**

Can Government say on what date was the faulty lift at Referendum House first reported by tenants?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

**Answer to Question No. 1106**

I can confirm that the lift at Referendum House was successfully repaired and put into operation on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

**Answer to Question No. 1107**

From information supplied by the Electricity Authority minor spares were ordered in May 2005. In addition, major components had to be ordered later on in August 2005.

**Answer to Question No. 1108**

The total cost of the main components amounts to 14,800 euros.

**Answer to Question No. 1109**

The lift at Referendum House has experienced numerous regular faults which have been the result of wanton acts of vandalism. However, during a routine maintenance exercise the Electricity Authority established problems with the gearbox and motor and subsequently decided on safety grounds to shut down the lift on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1106 TO 1109 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

I am not sure if the Minister has answered a specific part of the question but could he tell me why it took from August 2005 to the end of November 2005 for the lift to be in

a working condition, if the spare parts both minor and major were received in May and August?

**HON C BELTRAN:**

Well, the parts themselves did take a long time to arrive.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Subsequent to arrival.

**HON C BELTRAN:**

Well, I do not know I do not have the answer. This is a technical problem and they have been working at it. They repair and then they are vandalised almost regularly, this is the problem.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1110 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT**

What progress has been made in moving the Buildings and Works Department to an Authority?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

There has been no further progress in moving the Buildings and Works Department into an Authority.

ORAL

NO. 1111 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Can Government confirm that staff of the Buildings and Works Department have to rely on their own transport to attend job functions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Buildings and Works employees do not have to rely on their own transport to attend job functions.



**NO. 1112 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**DRUG ADDICTION**

Can Government state what procedure is followed to help young people with a drug addiction who because of their age cannot be admitted into Bruce's Farm?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Not all young people with problematic drug use require residential rehabilitation.

The Government have introduced the following measures to help young people with differing degrees of problematic drug use.

1. Guidance and advice surgeries are being established at both secondary schools. These surgeries will be run by counsellors every other week during the lunch hour.
2. A mentoring scheme has been implemented for those under 17 to receive support in the Community from senior peers who have completed the 12-step programme at Bruce's Farm.
3. Social Services also deals with cases which are received through the usual referral groups. Each young person's needs are assessed individually and the appropriate help offered, for example, counselling or referral to the mentoring scheme.
4. The age of admission into Bruce's Farm has been lowered to 17 in consultation with the staff and trustees. In isolated cases of severe problematic drug use of persons under 17, where it has been established that residential rehabilitation is the only option, Government have funded this treatment at a specialised centre outside Gibraltar.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1112 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

I thank the hon Lady for that information. Could she clarify just one doubt that I have? Did she say that these youngsters with a drug addiction are given counselling during their lunch hour and in school?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes, this is a service that we are about to set up or will be set up very shortly in both secondary schools where there will be counsellors available for whatever juvenile there is with a drug problem, in different degrees I have said, to approach them and receive advice or counselling or whatever is considered appropriate.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Is it wise to have counselling done in the school? Are these youngsters easily identifiable by other students and will they know that these people have a problem?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

That is the reason why this actual service has not started yet, because of the logistics of trying to identify a suitable place where precisely that problem will not arise. It is difficult so I do not really know whether it will actually come to fruition because as the hon Member says, they are going to have to find a place where youngsters are not easily identifiable when they go in and things of that nature.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Does the Minister think that it is wise to have in a lunch break counsellors in schools to counsel juveniles with drug addiction, during school time at lunch break? Does the Minister agree with that?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I do, this is something that has been advised by different people or experts in the field in consultation with the teachers and it is just a catchment area of trying to offer counselling for juveniles with some sort of drug problem from within the school. This is only one of the measures that we are adopting.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister tell us which is the centre that is used when people are referred outside, is there one centre or are there a number of centres that we use?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I can say that we have only had to use one particular centre twice over the past years, at least over the years that we have been in office, and it has been a specialised centre. It is a specialised centre in Seville actually.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can we be given an idea of what it is that that centre does which we cannot do, what area of expertise is it that they have?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Because it is a centre that specialises in young people as opposed to adults.

ORAL

NO. 1113 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state what was the number of persons receiving social assistance for October and November 2005 giving a breakdown of age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1114 and 1115 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1114 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many persons receiving social assistance in October and November 2005 have been employed since and how many are still receiving social assistance, giving a breakdown of age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1113 and 1115 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1115 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE – DISABILITY ALLOWANCE**

Can Government state how many persons were in receipt of a disability allowance under the social assistance arrangements for October and November 2005, giving a breakdown of their age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

I hand the hon Member lists giving the information requested.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1115/2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1113 of 2005**

**PERSONS RECEIVING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER  
2005 BY MONTH, SEX AND AGE**

<b>2005</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>OCTOBER</b>	186	296	482	71	159	120	132
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	183	291	474	69	153	121	131

**Cont'd...**

Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1115/2005

Answer to Question No. 1114 of 2005

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
4th	Oct-05	186	296	482	71	159	120	132
	Nov-05	183	291	474	69	153	121	131

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
4th	Oct-05	12	1	13	4	3	3	3
	Nov-05	1	1	2	1	1	0	0

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AS AT 2ND DECEMBER 2005

AS AT	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
02-Dec-05	185	284	469	67	152	122	128

Cont'd...



**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1115/2005****Answer to Question No. 1115 of 2005****PERSONS RECEIVING DISABILITY ALLOWANCE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2005 BY MONTH, SEX AND AGE.**

<b>Months</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>11-20</b>	<b>21-30</b>	<b>31-40</b>	<b>41-50</b>	<b>51-60</b>	<b>61-70</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Oct-05	26	28	23	12	18	9	0	116	83	33
Nov-05	26	26	25	12	18	9	0	116	83	33

ORAL

NO. 1116 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE – RESPITE CARE**

Can Government confirm that 800 hours a month was provided in the current financial year for respite care?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1117 and 1118 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1117 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE – RESPITE CARE**

Can Government state what was the estimated cost of providing 800 hours of respite care a month in the current financial year and under what heading in the account of the Social Services Agency is this amount included?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1116 and 1118 of 2005.

**NO. 1118 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE – RESPITE CARE**

Can Government say how much of the amount provided for Respite Care in the Estimates has been spent up to the 30<sup>th</sup> September of the current financial year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

**Answer to Question No. 1116**

The provision of respite hours has varied over the months during the current financial year. The average has been 999 hours per month. However, as a result of an emergency, one of the respite users had to be taken into permanent care in June. Most of the respite hours have therefore been used since then to care for him permanently whilst the Agency recruits more staff. As a result the hours of respite care for other service users have had to be reduced and practically came to a standstill in August. Despite three different recruitment attempts these have proved unsuccessful so far as the vast majority of the applicants have not met the required standard.

**Answer to Question No. 1117**

The estimated cost of providing 800 hours of respite a month in the current financial year is £33,000. This is included in the relief cover vote under Other Personnel.

**Answer to Question No. 1118**

The amount provided for respite care is not set in stone. The Agency tries to maintain a ceiling of 800 hours per month for regular respite care. Over and above this however, extra respite is provided during the holiday periods and in emergencies, for example, in cases of illness of the main family carer. Normally the cost of providing this level of respite is in the region of £80,000 per annum. Approximately £41,000 have been spent this financial year up to 30<sup>th</sup> September, although as I have already explained in answer to Question No. 1116, most of these hours have been absorbed in caring for an emergency placement.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1116 TO 1118 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Concerning the recruitment of staff, I have occasionally noticed in the media advertisements for supply staff but there seems to be a problem with regard to qualified permanent staff, is that the case?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

The fact that they are permanent on supply has nothing to do with the other. The advert that comes up has the same requirements for both permanent and supply. There are certain skills, not so much qualifications, obviously if they have an NVQ2 in care they are given greater priority as is obvious but it is more a question of skills and experience rather than qualifications. But whatever is required is required the same for a permanent or a supply worker.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Thank you. The problem that I have in understanding the procedure is that unless there are permanent workers then the concept of supply does not seem to make any sense because one brings in supplies to supply for permanent employees who for one reason or another are not available for work.

**NO. 1119 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**ST BERNADETTE'S CENTRE**

Can Government state what educational programmes are currently being conducted in St Bernadette's Occupational Therapy Centre?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

As the name suggests, St Bernadette's Occupational Therapy Centre undertakes a host of activities which are mainly occupational in nature. Educational programmes are not the focus of provision.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1119 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Is the Minister happy that there are no educational programmes in an establishment where, although it is occupational therapy, they are there basically nearly all day and therefore some education programmes would be advisable? Does the Minister not agree with that?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes, I do agree but not necessarily delivered by a teacher within the Centre.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I have not asked that a teacher do or conduct these programmes. There are educational programmes that can be conducted by other people other than teachers. The question is can the Minister state, or is the Minister unhappy that there are no educational programmes in a Centre as St Bernadette's?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

As far as I am concerned educational programmes are delivered by teachers within the teaching profession.

**HON S E LINARES:**

No, the Minister should know that educational programmes can be handled by other people in the medical profession inclusive, or people who are on the Out Reach programmes which are done in schools. Like speech therapists, like occupational therapists, they can also be running educational programmes so the Minister is actually wrong in saying that it has to be handled by teachers. Despite that, does the Minister not think that it is about time that St Bernadette's Occupational Therapy Centre had some sort of educational programmes?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Yes I agree and Government are currently looking at several proposals on how the post of teacher, because they do have a teacher in the establishment, can be put to better use. It does not necessarily mean that the teacher has to deliver these educational programmes from within St Bernadette's because as he sees it at the moment he actually feels that his post is a wasted resource within St Bernadette's. The post of teacher, apparently according to him, is a wasted resource because not everybody within the Centre has the capacity to receive educational programmes so what we are looking at is proposals from the teacher himself to see how his post can be put to better use.

**NO. 1120 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Can Government state whether the community service sentence for convicted juveniles and adults is still in operation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Yes.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1120 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister state when was the last time a community service sentence was conducted and dug out?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

The community service has been continually operational since its inception in October 2001. I cannot say when the last community sentence order was issued.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Do the Youth and Community Leaders have anything to do with the community service?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member must know community service order sentences are issued by courts of law and there is a Community Services Officer who administers the supervision, the placement and the supervision of the sentence, so in that context perhaps he might like to clarify his supplementary.



**HON S E LINARES:**

I have not understood a word that the Chief Minister is saying but despite that, the problem is the way that he has actually said it. I will ask the question again just in case he misunderstood the first time. Can the Minister state whether the Youth and Community Officers deal with community service sentencing? That was the question.

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Now it is me who does not understand what he is talking about. What does he mean by deal with community sentences? Community sentences are orders which are issued by the court when somebody has committed an imprisonable offence and it is a form of reparative work within the community. It entails the offender, the court and the Community Service Officer.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Exactly, the Community Service Officer and I am asking Youth and Community Leaders are they part of the Community Officers?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

There is only one Community Service Officer.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Right, that is the issue, thank you.

ORAL

**NO. 1121 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – INSOLVENCY FUND**

What is the exact amount erroneously credited to the Insolvency Fund up to 31 March 2005 in respect of social insurance contributions, estimated to be in excess of £1 million and referred to in paragraph 3.3.9 of the Principal Auditor's Report 2003/2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

The amount erroneously credited to the Insolvency Fund up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 was £1,161,773. An adjustment will be made by the Treasury Department in this financial year.

ORAL

NO. 1122 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

Can Government state how many individuals were employed by the Social Services Agency to prepare child welfare reports in the financial year 2005-6?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1123 to 1127 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1123 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – WELFARE REPORTS**

What is the period that the courts have had to wait for the preparation of welfare reports delivered in October and November from the date that the preparation of such reports had been ordered by a court and what was the number of such reports, giving a breakdown between Magistrates and Supreme Court matters?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1122 and 1124 to 1127 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1124 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – WELFARE REPORTS**

Can Government state how many probation, pre-sentence and child welfare reports have been prepared in the year to date by Social Services for hearings involving access to children in both the Magistrates and Supreme Courts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1122, 1123 and 1125 to 1127 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1125 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – WELFARE REPORTS**

Can Government state who in the judiciary informed the Minister for Social Affairs that there was a delay of 6 months in the preparation of reports into the welfare of children ordered by the Magistrate's or Supreme Court?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1122 to 1124, 1126 and 1127 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1126 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – WELFARE REPORTS**

Can Government state how the Minister for Social Services determined who “family practitioners” are in relation to her answers for supplementary questions to Questions Nos. 595 to 597 of 2005 and, in particular, how it was represented to Government that such “family practitioners” did not consider considerable a delay of 6 months in the preparation of reports into the welfare of children ordered by the Magistrate’s or Supreme Court?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1122 to 1125 and 1127 of 2005.

**NO. 1127 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SOCIAL WORKERS**

Have Government now recruited two more Social Workers for the announced Court Social Work Team?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

**Answer to Question No. 1122**

One social worker has been involved in preparing Child Welfare Reports in the financial year 2005/2006.

**Answer to Question No. 1123**

Two reports were submitted in October and November to the Magistrates' Court. One was requested in October 2004 for submission in October 2005, therefore submitted on time. The other was requested in August 2005.

Three Child Welfare Reports were submitted in October and November to the Supreme Court. These reports were requested in February, May and July 2004.

**Answer to Question No. 1124**

The number of pre-sentence reports prepared this year to date by Social Services involving access to children in both the Magistrates' and Supreme Courts is 60.

The number of Child Welfare Reports is 22.

I am informed that there is no such thing as a Probation Report.

**Answer to Question No. 1125**

I have never said that any one in the Judiciary has informed me that there was a delay of six months in the preparation of reports into the welfare of children ordered by the Magistrates' or Supreme Courts.



**Answer to Question No. 1126**

As I already explained to the hon Member in answer to Question No. 597, court welfare reports begun to be delayed by three to six months during the financial year 2003/2004. On making my own enquiries at the time I was informed by management that during a meeting of family practitioners at which representatives of Social Services were present, the general sentiment being expressed was that a delay of six months was not a considerable delay. The comment to this effect that I made in answer to the previous supplementary that the hon Member is referring to was based on my recollection of this conversation.

**Answer to Question No. 1127**

Vacancies for two more Social Workers will be advertised next week.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1122 TO 1127 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

So does the Minister accept that her recollection was not correct when she told us that the people involved, the Judiciary in fact, those were her words, found acceptable a delay of six to twelve months, or is it that her recollection was correct and she stands by that sentiment?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

As far as I am concerned my recollection is correct.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

So in that case who in the Judiciary has suggested that a delay of six months is not a considerable delay?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think we are at cross purposes. I think the essence of her answer is that she has never said that anyone in the Judiciary et cetera, et cetera, the six months. The recollection bit is about who said that six months did not amount to a considerable delay and she has given the explanation that that is based on her recollection of the meeting at which family practitioners were there, and there are two aspects to that. One is the bit about who in the Judiciary said it and the other is about her recollection about who said that it did not amount to considerable. The issue whether six months is or is not a considerable delay is a separate question. I think her recollection relates to the latter point.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The Hansard of the last meeting will show that the Minister said this, 'a delay of six months is not even considered a considerable delay by the Family Practitioners and the people involved', the Judiciary in fact. Did she have a conversation with anyone in the Judiciary or was she simply told that at the meeting she has told the House that she attended.

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I have never said I attended any meeting, I have just explained to the hon Member that this comment was passed on to me at the time that I was making my own investigations into the delay, by the Management of the Social Services who had attended a meeting with the Family Practitioners at that time.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Is it that the Minister is saying that she was told that at that meeting somebody had said that the Judiciary considered a delay of six months acceptable, is that what she is telling us?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I said that the general sentiment appeared to be, as related to me, that that was the case.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Would the Minister not agree with me that there is a chasm between general sentiment and the Judiciary having communicated something to Social Services?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I have never said that it came out of the mouth of the Judiciary. What I said, and he has just repeated himself, is that a delay of six months is not even considered a considerable delay by the Family Practitioners and the people involved, in fact the Judiciary.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

But if she is not putting that sentiment into the mouths of the Judiciary can she tell us how it is that either to her or to Management, so that it is represented to her, that sentiment is attributed to the Judiciary?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I think I have already given an explanation and I do not intend to repeat it.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I do not think the Minister has given an explanation, this is a very serious matter. We are dealing with delays of six to twelve months in the preparation of Child Welfare Reports and I think that there is general agreement around the House that that is unacceptable. I do not think we are having an argument about that, but the Minister told us last time that somehow, and I am prepared to accept that she now says that it was not told to her by a member of the Judiciary, somehow the Judiciary have communicated to somebody involved, so that Management have come to her, that a delay of six months is not considered a considerable delay. Can she tell us how that was represented to her as coming from the Judiciary?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Minister is here to give an explanation of Government policy to give information and certainly if the hon Member thinks that she has misled the House to bring a motion to debate the question if he wants to, but much as I find amusing and interesting his criminal trial lawyer cross-examination style at Question Time, he cannot continuously get up to ask the same question time and time again when the answer has been given. He can say that he is not satisfied with the answer and he can demonstrate political dissatisfaction with the answer but he cannot carry on repeating the question simply because he does not find the answer convincing. That is a cross-examination which is not what we are engaged in in these proceedings in this House.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

That is not an answer at all to the question that I have asked and I am as amused by the Chief Minister's attempt to defend his Ministers as if he were defence counsel in criminal proceedings. I have no difficulty with him intending to do that but let him not paint himself as an *amicus curiae* or an *amicus* to the chair in trying to calm waters because an answer is not being given. The question is very simple, how does the Minister come to this House to represent that the Judiciary, it is very clear in her own words, considered that six months of wait for such a report was not a considerable delay? I have not suggested that she has misled the House because I would have made no bones of making that representation if I believe that that is what she has done. All I am asking her is how she was led to believe that the Judiciary accepted this, that is all. If she tells me, 'I was told by Management', so be it. That was the first step that she took. My further question is simply this, how did Management come to tell her that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Minister has answered both those questions, that is the position of her and the Government and he is not getting another answer even if it is repeated a fourth time.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister tell the House whether she still is of the view that that is the position of the Judiciary? That the Judiciary does not think six months is too long, does she still hold that view?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I think I will repeat again that the comment that I made was in reference to my own enquiries at the time that the delay began to come about when it was six months. As the hon Members will have seen from my answers it is much more than six months at the moment and as I already have explained in the past we are about to remedy the situation. So I would not be in a position to say what the Judiciary thinks about the delay at this moment in time.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

What I have asked is not what the Judiciary think about the present delay because that does not arise from the original question. I am asking her whether she still continued to hold the view that she expressed in the last meeting of the House namely, that the view of the Judiciary was and is that six months delay is not too long, is that still the position that she holds or not?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

Well, having not spoken to the Judiciary directly myself I can only relay the message that was passed on to me at the time and which I have repeated today on umpteen occasions.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact the information that she provided us was on the basis of hearsay and not because she actually knows that this is the case then?

**NO. 1128 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEDULES**

Can Government provide a breakdown for the return of Social Insurance schedules as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2005 in respect of each quarter since quarter 1/01, giving the number of employees in the private and official sectors and the self-employed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Question No. 1049 of 2005 posed an identical question to which the answer was provided in schedule form. I am quite happy to pass it on again if he wants it.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1128 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Would the number of schedules that was provided in answer to Question No. 1049 have gone up since then with the information she has got or would it still be the same?

**HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:**

I would not know, if it is the same question that was answered the answer that was drafted for me here is that he has already got that information.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The schedules cover a quarterly period and the most recent quarter is 30<sup>th</sup> September, would more schedules relating to that quarter have come in since then?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think we would need notice of that question. The answer that he has been given is that inadvertently obviously he has asked the same question that he asked at the last meeting of the House without making clear. He has asked as at 30<sup>th</sup> September and that is the same question that he asked last time so he has the information. He is now saying 'well is it possible that since then more schedules, as at 30<sup>th</sup> September,

have been submitted?' but we would need notice of that. The answer is that there might have been but as to how many it is not clear.

**NO. 1129 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES – NON-EU PENSIONERS**

Are non-EU pensioners with residence permits to remain in Gibraltar eligible to apply for the minimum income guarantee?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Any person who is residing in Gibraltar and has either a certificate of permanent residence or holds a residence permit, which at the date of issue was valid for a period in excess of one year, is eligible to apply for the minimum income guarantee.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1129 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So then the answer is no, there are no EU pensioners with residence permits to remain in Gibraltar with either a certificate of permanent residence or more than one year, or is it that the answer is that the Minister does not know whether there are or there are not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not think that that is a non sequitur. He is asking are non-EU pensioners with residence permits to remain in Gibraltar eligible to apply for the minimum income guarantee. In other words, if one is a non-EU pensioner, a Moroccan for example, and he has notwithstanding that he is a pensioner a residence permit to remain in Gibraltar, is he then eligible to apply for a minimum income guarantee, that is his question to which the answer is that any person who is residing in Gibraltar, provided he has a certificate of permanent residence or holds a residence permit which at the date of issue was valid for a period in excess of one year, is eligible for the minimum income guarantee and therefore the question that he is now asking, but it does not arise from the answer, he is now asking whether are there any such non-EU pensioners and I think this issue would be better debated, there is another question on the Order Paper which he has put in terms of whether the Government intend to change any Immigration Ordinance provisions, which I think is the other half of the point he is getting at with this question. The answer is that I think there are pensioners in Gibraltar with residence permits but they would be working, they would be seeking employment. I think that is the answer.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The eligibility to the minimum income guarantee is age driven and means tested. Presumably a pensioner can be working and not earning enough.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes it is possible.



ORAL

NO. 1130 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND**

Can Government state what was the income, expenditure and balance of the Employment Injuries Insurance Fund in each of the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1131 to 1135 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1131 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – SHORT TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what is the income, expenditure and balance of the Short-Term Benefits Fund in respect of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1130 and 1132 to 1135 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1132 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the income expenditure and balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for October and November 2005, 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. 1130, 1131 and 1133 to 1135 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1133 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what was the number of pensioners being paid or with entitlement to payment in October and November 2005 from the Closed Long-Term benefits Fund, giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners, showing the number of Gibraltar/UK Nationals, Moroccans and other nationals for each of the two months in Question?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1130 to 1132, 1134 and 1135 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1134 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – 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 for October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1130 to 1133 and 1135 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1135 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**SOCIAL INSURANCE – OPEN LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

Can Government state what is the income, expenditure and balance of the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund in respect of October and November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

I hand the hon Member lists giving the information requested.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1130 of 2005**

The income, expenditure and balance of the Employment Injuries Insurance Fund in each of the months of October to November 2005 is as follows:

**EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND**

	<u>31-Oct-05</u>	<u>30-Nov-05</u>
<b><u>Fund Account -</u></b>		
<b><u>Opening Balance</u></b>	£4,552,936	£4,512,858
<b><u>Add</u></b>		
Receipts	£37,845	£4,533
	<u>£4,590,781</u>	<u>£4,517,391</u>
<b><u>Less</u></b>		
Payments	<u>(£77,923)</u>	<u>(£50,356)</u>
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<u>£4,512,858</u>	<u>£4,467,035</u>

Cont'd...

**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1131 of 2005**

The income, expenditure and balance of the Short-Term Benefits Fund in respect of October and November 2005 is as follows:

**SOCIAL INSURANCE (SHORT-TERM BENEFITS) FUND**

	<u>31-Oct-05</u>	<u>30-Nov-05</u>
<b><u>Fund Account -</u></b>		
<b><u>Opening Balance</u></b>	£1,062,587	£1,080,038
<b><u>Add</u></b>		
Receipts	£89,768	£76,661
	<u>£1,152,355</u>	<u>£1,156,699</u>
Payments	<u>(£72,317)</u>	<u>(£78,291)</u>
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<u>£1,080,038</u>	<u>£1,078,408</u>

**Cont'd...**



**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1132 of 2005**

The income, expenditure and balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for October and November 2005, showing the amounts from UK and local funds and the expenditure to former Spanish workers and to pensioners from local funds is as follows:

**CLOSED LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

	<b><u>31-Oct-05</u></b>	<b><u>30-Nov-05</u></b>
<b><u>Fund Account -</u></b>		
<b><u>Opening Balance</u></b>	<b><u>£596,844</u></b>	<b><u>£342,239</u></b>
<b><u>"Local Account"</u></b>		
Opening Balance	£131,196	£28,439
<u>Add</u>		
Transfers from the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund	£800,000	£900,000
Other Receipts	<u>£4,206</u>	<u>£119</u>
	<u>£935,402</u>	<u>£928,558</u>
<u>Less</u>		
Pension Payments	<u>(£906,963)</u>	<u>(£897,195)</u>
Closing Balance	<u>£28,439</u>	<u>£31,363</u>
<b><u>"Spanish Account"</u></b>		
Opening Balance	£465,648	£313,800
<u>Add</u>		
Receipts from DFID	<u>£120,000</u>	<u>£130,000</u>
	<u>£585,648</u>	<u>£443,800</u>
<u>Less</u>		
Pension Payments	<u>(£271,848)</u>	<u>(£146,023)</u>
Closing Balance	<u>£313,800</u>	<u>£297,777</u>
<b><u>Fund Account</u></b>		
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<b>£342,239</b>	<b>£329,140</b>

Cont'd...

**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1133 of 2005**

The following pensioners were in receipt of payments from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund from October and November 2005.

	<b>Oct-05</b>	<b>Nov-05</b>
<b><i>Pre-1969 Spanish Pensioners</i></b>	6126	6112
<b><i>British Pensioners (Gib/UK Nat.)</i></b>	5050	5058
<b><i>Moroccan Pensioners</i></b>	1646	1644
<b><i>Other Nationalities</i></b>	460	466
<b>Total</b>	<b>13282</b>	<b>13280</b>

**Cont'd...**

**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1134 of 2005**

The transfers made from the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund to the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for October and November 2005, are as follows:

October 2005	£800,000
November 2005	<u>£900,000</u>
	<u>£1,700,000</u>

**Cont'd...**

**Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1135 /2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1135 of 2005**

The income, expenditure and balance of the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund in respect of October and November 2005 is as follows:

**OPEN LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND**

	<u>31-Oct-05</u>	<u>30-Nov-05</u>
<b><u>Fund Account -</u></b>		
<b><u>Opening Balance</u></b>	£13,246,668	£13,441,970
<b><u>Add</u></b>		
Receipts	£1,093,135	£895,469
	<u>£14,339,803</u>	<u>£14,337,439</u>
Payments	<u>(£897,833)</u>	<u>(£995,769)</u>
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<u>£13,441,970</u>	<u>£13,341,670</u>

ORAL

**NO. 1136 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**MOUNT ALVERNIA**

Can Government state 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 November 2005, giving a breakdown by sex and age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

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

**Answer to Question 1136**

75 Elderly citizens are awaiting a place in Mount Alvernia as at the end of November 2005.

23 are occupying a bed in St Bernard's Hospital (see table below).

**Age Group**

	<b>60-65</b>	<b>66-70</b>	<b>71-75</b>	<b>76-80</b>	<b>81-85</b>	<b>86-90</b>	<b>91+</b>
<b>Males</b>	1	1	1	5	7	5	3
<b>Females</b>	-	1	2	12	20	13	4

ORAL

NO. 1137 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**GHA – PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE**

Can Government confirm that the doctors at the Primary Health Centre are providing pensioners over the age of 70 free of charge with the medical examination that they require to be able to renew their Driving Licence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Yes.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1138 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – DENTAL DEPARTMENT**

Can Government state what is the average waiting time for schoolchildren to be provided with dental braces by the Dental Department of the GHA?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1139, 1140, 1141 and 1142 of 2005.



**ORAL**

**NO. 1139 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES**

Can Government state the total number of outpatient attendances at the Primary Care Centre in the months of October and November 2005, keeping to the format given in answer to Question 66 of 2005 and additionally giving details of other departments if they are not shown there?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1138, 1140, 1141 and 1142 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1140 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES**

Can Government state the number of outpatient attendances at the Primary Care Centre, including the number of outpatients being attended to by District Nurses, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists in the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1138, 1139, 1141 and 1142 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1141 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – GP ATTENDANCES**

Can Government state what was the total number of GP Attendances at the Primary Care Centre in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1138, 1139, 1140 and 1142 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1142 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of 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 in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule attached.

**Answer to Question 1142 of 2005**

**Answer to question 1138**

Orthodontic Treatment	Waiting Time
Severe Malocclusion	6 weeks
Mild to moderate Treatment	2 years

**Answer to Questions 1139 to 1142**

DEPARTMENT	Oct-05	Nov-05	TOTAL
AUDIOLOGY	151	193	344
DIETICIAN	87	90	177
CLINIC SISTER	2738	1823	4,561
SCHOOL HEALTH	312	402	714
SPEECH & LANGUAGE	132	177	309
MENTAL WELFARE	224	216	440
GP CLINIC	8086	8279	16,365
HOUSE CALLS *	347	324	671
DENTAL	1443	1199	2,642
CHILD WELFARE	991	912	1,903
NURSE PRACTITIONERS	1231	1139	2,370
DERMATOLOGIST	91	0	91
CRYOTHERAPY	77	116	193
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15910</b>	<b>14,870</b>	<b>30,780</b>

Calls received during working hours are recorded until 4.00p.m. Night calls do not form part of these statistics.

**COMMUNITY**

PHYSIO	184	167	351
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	171	196	367
DISTRICT	2206	1066	3,272
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>1429</b>	<b>3,990</b>

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1138 TO 1142 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Are Government happy with the delay of two years for mild to moderate treatment and what do the Government intend to do to improve this?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No, Government are not happy and the GHA is currently considering the situation and will be putting proposals to Government.

**NO. 1143 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**GHA – PATIENT RECORDS**

Can Government state on how many occasions patients of the GHA at either the Primary Care Centre or St Bernard's Hospital have had appointments cancelled or not proceeded with as a result of the patient's notes having been lost or misplaced?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The GHA does not maintain records of outpatient appointments that may have been delayed or postponed.

In Primary Care every effort is made to ensure that the patient has access to a GP. When notes are not immediately available, the GP will usually record the consultation on a 'Temporary Card', and this will be subsequently included in the patient's notes once these have been traced.

Historically, unavailability of notes has been a more acute problem at St Bernard's Hospital. By historically I mean beyond the life of this administration going back to when the Opposition Members were in Government.

The performance at the old Hospital was averaging between 70 per cent to 80 per cent as a percentage of records delivered against those requested.

Key Performance Indicators and weekly Audits were introduced in April this year as part of a range of quality improvement measures following the move into the new facility.

As a result of the introduction of these improvement measures, the performance of the Medical Records Department has improved dramatically over the last nine months. The results are really quite impressive. Three months into the new facility the unit's performance was up from approximately 70 per cent – 80 per cent to about 90 per cent. Over the last six months performance has further improved and has now reached approximately 96 per cent. The number of clinics, it should be noted, has also gone up by 70 per cent over the same period. Notwithstanding this significant increase in clinics the Medical Records Department has managed to improve their performance month on month.

As can be seen by the progress achieved so far, every effort is being made to bring the incidence of files temporarily unavailable to the absolute minimum. In order to assist achieving even higher levels of success, the GHA has introduced an Electronic

tagging and tracking system. Commissioning of this system commenced on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1143 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister tell us how it is that without keeping a record of the occasions on when the notes are lost he is able to tell us that there has been a 96 per cent improvement in the record of performance?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The question was can Government state on how many occasions patients have had their appointments cancelled or not proceeded with, that is a totally different matter to the information I have given him in terms of the number of records that have been not available at a particular moment in time.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Very well, then perhaps the Minister might tell us why in the 10 years his administration has been in charge of the Government of Gibraltar it has taken them nine years to produce the beginnings of an improvement, given that he has told us that there has been a 96 per cent improvement in the past nine months?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I do not know, maybe I should ask him why it took them 12 years when in Government not to find an answer. So I think we are still ahead of them.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Perhaps the Minister could tell us what 12 years he is referring to, given that the GSLP was only in Government between 1988 and 1996?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Well I think if pushed it could be more than 12 years because this matter has not been tackled until now when this Government have tackled it. The problem has existed forever and ever.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The question I am asking him in respect of his responsibilities are why it has taken the administration of which he is a Member, nine years and a bit to decide that this was an issue that had to be dealt with? Will he grace this House with an answer to that question?



**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The best answer I can give him is that he should be congratulating me for raising it from 70 per cent to 80 per cent which is what it has always been historically, to 96 per cent to what it is now. How long it has taken is irrelevant to the success that has been achieved.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The Minister had an opportunity of making a party political broadcast last night to the whole population of Gibraltar, he need not repeat it today. What I would tell him is this, does he share my concern that two members of the same family, despite the incredible statistics that he appears to quote for which I would congratulate him if I were able to verify it, might have found that two separate members of that family, one in the Primary Care Health Centre and the other one at the Hospital, had their notes misplaced and their appointments cancelled as a result only last week within 48 hours of each other?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I will not be satisfied with the situation until the 96 per cent becomes 99.9 per cent because perfection is more difficult to achieve. Of course I am concerned that any appointment is cancelled, of course the GHA is doing everything possible to remedy the situation. I take no pride in saying that 4 per cent of our records are still not traced and I reiterate we are doing everything we possibly we can, including the electronic method of tracing, to eliminate this problem. I hope, because it is too early to say yet as the hon Member will have seen, we only started commissioning it a few days ago but I hope that the new electronic method of tagging, which in effect what it does is it tells us or is supposed to tell us when a record leaves the Records Office, it triggers off the electronic tagging and the process is being developed so that if it moves from the location to where it was going to a subsequent location there is a subsequent trace put on it, and this comes back to the Records Office and in theory once the system is working the way it should be, we should be able to trace where the record is if it is not where it is supposed to be. Of course, getting there I could not at this moment say whether it will happen within three days, three weeks or three months. That is what we are trying to do.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

In fact we have heard about this system before, we have been hearing about this system for some time, it appears to be a system that might achieve the desired result, we will have to wait to judge it once it is in operation. I warn the Minister that I am armed with the dictionary definition of the word 'soon' in case I have another encounter with the Minister for the Environment later. Can he tell us simply this, having commissioned the system fairly recently when he expects the system to be in operation?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The system is in operation already, by commissioning I mean it started and we are now evaluating the process. So it is a little bit like the scanner unit I inaugurated

yesterday, it was commissioned two months ago and we have put 105 patients through it during the commissioning process, during which everything has been working as it was supposed to be working and is now officially working after the inauguration. Similarly, with the records process, we have started it but I suppose in a way it is a little bit of insurance in case something goes wrong we can still say it is still being commissioned and it is not fully inaugurated.

ORAL

NO. 1144 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**GHA – AVIAN FLU**

Can Government state the date the order for the 7,000 units of Tamiflu was placed, the date of their delivery to the GHA and the cost of the order?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 1145 and 1146 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1145 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**GHA – AVIAN FLU**

Can Government state whether an additional order has been placed for units of Tamiflu, and if so, state the date the order was placed, the date the order will be delivered to the GHA and the cost of the additional order?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 1144 and 1146 of 2005.

**NO. 1146 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**GHA – AVIAN FLU**

Can Government provide details of the Contingency Plan the GHA have in place to combat the effect of Avian Flu affecting Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

As the hon Member will be aware from the Government's public statements, the Government's Civil Contingency Committee ("C3" as it is known) has established an Avian Flu group to deal with all aspects of the possible threat to Gibraltar from Avian Flu should it affect Gibraltar in the future. Although the question makes reference to "Avian Flu affecting Gibraltar", as he knows this is not currently the case.

The GHA is part of C3's Avian Flu group and is responsible for the medical aspects of the contingency planning. There are of course other aspects on which other departments and agencies lead. The GHA's contingency planning is on-going and the acquisition of Tamiflu forms just one part of it. It is not appropriate to give details of the GHA's plan until they have been submitted to and approved by C3 and then incorporated into the overall contingency plan.

I can tell the hon Member that an order for 7,000 units of Tamiflu was placed on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2005 at a cost of £85,330 and the arrival of the medicine, of the drugs in Gibraltar is scheduled for the end of March 2006. An additional order of 21,000 units of Tamiflu was placed on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2005 at a cost of £255,990 and it has an expected arrival of December 2006.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1144 TO 1146 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Can the Minister state when he expects C3 to conclude the plan?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No I cannot. By definition from the answer I have given him C3 needs to combine the input from a number of departments, not just from the GHA, and this is being coordinated from No. 6 Convent Place and therefore until all the input comes in from all the departments, C3 will not be in a position to finalise the details concerned.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1147 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of 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 during the months of October and November 2005, giving a breakdown by sex and age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1148, 1154, 1155 and 1156 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1148 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – ELDERLY CARE PATIENTS**

Can Government state during the months of October and November 2005 of the beds occupied by Elderly Persons who have been formally discharged from St Bernard's Hospital how many fell into each of the 3 categories identified by the Government specifying sex and age:

1. Elderly persons living alone;
2. Elderly persons needing support; and
3. Others able to be looked after?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1147, 1154, 1155 and 1156 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1149 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many patients have been treated in Spain as opposed to the UK, as Sponsored Patients, in the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1150, 1151 and 1152 of 2005.



ORAL

**NO. 1150 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – MALAGA CLINIC**

Can Government state how much was spent by the GHA with regards to patients being sent to Malaga Clinic for scans in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1149, 1151 and 1152 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1151 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – PATIENT REFERRALS TO UK**

Can Government state the number of patient referrals to the UK in the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1149, 1150 and 1152 of 2005.

**NO. 1152 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – SPONSORED PATIENTS**

Can Government state the number of patient referrals to the UK in the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1152 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1149**

66 patients were sponsored for treatment in Spain during the months of October and November 2005.

**Answer to Question 1150**

The amount spent by the GHA with regard to patients being sent to Malaga Clinics for scans in October and November 2005 was as follows:

October	=	£1997.13
November	=	£2099.88

**Answer to Question 1151**

There were 244 patient referrals attending the UK during the months of October and November.

**Answer to Question 1152**

227 sponsored patients were treated in the UK during the months of October and November.

ORAL

**NO. 1153 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – MRSA INFECTION**

Can Government state whether cases of MRSA Infection have been detected at St Bernard's Hospital in the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Three cases were imported into Gibraltar and one case arose within St Bernard's Hospital in the months of October and November 2005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1153 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Of the one that was within St Bernard's Hospital, has the GHA been able to determine the source of the infection and how it was passed on to the patient? Was it through equipment or.....?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No, I do not have that sort of information available. I suspect it would verge on the limits of patient confidentiality but in any case I have not asked for that supplementary information and it is not available to me.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1154 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of 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 during the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1147, 1148, 1155 and 1156 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1155 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many non-entitled patients have been admitted to St Bernard's Hospital during the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1147, 1148, 1154 and 1156 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1156 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of 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 during the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1156 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1147 of 2005**

The number of elderly patients at St Bernard's Hospital as at the end of October and end of November 2005 were as follows:-

October:

Age	Male	Female
65-70	2	5
71-80	7	16
81-90	10	14
91-100	0	2

November:

Age	Male	Female
65-70	4	4
71-80	7	17
81-90	12	10
91-100	0	1

**Answer to Question 1148 of 2005**

1: Elderly patients formally discharged:

October		
Age	Male	Female
71-80	0	1
81-90	1	3

November		
AGE	Male	Female
71-80	0	1
81-90	1	3

2: All elderly patients require some sort of support be it physical, psychological or social.

3: All patients who have been formally discharged are able to be looked after.

Contd.



**Contd Answer to Question 1156 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1154 of 2005**

The total number of Out-Patient attendances during the period in question were as follows:-

2005	Clinics	A&E			Physiotherapy
		Clinics	Dressings	Plasters	
October	1563	1995	533	40	590
November	1999	1699	425	60	707

**Answer to Question 1155 of 2005**

The number of non-entitled patients admitted to St Bernard's during the period in question is as follows:-

October: 7  
November: 11

**Answer to Question 1156 of 2005**

The total number of In-patient admissions during the months of October and November is as follows:-

October: 402  
November: 395

The average number of patients per day during the months of October and November is as follows:

October: 104  
November: 115

ORAL

**NO. 1157 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – NUMBER OF OPERATIONS**

Can Government state how many operations were performed in St Bernard's Hospital at Europort in October and November 2005, by specialists, specifying which were elective and which were emergencies?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No. 1158 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1158 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – ELECTIVE SURGERY**

Can Government state how many persons were waiting for elective surgery in each speciality as end November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1158 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1157**

Elective operations performed:

	<b>October 2005</b>	<b>November 2005</b>
General Surgery	72	79
Gynaecology/Obstetrics	16	25
Ophthalmology	29	30
Orthodontics	10	20
Orthopaedics	18	36
Otorhinolaryngology	27	20
Pain Relief	5	4
Plastic Surgery	0	4
Psychiatry	1	3
Spinals	3	0
Total	181	221

Emergency operations performed

	<b>October 2005</b>	<b>November 2005</b>
General Surgery	7	6
Gynaecology/Obstetrics	9	5
Medical	0	1
Orthodontics	0	3
Orthopaedics	8	5
Otorhinolaryngology	1	0
Total	25	20

Contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1158 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1158**

**Elective Surgery Waiting Lists**

General Surgery	272
Orthopaedics	288
Ophthalmology	46
Gynaecology	42
Otorhinolaryngology	168
Orthodontics	184
Plastic Surgery	155

**NO. 1159 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL**

Can the Government confirm how many complaints have been lodged with the new Independent Review Panel in the months of October and November 2005, by users of the Health Service, specifying the date of each complaint?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

There have been no complaints lodged with the Independent Review Panel during the months of October and November 2005. For the avoidance of doubt seeing that the Hon Miss Montegriffo is not here and the questions have been asked on her behalf, just to make sure that there is no confusion in the answer that I have given, the complaints process is divided into two parts. The complaints that are received initially are received by the GHA and during the period there have been complaints to the GHA. I have answered that there have been no complaints lodged with the Independent Review Panel, which is correct, but for the avoidance of doubt the process is that complaints are lodged with GHA and they go through the process and if the complainant is not satisfied then he or she has recourse of going to the Independent Review Panel. It is this second phase which I am answering in this question. I assume the hon Member is familiar with this because I notice that there is no Question in the Order Paper, there usually is, on complaints during the same period so for the avoidance of doubt that is why I have given the additional explanation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1159 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

If the Minister has the information available it would be welcome.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes indeed, during that same period there were 11 formal complaints and 23 verbal complaints or informal complaints. I would also add that during that same period there were 57 expressions of commendations made to GHA against the 34 complaints.

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Were the 57 expressions verbal or in writing?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The expressions of commendations vary. It can vary from boxes of chocolates to bouquets of flower, to letters actually expressing, it is all basically saying 'thank you, well done' in one form or the other.

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Is the Minister a recipient of any of the boxes of chocolates?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No, but the Minister is the recipient of letters which he then passes on to the Complaints Officer which are then counted in these figures. I do get letters congratulating GHA for this and that, just as I get letters not congratulating GHA for that and the other.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I would like to ask the Minister, when he tells us that there are 57 expressions of gratitude of positiveness to the GHA but some of those expressions are boxes of chocolates, is each box of chocolates counted as one or is each chocolate counted individually to make up the 57?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Just to say that our audit system is very scrupulous to give us correct answers as possible.

**NO. 1160 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – TV SETS**

When do Government expect to repair or replace the TV sets that are not functioning in the wards at St Bernard's Hospital?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

In February 2005 the GHA entered into an agreement with a UK based company to provide a Bedside Patient Entertainment System. The objective is to give patients access to a range of television channels and digital radio.

The contracted company went into receivership earlier this year leaving the TV system partially installed and in its commissioning stage. The GHA entered into negotiations with an alternate supplier of the same equipment in UK once matters had been settled with the UK Liquidators.

During this process, the GHA decided to start to provide the facility to patients even though the Contractor had not completed the works towards making the system fully operational. Approximately 90 per cent of the TV's are operational and are keeping patients entertained and relaxed by the present selection of television and radio services. However, TV sets, the House will be as interested in hearing as I was, are becoming un-operational, without any technical fault developing, because we have a new phenomenon developing and an average of 30 video leads and an average of 10 remote controls are disappearing every month.

The GHA is finalising negotiations with the UK company to bring the project to completion. We will be asking for additional works to make the system, as far as possible, tamper proof and to try to replace the video links in a way that they are not so easily removable.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1160 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can I just ask the Minister, again I have heard it said on a number of occasions and one of the great things about the hospital is that every patient has his own video



screen et cetera, can he confirm that in fact only 90 per cent of patients as a result of his answer have a working video screen?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, that is the figure that I have been given, that 90 per cent of TVs are operational, I am not sure but I am practically certain that that includes some beds where a TV set is not yet installed. So it is not just that there is a TV set there and it is not working, in some cases it may not be there at all. I hasten to add that there is very few of those.

ORAL

**NO. 1161 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – RENTAL OF PRIVATE PROPERTIES**

Can Government state whether they have finalised their consideration of the appropriate way to deal with the sub-letting to the GHA properties at Harbour Views, Montagu Gardens and West View Park, where sub-letting is prohibited?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question No. 1166 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1162 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

Can Government state how many of the recommendations included in the reports of the Health Care Development Team have been accepted and how many have not been accepted?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1163 to 1165 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1163 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA – CLINICAL REPORT**

Can Government specify what were the transitional management services which the clinical governance team provided to the GHA, which individuals were involved in what management functions, for what period of time and how much of the additional £550,000 funded in 2004/2005 was on this account?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1162, 1164 and 1165 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1164 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA – HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

When did Government receive the clinical services report by the Healthcare Development Team?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1162, 1163 and 1165 of 2005.

**NO. 1165 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA – HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

Can Government list the recommendations made by the Healthcare Development Team in the clinical services report in relation to laboratory services which have been accepted and incorporated in the GHA strategic plan?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No. 1162 of 2005**

The nature of the work carried out by the Healthcare Development Programme cannot simply be viewed as a finite number of recommendations because it is a series of high-level proposals on structure, processes and practice. Many of these are fully integrated within the text of the work stream reports and not separately identified or quantified.

The constantly evolving nature of the programme and the linkage of a large number of recommendations means that it is impossible to quantify them accurately. The allocation of arbitrary numbers would not be representative of the progress made, would be inaccurate and grossly undervalue the importance of this programme.

The Government have given in principle approval to the work carried out by the Healthcare Development Team. The Health Authority is currently further developing some elements of the proposals submitted.

The GHA Executive has incorporated the accepted proposals into the strategic plan and the resulting objectives are being carefully and regularly monitored by the GHA and by the Government.

**Answer to Question No. 1163 of 2005**

Transitional Management Services provided by the Clinical Governance Team to the GHA were as follows:

- (a) Joint Chief Executive – Mr John Langan, and
- (b) Co-Director of Operational Service – Mr F McGurrin.

These services were provided between April and December 2004.

The transitional management services were an integral part of the extensions to the original brief and were not quantified separately. This was explained in my answer to Question No. 2171 of 2004.

The additional £550,000 funded in 2004/2005 took account of several aspects of the Review which included the transitional management costs. The Review was phased over a number of years. While the extent of the work and duration of phases had been generally agreed at the initial stages, a number of additional extensions to the original brief were agreed to on an on-going basis as work progressed. The Government were aware that by agreeing to proceed with the extensions as anticipated, additional funding would need to be appropriated as indeed was the case.

**Answer to Question Nos. 1164 and 1165 of 2005**

It is the policy of the Government not to publish the Healthcare Development Team Report on Work Stream No. 18 on the clinical reviews which was received by Government on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005. However, I can tell the hon Member that all the recommendations of the Healthcare Development Team as they relate to Laboratory services have been incorporated into the objectives of the Laboratories for the next three years.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1162 TO 1165 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister say whether the recommendations involved any changes in the manning levels of the laboratory, and if so if they have been incorporated have extra jobs been identified and are being recruited or what is the state of play? Assuming that there is a manning level recommendation.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No, from the synopsis in front of me there is no recommendation to increase or decrease manning levels. No recommendations on manning levels at all, nothing on increasing of manning levels.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is there anything then in those recommendations that have been accepted and are being implemented that involves additional funding?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Off the top of my head I would say that most of the reports, in one form or the other, have additional funding implications. I am sure this one has and I will not go through the whole list again but yes, there are additional funding implications in most of the Work Stream reports.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If the Minister says the policy is not to identify specifically what is being accepted and incorporated, is he willing to tell us what are the extra costs that will be incurred as a result of accepting and implementing these recommendations?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

It is difficult because of the same problem, there are so many different aspects of this that it is difficult to quantify them separately. Many of these recommendations form part of the on-going changes that are taking place. For example, we were talking about tracking of records before and I am sure that somewhere along the line the Healthcare Development Team may have said something about that. Now that has been taken on board and has been implemented. Of course there are financial implications. Now those financial implications will have been taken partly on board out of the budget for this year and if they are bigger than the budget for this year allows then they will be incorporated into the financing for next year. But there will not be a column saying 'Healthcare Development Team', I am not trying to be unhelpful but it is just not the way the beast is constructed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In taking a decision as to whether something is going to be accepted and incorporated and carried out, is no evaluation made at that point in time of what the financial implications of those recommendations are? I have difficulty in seeing how the people who prepare the paper for the Minister to take a policy decision and make a recommendation, make a recommendation without putting a figure next to it.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The way it is actually worked in practice is that the Healthcare Development Team have produced a report on a particular area, wherever that particular area of GHA is, the Government have discussed the report with them and the report, as I said in my answer, most of the reports have been accepted in principle. The work of the Healthcare Development Team did not include costing of each part of the report or of the recommendations. Once the Government have accepted in principle, as they have, the GHA now has to look at ways and means of doing the strategic goals that have been set and the strategic planning. It is at that stage that the costings arise. We then go back to Government at the Estimates stage and say we want to have 20 bottles instead of five bottles and it is at that stage that the cost implications will be studied as and when they arise. It is such a massive exercise and such a lot of different things that a lot of it disappears in the general funding of the GHA anyway. There are issues which emerge, supposing the scanner system had been one of those recommendations, then that one can be identified but the reality is that the majority of the things that these reports produce are day to day on-going management measures to improve output, improve techniques or introduce new strategies and it is very difficult to pinpoint and say that they have recommended this and it is going to cost this, it is a much bigger enterprise.



**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I can understand that if what happens is that somebody looks at the way that something is being done and suggests a different way of doing the thing, that need not necessarily mean that doing it differently is going to cost more than the way it was being done before, but I am asking the Minister to address the part that does involve money because in one of his earlier supplementaries he said, 'yes there were cost implications in these things'. I would assume that if something new is being undertaken or if what is being undertaken is to do something that was being done already but in a different way which was supposed to produce a benefit, then there would have been a cost benefit analysis of what it is going to cost to produce that benefit if there is a cost element. If there is no cost then it is fair enough but if one is going to say, 'well look, people are going to get told something five minutes earlier than they would have done with the old system' and that extra five minutes is going to raise the operating cost of the Health Service by a few hundreds or a few thousands, the decision I would imagine on policy grounds would be that it was good value for money, if one gets that benefit for a few hundred pounds then it is not necessarily the same as if it is ten times as expensive. At least part of this work must involve that kind of analysis.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, that is what I was trying to say before, that the analysis takes place mostly in conjunction with the submissions of bids for the next estimates and at the last estimates. In some cases the analysis is made and if it can be incorporated then it is incorporated into current funding even if there is an increase in level of costs. Take for example the scheduling process, that had manning implications to it but the stages that we have gone through already have been done by shuffling people around and by making use of the extra resources that have been brought in. In answer to a previous question in an earlier meeting of the House I detailed over a hundred extra posts that had been created. Some of those may have been but most of them were not specific to doing any specific thing, especially on the clerical side, so it is extremely difficult to pinpoint in and put it in easily identifiable folders or files and say 'they recommended that we paint that wall yellow and the tin of paint is going to cost so much, the brush is going to cost so much and the paint is going to cost so much', the cost analysis is that. There are very few of these that can be separated, in many cases it is just a question of saying we need more funds for this and more funds for that and the analysis is done by GHA and the Government then decide at that stage, 'yes we will provide the funding or not', or 'no it has to be done with less funding'. The hon Member knows the system better than I do.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1166 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – SUB-HEAD 22**

Can Government confirm what is the expenditure figure to November 2005 for accommodation under subhead 22 for the current financial year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

**Answer to Question No. 1161 of 2005**

The Government have made a policy decision that GHA should discontinue its practice of renting accommodation in areas such as Harbour Views, Montagu Gardens and West View Park where there are lease restrictions on sub-letting. GHA staff will move to other accommodation when their current short-term Lease Agreement expire and suitable alternative accommodation is identified.

**Answer to Question No. 1166 of 2005**

The expenditure figure as at 30 November 2005 for accommodation under Subhead 22 for the current financial year was £298,501.36.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1161 AND 1166 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister tell us when the longest of those short-term agreements comes to an end?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, there is one ending at the end of December, four at the end of March, one at the end of May and one in July, so July is the last one.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I am sure that the Minister will want to agree with me that this is one of those instances when scrutiny in this House actually led to determining that that was happening and that all sides of the House agreed that the solution now proposed is one which we all think is the appropriate one.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes indeed it was scrutiny in this House that brought this to light.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1167 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The 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 4 to 8 of 2005/2006 in respect of which £2.50 per item was paid by patients to the dispensing pharmacists?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1168 to 1172 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1168 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of 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 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of 2005/06?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1167 and 1169 to 1172 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1169 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – NUMBER OF ITEMS**

Can Government state the number of items that have been issued, that exceed the three items and which pay a total of £7.50 for the accounting periods 4 to 8 of 2005/2006?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1167, 1168 and 1170 to 1172 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1170 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – PAYMENTS TO PHARMACISTS**

Can Government confirm how much has been paid to Pharmacists for periods 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of 2005/06?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1167 to 1169, 1171 and 1172 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1171 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – PAYMENT TO PHARMACISTS**

Can Government state how much has been paid to the Pharmacists as dispensing fees for periods 4 to 8 of 2005/2006?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1167 to 1170 and 1172 of 2005.



ORAL

**NO. 1172 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – PAYMENT TO PHARMACISTS**

Can Government say what was the amount paid to Pharmacists for the periods 4 to 8 of 2005/06, and the comparable figure for the same periods in the previous year in respect of £1.80 per item prescription charged, regarding the medicines to which the sum applied?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1172 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1167**

	05/06	05/06
Period	4	5
Prescriptions	5470	5796
Items	10447	11314

**Answer to Question 1168**

	05/06	05/06
Period	4	5
Prescriptions	12419	13258
Items	45605	50222
Cost	£493,155.51	£517,154.22

**Answer to Question 1169**

	05/06	05/06
Period	4	5
No. of items	3681	4149

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in respect of periods 6,7 and 8 of 2005/2006.

**Answer to Question 1170**

	05/06	05/06
PERIOD	4	5
	£549,127.01	£579,268.82

**Answer to Questions 1171 and 1172**

2005/06	04/05	04/05	05/06	05/06
PERIOD	4	5	4	5
	£88,977.6	£78570.00	£82,089.00	£90,399.60

**ORAL**

**NO. 1173 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – STUDY LEAVE**

Can Government confirm what has been the expenditure for study leave up to the end of November 2005, which is included in subhead 30, School of Health Studies of the GHA?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The total expenditure for study leave under sub-head 30 to the end of November 2005 was £80,303.76.

ORAL

NO. 1174 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GHA - CLEANERS**

Can Government state how many permanent posts of cleaners there are in St Bernard's Hospital?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 1175 to 1177 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1175 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA - CLEANERS**

Can Government confirm that in addition to the permanent posts of cleaners in St Bernard's Hospital the Gibraltar Health Authority employs supply cleaners and if so give the total number of supply cleaners and a breakdown by nationality?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1174, 1176 and 1177 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1176 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – NUMBER OF NURSES**

Can Government state how many nurses were in post as at the end of November 2005, giving a breakdown by grade?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1174, 1175 and 1177 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1177 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – CONTRACT NURSES**

Can Government state the number of contract nurses employed by the GHA as at the end of November 2005, listing the speciality in which they are employed?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

The statistical information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1177 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1174**

The number of permanent post cleaners working at St Bernard's is as follows:-

	Working at St Bernard's
Full-time	23
Part-time	49

**Answer to Question 1175**

The Gibraltar Health Authority currently has a total of 37 cleaners on the Supply List and their breakdown by nationality is as follows:

16	Spanish nationals
12	British – Gibraltarian nationals
7	British nationals
1	Portuguese nationals
1	Moroccan nationals

Contd

1.



**Contd Answer to Question 1177 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1176**

The following is a breakdown by grade of nurses in post as at the end of November 2005:

<b>Director of Nursing &amp; Patient Services</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Deputy Director of Nursing Services</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Clinical Nurse Managers</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Education Development Officer</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Senior Nurse Tutor</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Nurse Lecturer</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Nurse Practitioners</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Charge Nurses</b>	<b>33</b>	
<b>Staff Nurses</b>		
112 Full-timers	}	<b>127</b>
8 Part-timers (4 Full-time equivalents)		
<b>Midwives</b>	}	
9 Full-timers		
4 Part-timers (2 Full-time equivalent)		
<b>Operating Department Practitioners</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Senior Enrolled Nurses</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Enrolled Nurses</b>		
81 Full-timers		<b>88</b>
14 Part-timers (7 Full-time equivalents)		
<b>Nursing Auxiliaries</b>	}	<b>95.5</b>
9 Full-timers		
1 Part-timer (0.5 Full-time equivalent)		
<b>Nursing Assistants</b>		
78 Full-timers		
10 Part-timers (5 Full-time equivalent)		
4 (28 hours) (3 Full-time equivalent)		

Contd.

**Contd Answer to Question 1177 of 2005**

**Answer to question 1177**

The following is a breakdown of contract nurses employed by the Gibraltar Health Authority by speciality as at the end of November 2005:

Director of Nursing & Patient Services	1
Education Development Officer	1
Nurse Lecturer	1
Nurse Practitioners	2
Charge Nurses	2
Staff Nurses	25
Staff Nurses (part-time)	1
Registered Sick Children's Nurses	5
Registered Mental Nurses	5
Theatre Nurses	2
Midwives	9
Midwives (part-time)	2
Operating Department Practitioners	5
Enrolled Nurses	3

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1174 TO 1177 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The schedule shows that there are 23 full-time cleaners in St Bernard's Hospital and that there are 37 cleaners on the supply list, do the supply cleaners cover full-time or part-time jobs or both?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I assume they cover both, I do not see any reason why they should cover one or the other. The short answer is that I do not know exactly. They obviously cover the full timers, the part timers I suppose if just one is missing it is not so important but if more than one part timer is missing then I think the answer has to be that they cover both but I cannot guarantee the accuracy of that answer.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Are the supply cleaners directly employed by the GHA or do the GHA have a contractor that provide the supply cleaners?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Directly employed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it that the GHA now have difficulty in recruiting local residents to be cleaners, given that there are 16 Spanish nationals employed as supply cleaners in the Health Authority?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I remember asking a similar question myself. In reality the applications for cleaners are quite numerous whenever vacancies are advertised. The last time I saw the figures there were something like 15 posts and there had been 75 applications, that sort of scale. Applications of all nationalities. At the end of the day, where possible, people are chosen bearing in mind the criteria that the hon Member said a moment ago but we do choose people who are the best at doing the job, and if the Gibraltar is able to do the job and suited and qualified to do the job then that preference is given. We get many applicants who do not meet the criteria required.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Has something happened, to the Minister's knowledge, that has produced a sudden decline in the cleaning skills of Gibraltarians since we always seem to have managed, in Government at least, to keep places clean using Gibraltarians to do the cleaning and on this occasion we are talking about 12 Gibraltarians out of 37 supply

cleaners on the list? That is to say, the Gibraltarians are now less than one third of the people on the supply list. If the Minister tries to convince this House that this is based on ability there has been a sudden decline in the ability to clean amongst Gibraltarians presumably.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

That is not what I said. To answer his first question, no, I am not aware of any such decline. Secondly, the implication of that supplementary question is not in line with what I said. What I said is that irrespective of nationality, because of the nature of the job, many people apply who are not suitable, irrespective of nationality but when it comes to actually accepting, bearing in mind the constrictions that we are under in terms of EU nationals, where preference cannot be given on grounds of nationality and of course is not given on grounds of nationality, bearing in mind those constrictions, where possible, Gibraltarians are always employed and being supply cleaners obviously the list is larger than the demand at any given time. I have no idea how many of these 37 are called upon to supply at any given moment in time but I suspect the number is of 10 per cent or 15 per cent rather than the 80 per cent or 90 per cent, so I assume that when the supply list is drawn up it is better to have as many as possible because when the time comes people who are on the supply list may not necessarily be available.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So is the Minister then saying that the complement of cleaners is fully occupied by the permanent cleaners and that in fact if everybody was working there would be no need to draw any of the 37 supply. That is to say, that in order to maintain every position covered in the hospital at any one time what is required are 49 part-timers and 23 full-timers, is that the position?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes, that is my understanding, that supply cleaners are there to fill any temporary vacancy, with such a large number of people obviously there are people going sick, people who do not turn up, the usual reasons and the supply cleaners are there to fill those gaps. Given the full complement being present on any given day there should be no need for any supply cleaners, that is my understanding.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, but I am sure the Minister has been in the job long enough to know that that is the theory and not always the practice. I am trying to establish whether he knows, for example, whether the formal figure in the Estimates that produced the wages for cleaners is that there are 23 and 49, because I think the Minister talks about temporary vacancies and I think there is a difference between the vacancy and the absence. That is to say, somebody can be absent from work and then needs a supply but once somebody leaves the job on retirement or whatever then it is no longer a temporary absence to be covered by a supply other than during the recruiting period. I am sure the Minister understands that I am aware that that is how the system is supposed to work but can he tell us that he knows that it is working like that or that he thinks that it is because that is how it should?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I think the second is probably more accurate than the first. Having said that, the question was phrased in terms of permanent posts rather than persons so I take it that the answer that has been provided for me is of posts and not of people who are actually there today so that it does not take into account any vacancies. I am assuming that those figures are of posts. I am sure that in the process of giving me this answer someone mentioned that at this given moment in time there were one or two or three of that sort of scale posts that were temporarily vacant. Now whether those were being filled temporarily by supply cleaners or whether we have a waiting list of permanent people that we can bring in quickly, that I do not know. That is why we have a Management Supervisor and with those number of posts I could not possibly tell him exactly what is happening today or yesterday or the day before. Coming back to what I said initially, this is the way I think it is working because that is the way it should be working. If the hon Member has reason to think otherwise, then I would be happy to investigate. There certainly is not a policy to have, I am not sure what it is that he thinks is happening, but there is not a policy to do anything different to what I have said I think is the norm and that he believes to be the norm as well.

ORAL

NO. 1178 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GHA - NURSES**

Can Government state whether there is still a requirement for nurses to be qualified at RGN level before obtaining a further qualification as RMN?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 1179 of 2005.

**NO. 1179 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA - NURSES**

Can Government state whether there is still a requirement for nurses to be qualified at RGN level before obtaining a further qualification as Midwife?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

**Answer to Question Nos. 1178 and 1179 of 2005**

No, there is no requirement for nurses to be qualified at Registered General Nurse level before qualifying as a Midwife or as Registered Mental Nurse.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1178 AND 1179 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister say when that requirement was discontinued?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Some years ago is the supplementary information that I have been given but I cannot say exactly, some years ago. The Nursing and Midwifery Council revised nurse training and there is now a direct entry course for students who wish to pursue a career, this is midwifery and in terms of mental nurses there is no mention of the time.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Was this requirement when it was in place a UK requirement or a Gibraltar requirement?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I would need notice of that question, I have no idea.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Perhaps the Minister would look into how the change came about because there will be questions in a future House. Essentially what I am trying to establish are two things, precisely when the change took place and whether it was Gibraltar-driven because it was a Gibraltar thing that we could do away with or we were following UK practice because the UK changed its policy on this matter.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Can I suggest to the hon Member and my counterpart on health matters that it avoids confusion and saves time if I ask him to write to me asking the specific question and then I make sure that I answer what he wants to know rather than relying on memory or on a scribbled note, but I would be more than delighted to give him the information.



**NO. 1180 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**GHA - ANAESTHETIST**

Can Government state whether any Anaesthetists or Consultants resigned from the GHA during the current calendar year, and if so, were any re-engaged as Locums?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

One Anaesthetist resigned on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 but continued doing the job during the month of November. The recruitment procedure to replace him and also to increase the complement of Anaesthetists to six is already under way.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1180 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

For the month of November was he employed as a Locum and at locum rates?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

The answer to that is yes and no. He was employed as a locum by definition of what the word locum means, because he was replacing someone, but he was not employed at locum rates.

**HON L A RANDALL:**

So in fact he was paid the monthly salary he would have earned had he not resigned?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

No, he was asked whether he could stay by GHA and a rate was negotiated which was somewhere in between his previous base rate, because this is where it starts getting complicated, and what the locum rate would have been. It works out to about three quarters or two thirds of the locum rate and above what he was getting. However, if one takes into account the fact that he was on a, like all consultants on contract, a gratuity after a successful three year completion of the contract and if one

takes into account his allowances and so on, the gap narrows considerably. On some argument on the figures one could almost say that he was earning less than if he had continued on his contract.

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Would the Minister confirm that because he resigned he was therefore not entitled to the terminal gratuity which normally consultants are entitled to at the end of their contract?

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

Yes I can confirm that by terminating his contract prematurely he is not entitled to the gratuity.

ORAL

**NO. 1181 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – GENERAL PRACTITIONERS**

Can Government confirm whether they have now finalised the discussions with the General Practitioners regarding their job description?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Discussions with the General Practitioners regarding their job description are on-going and have not yet been finalised.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1182 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

(On behalf of The Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

**GHA – PSYCHO-GERIATRIC PATIENTS**

Can Government state how many Psycho-Geriatric patients have been admitted in KGV during the months of October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Three psycho-geriatric patients were admitted in KGV during the month of October 2005, all of whom were subsequently discharged.

There were no psycho-geriatric patient admissions in November 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1183 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION – NUMBER OF PUPILS LEAVING SCHOOL**

Can Government state how many pupils left school in the 2004/2005 academic year at the age of 15 giving a breakdown by school and term?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 1184 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1184 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION – NUMBER OF PUPILS SUSPENDED**

Can Government state how many pupils were suspended from school in the 2004/2005 academic year and 2005 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS

The statistical information requested is set out in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1184 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1183**

<b>School</b>	<b>Autumn Term</b>	<b>Spring Term</b>	<b>Summer Term</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bayside	2	1	2	5
Westside	7	8	12	27

**Answer to Question 1184**

Number of pupils suspended from school

<b>School</b>	<b>2004/5</b>	<b>2005/6 (as at 5 12 05)</b>
Notre Dame	0	1*
St Paul's	0	0
St Mary's	3*	0
St Joseph's First	2*	0
ST Bernard's First	0	0
Governor's Meadow	1	0
Bishop Fitzgerald	1	0
St Anne's	3	-
St Joseph's Middle	0	0
Sacred Heart	3	1
Hebrew	0	0
Bayside	92	14
Westside	22	5

\*Lunchtime only – 1 for a short period

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1183 AND 1184 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister explain the high number of boys that were suspended, 92 in the academic year?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I will explain a number of things. The main one is that these are recidivists, re-offending as the hon Member put it, it is not 92 children who were suspended it is somehow the recidivists who keep getting into trouble. Also that some of the suspensions depend really on the way the concept has been taken by the headteachers who reported on this. In some cases it is really an afternoon or whatever it is rather than exclusion as such.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I think we had this debate in a previous House and I would just like to see whether the situation has changed or has altered in any way. Is it that the pupils who are suspended from school, do they continue education? What sort of provision is made for a student who at the age of 13 or 14 is suspended from school say for two weeks? What are the provisions for that child for those two weeks in relation to education?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, I am sure and I am assured by headteachers that work is set and attention is given in a whole variety of ways suited to the type of student. In some cases with the Youth Office, in some cases they can rely on parents to be on top of the situation. When they see that parents are going to be on top of the situation they actually assign a teacher to help the child through, make appointments for the child to see a teacher and I am assured that they do in no way, it would be totally unacceptable for a child to get excluded for any length of time without continuing in different strategies to attend to his continued education.

**HON S E LINARES:**

What provisions are made for any type of behavioural modification of the child? Are there any courses or any programmes, or any consultancy type of thing that they can be given in order to modify their behaviour?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, we have a BEST team. The BEST team is essentially a behaviour modification service attending to specific and particular pupils, as I say with experts actually counselling, counselling is a very broad word as well but certainly helping the child to adopt different styles and different habits et cetera, the social background also.



Many problems, as the hon Member will know, emanate from the family background and the social background.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Yes, I understand about the BEST programme being conducted within schools in order to modify the behaviour of children before they are suspended, I am talking about subsequently, after, when they are suspended, when they are told 'look, I am afraid you cannot come to school for the rest of the week or the next two days or three weeks', whatever it is. Apart from the work that is given to the student, and I understand that if responsibility is given to the parent sometimes the problem is the parent and the background so therefore there is no follow-up, what I am saying is, is there any type of course or programme that the student can go through whilst suspended because as I see it if the child is suspended and he is told basically not to come in for two weeks and he is given work, maybe they can do the work in an hour and then what happens to the rest of the 23 hours that they are out there? This is the issue. What I am trying to get at is whether there is anything that can be done during the time that they are suspended as in behavioural modification?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, it is not just work that is given it is also conditions, the child is suspended for a week or whatever but one of the conditions is that he has to call on a member of the BEST team at any particular time that the BEST team teacher is available. There are conditions set which I am absolutely sure that no headteacher absolutely just throws a child out of school and simply leaves him helpless and unattended, not only in terms of academic work but also in terms of relational counselling and helping to look at himself and his way forward.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Minister said the figures in answer to Question No. 1184 were the number of occasions when pupils have been suspended as opposed to the number of pupils that have been suspended. In fact the wording of the original question is asking for the number of pupils, does he have this figure as well or not?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I have not got it with me, I apologise, but there has been confusion I accept. When we asked the headteachers to give us the statistics of the number of pupils they have come back and there has not been enough time to really work this one out with them. They have come up and I am assured that what it is is the number of occasions but I can of course investigate further and get the right number of pupils.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can the Minister, given his long familiarity not just since he has been in the House but even before, state whether there is any indication that this is on the increase or is it more or less stable?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

My assessment, and it is difficult really once one is away at a distance as I am now from being in the field as I was before, is that there is no dramatic downturn in the matter, the question of discipline, there are increasing pressures on our young people today especially the problem of drugs, family breakdown and though they have an impact and have an effect I certainly do not think there is a critical, crisis thing anyway.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can I ask in relation to Question No. 1183, the number of youngsters leaving at the age of 15, the figure of five looks quite low when compared with 27 in Westside, has there always been that kind of difference that many more Westside pupils leave than Bayside ones?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, it has been a pattern. Perhaps one could investigate also the psychology of the whole thing, the motivation, the incentives, the career interests of boys and girls, if one looks at the figures that I gave last time for the year 2003/2004 we had exactly five for Bayside as well and we had 23 girls so there is a pattern. I have not gone further back than that but I think the Opposition Member will agree that there is a pattern.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Could it be that Bayside has a sort of one year programme, does Westside have one? If not it could well be that because they have not got that programme the girls tend to leave the school and find other ways of educating themselves or reforming themselves, or empowering themselves or whatever it is named?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I understand that Westside has plenty of provisions for girls who may not aspire to the GCSE's but nevertheless can go into a one year course in a variety of fields which are useful to them.

ORAL

NO. 1185 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION – COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION**

Can Government give a breakdown of the adult education courses run by the Department of Education in the Gibraltar College of Further Education and Bleak House Training Institute?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The statistical information requested is set out in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1185 of 2005**

<b>Gibraltar College</b>		
<b>Current 30-week Courses</b>	<b>Current 10-week Courses</b>	<b>10 Week Courses (Jan 2006)</b>
English GCE	French Conversation	French Conversation
French GCSE	Introduction to Computers	German Beginners
Italian GCSE 1	MS Word Intermediate	Introduction to Computers
Italian GCSE 1	Spanish Beginners Group 1	MS Excel
Mathematics GCSE	Spanish Beginners Group 2	Sewing
Sociology A2		Spanish Beg.
Spanish GCSE		Spanish Beg. Continuation
TEFL 1		
TEFL 2		

**Bleak House (VTS)**

Adult Literacy (Levels 1 and 2)  
Adult Numeracy (Levels 1 and 2)  
Computer Literacy and Information Technology (CLAIT)(Levels 1 and 2)  
English GCE

Other courses of a professional nature such as AAT, CMI, ACCA, CAT, ICSA, AQA Counselling Certificate etc, are run on a private basis using the facilities at Bleak House and the College.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1185 OF 2005**

### **HON S E LINARES:**

Just glancing through this what strikes me is that there is not any more adult education of the sort of leisure adult education. It seems more concentrated on certification like GCSE's English, French, Italian rather than what there used to be which was things like art, pottery, other skills and that type of adult education. Has that completely ceased or are there any other courses that are run, I remember that pottery comes to mind, my father used to do pottery and he used to spend an hour doing his pottery a week, are there not those courses any more?

### **HON DR B A LINARES:**

Certainly they have not been recorded here so obviously they are not running. I do not know whether it is a question of supply or a question of demand. It could be also that in earlier years there was more of an interest in this type of leisure courses, there are so many leisure activities on the market these days, perhaps there is not a demand. I am not sure, I am speculating.

**NO. 1186 OF 2005****THE HON S E LINARES****EDUCATION – PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY**

Can Government say how many children attend Government pre-school Nursery Education this academic year giving a breakdown by nursery and by morning and afternoon sessions?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

**Answer to Question 1186 of 2005**

<b>Name of Nursery</b>	<b>Numbers Enrolled</b>	
	<b>AM</b>	<b>PM</b>
St Joseph's	41	15
Notre Dame	30	9
St Paul's	40	21
St Bernard's	40	-
Varyl Begg	31	17

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1186 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

By looking at this the first thing that comes to mind is are there the same number of staff for the morning session as there are for the afternoon session?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I frankly do not know, I would think that it would not make sense really to have the same number of staff really when there are less pupils but there may be conditions of service which require such provision. I can find out for him.

**HON S E LINARES:**

One other question which strikes is the dash in St Bernard's School in the afternoons, can the Minister explain why there are not any afternoon sessions in St Bernard's School nursery?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Because there is no demand, they do not get applications for St Bernard's in the afternoon. I think now that it has been mentioned that in St Bernard's there is not the same number of staff in the afternoon obviously because there are no children at all. I think they are deployed elsewhere.

**NO. 1187 OF 2005****THE HON S E LINARES****EDUCATION – BEST PROGRAMME**

Can Government state how many children are currently on the BEST Programme giving a breakdown by school?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

**Answer to Question 1187 of 2005****BEST Provision 2005/6**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>NO. OF CHILDREN</b>
Governor' Meadow	15
Notre Dame	19
St Bernard's	13
St Joseph's	8
St Mary's	18
St Paul's	9
Hebrew Primary	8
Bishop Fitzgerald	12
Sacred Heart	21
St Anne's	20
St Joseph's	10
Bayside	23
Westside	12



**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1187 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

I see that the highest figure corresponds to Sacred Heart School, the question obviously would be is there any link between the pupils that actually attend Sacred Heart. On the cultural side there are lots of children from the town area which is the catchment area of Sacred Heart and therefore there are many children of other ethnic minorities, to put it in a nice political acceptable way, in that school and that they could well be causing behavioural problems because for example, language problems?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

That could be a factor definitely. As is known in terms of education and behaviour so many factors come in including interestingly the language problem which breaks communication. Remember that the behaviour modification programmes and tuition and counselling is not just purely as we imagine it in terms of discipline and in terms of problems of causing trouble, it is also a positive enabling programme for children who have difficulty in settling down in the school ethos and in the school regime. It could be that because of the area which is provided for by Sacred Heart there is that demand there.

**NO. 1188 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – MOD PUPILS**

Can Government state how many services pupils currently attend secondary school giving a breakdown by school and the amount that the MOD contribute to the Department of Education for the education of these pupils?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2005, there were 15 pupils from MOD families in Bayside School and 19 at Westside School.

The cost per pupil is £1,226.39 per term or £3,679.17 per annum. I make a distinction there because sometimes they do not stay for the whole year so an adjustment is made. The MOD will therefore contribute on this basis £125,091.78 if all the pupils remain in school for the whole year. Should any leave during the year this figure will be adjusted accordingly.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1188 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

When I talk about Services children does that include children whose parents are in the Gibraltar Regiment?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No, Gibraltar Regiment pupils are entitled pupils.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister then explain why there is a difference between pupils of the children of the Gibraltar Regiment and pupils who are from the RAF or HMS Rooke, why should there be a difference although I understand that they are entitled, not necessarily because they are Gibraltarians because there are many people in the Gibraltar Regiment who are not Gibraltarians they are UK citizens but they are still entitled. Can the Minister explain why this difference?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I am not sure of the legal background to this. I think it is a question of residence perhaps, Gibraltar belongs, it may be connected to the question of status, of civil status, residential status but that is the way it has always been for many years and the MOD accept this at secondary level. They have their own school at primary level, but they have to pay the fees, that is the way it is.

**HON S E LINARES:**

It begs the question that it is to do also with the now new housing, the way that the Gibraltar Regiment is housed, this is why I am trying to see why the MOD should not pay for the education, even though they are Gibraltarians, they should not pay for the education of children whose parents are in the Gibraltar Regiment, I do not see why. The MOD should pay.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Thankfully housing is outside my remit as Minister, I have gone through difficult patches but not housing.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I was just giving the example, the analogy.

ORAL

NO. 1189 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION – BAYSIDE SCHOOL**

Can Government state the number of pupils in year 10 in 2004/2005 academic year and 2005 to date in Bayside?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 1190 of 2005.

**NO. 1190 OF 2005****THE HON S E LINARES****EDUCATION – WESTSIDE SCHOOL**

Can Government state the number of pupils in year 10 in 2004/2005 academic year and 2005 to date in Westside?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

**Answer to Question 1190 of 2005****Answer to Question 1189 and 1190**

School	2004/5 (30 September 2004)	2005/6 (30 September 2005)
Bayside	218	206
Westside	191	203

**NO. 1191 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – 14 TO 19 EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Can Government state how many times the 14 to 19 Education Committee have met in the year 2005 to date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

Given that the co-education working group includes all members of the original 14-19 Working Group, it has been asked to extend its scope beyond the issue of co-education and consider all the other wider issues arising in the UK as a result of the 14-19 proposed reforms. As I shall explain in answer to Question No. 1202 which is about the co-education working group, the co-education working group with the new scope that I have now explained, in its agenda has met five times from January to June and once in October this year.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1191 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Then from two committees they have made one, basically that is what he is saying, and that is supposed to look at co-education as well. Can the Minister state whether they have discussed the Tomlinson Report and at what stage they are in relation to ringing out, because there is a huge turmoil in the UK and I understand that, nobody knows what is happening, Tomlinson states one thing Government want to go in another direction, all political may I add, which we need to steer away from despite us questioning these things. Can the Minister state what are the indications of the 14-19 education committee as in the direction that we should take, and should the Minister not be considering other jurisdictions, how they deal with the 14-19 education? The Channel Islands and Scotland come to mind, Ireland comes to mind, the whole Commonwealth basically. Could the 14-19 education committee then look at all these aspects of 14-19 education because of what I have just stated about in the UK?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Well, certainly the experts, advisers, the technical people in the Department try to keep abreast of developments beyond the UK, as suggested the Channel Islands

and all that, but personally I would be hesitant to depart from the modelling that we have now with the UK system of education. This is not to say that we adopt things blindly because as we know, and the hon Member has referred to it, the whole question of 14-19 after the rejection by Government of the Tomlinson Report is shrouded in controversy and confusion and that has been a difficulty for the 14-19 working group, what to hang on to and how to anchor their recommendations so that their considerations in this vast arena of different ideas, different white papers coming before the Ministers. It is a difficult moment both in the UK and thereby for us but as regards looking beyond that into other jurisdictions my inclination here and now, I may after consideration or advice change my mind, is that I would not depart too far from the processes that are going on in the UK for obvious reasons. Even just simply out of tradition we have modelled ourselves on the National Curriculum, the pattern of education in UK and because we are very dependant, at least in terms of our examination systems and higher education on the UK. I think that is the best I can offer the hon Member here and now in terms of reflections and speculation.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I am happy that he is saying the UK but the UK have different jurisdictions and they do work differently. For example, Scotland has a completely different 14-19 education system and therefore it could be advisable, I am not trying to change his mind but it is a question of we have traditionally gone with England and Wales, the English and Welsh type of education system. There is nothing wrong as I see it that we go through and look at how Northern Ireland and Scotland do their own 14-19 education system. Why? Because it is based on the UK model anyway but they seem to have detached the politics of it all and that is what we should be doing and we obviously do here in Gibraltar and that is why I think it is very advisable for the Minister to look at the Scottish or Northern Irish system where politics in education, there is politics in education but a different type, it is not a party political issue.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Well I thank the hon Member for the advice, I am not being sarcastic I am grateful for the advice, but I did start by saying that we look at everything. The advisers are experts, they are educators and their job is to really study education broadly. As the hon Member knows, even in the UK there are many public schools which are now adopting the continental curriculum, the International Baccalaureate so we look at everything. I was just saying, and I was saying very sort of speculatively, perhaps I should not have said UK perhaps I should have said England and Wales, I accept that but this is just for general discussion.

NO. 1192 OF 2005THE HON S E LINARES**EDUCATION – INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Can Government state how many children are currently in the inclusion programme giving a breakdown by school and year?

ANSWERTHE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

Answer to Question 1192 of 2005

Children currently in the schools' inclusion programme

Name of School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3		Total
<b>First Schools</b>						
Notre Dame	1	1	4	6		12
St Bernard's	0	2	0	0		2
St Joseph's	0	0	0	1		1
St Paul's	0	0	2	2		2
St Mary's	0	0	0	1		1
Gov. Meadow	0	0	0	2		2
	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 7</b>		
<b>Middle Schools</b>						
Bishop Fitzgerald	6	4	4	3		17
St Anne's	1	1	0	0		2
	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	
<b>Secondary Schools</b>						
Bayside	2	4	1	4	1	12
Westside	2	3	2	1	0	8
	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Unit 3</b>		
St Martin's Outreach	1	3	3	1		8
<b>Grand Total</b>						<b>67</b>



**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1192 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister explain why there is no inclusion programme in St Joseph's Middle and Sacred Heart?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

In St Joseph's there is one pupil in Year 3, in Sacred Heart there is no child in the inclusion programme. Inclusion is determined by the assessment panel, as the hon Member will know, and it is a question of catchment and children who are deemed to require inclusion for a whole variety of reasons, which could be visual impairment, it could be autism or Downs Syndrome, may have not fallen within the catchment of Sacred Heart or St Joseph's. That is my thinking on that because they all go through the assessment panel and where they go for inclusion depends really on the catchment from which they come.

**NO. 1193 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**EDUCATION – HERITAGE VALUES**

What does the active education programme designed to instil heritage values into school children actually consist of?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

I am frankly surprised at this Question coming from the Hon Dr Garcia who is closely associated with the Panorama, because that newspaper very consistently and ably and appreciatively reports on the extraordinary and on-going activities involving our school children in heritage projects. I am very grateful for that. Indeed, during the Tercentenary year I dare say that our schoolchildren were among the top protagonists in the wide programme of events which marked this historical occasion. It is not for nothing, as the hon Member knows and as was reported actually very fully in the newspaper, that Bayside School has been recently awarded by the Heritage Trust their top junior award for their magnificent "Walk Through History" Project which was acclaimed generally by the community as a whole. Really that is what we mean by active educational programmes – programmes of education in the field outside the ambit of the classroom. Of course, these activities are always underpinned by structured lessons on local history which is part of the curriculum of all schools' history syllabus.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1193 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

First let me assure the Minister that my association with the Panorama is confined to reading it. Secondly, the question arose because of an article that appeared not in the Panorama but in the Gibraltar Chronicle, so actually the question is based on straight quotation from the speech by his Colleague the Minister for Heritage. This is more a heritage question than an education question. I know the Government select the Minister to answer the question but it was more intended from a heritage point of view, because what the Minister actually said in his address to the Heritage Trust, is 'we, the Heritage Department, continue to liase with schools as part of an active education programme. I would like to stress the importance of such programmes and the relevance of educating our children and instilling in them heritage values'. Now my question was aimed from a heritage point of view to see what exactly the

Minister meant when he said 'liasing with the schools' and how these heritage values are being instilled in our schoolchildren.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Well I think I have answered that question really, how we go about it. I thought he would be quoting from somewhere, I am very glad he was not quoting from something I had said in a careless way because I would not use the word 'instil values', with respect to my Colleague, education is a *dūcere* which is to draw out and not to put in and what we do actually in terms of values opens up the minds and hearts of pupils to an awareness of these things, especially in terms of our heritage, all that goes with it in terms of pride in our community, pride in our achievements et cetera.

**NO. 1194 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – BULLYING IN SCHOOLS**

Can Government state how many incidents of bullying were reported in schools in the 2004/2005 academic year giving a breakdown by school?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

We have answered this type of question before in good faith (Question No. 202 of 2005) but then we found that we fall into a trap really because it was later picked up by the media the figures that we gave in terms of the number of incidents of bullying and giving a totally wrong impression. The Question is a blanket question which does not distinguish between degrees of seriousness in incidents of bullying. What do we mean by “reported in schools”? – this can range from trivial incidents reported to teachers (“Miss, he is calling me names”) to serious parental complaints of incidents which exist, in which parents have to be called in which have some degree of substance. As I say, we cannot answer this question, as formulated in such a generic manner. However, I will give the hon Member some figures of what I have described as serious bullying incidents which cannot be tolerated, which the schools’ policy and the Department’s policy is zero tolerance. I can give some figures which have been provided in that context:

First Schools – two incidents. I am saying First Schools because again I have decided that it would not be appropriate to give a breakdown by individual schools. I think he will probably understand that that is rather invidious.

First Schools:	2
Middle Schools:	8
Secondary Schools:	12

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1194 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

I can assure the Minister that I have not yet published any press release to do with bullying so it could not have come from information from Opposition Members, it probably was through Hansard itself, but may I say that I appreciate that he has given me a figure but I would ask that if the same criteria that he used for Question No. 202 of 2005 which he mentioned, the same criteria that he used then be given to

me now and I can understand what the Minister is saying by individual school, and I appreciate that he has given me first, middle and secondary sections but I would also appreciate, and I can say that it is on a confidential basis, I would like a breakdown per school if possible. Although like I said, the first, middle and secondary is in the public domain, let the media use it as they wish I am not controlling the media. What I am saying is that I would personally like a breakdown by school because it will be a great help in my analysis, that is why I pose all these questions, there are analyses behind all these questions. I then get all the data, put it in to a data bank, see the trends, up, down, whether a school is failing or not failing, in the case of bullying for example. Obviously I am not going to go publicly and say that school and that headteacher is failing in its bullying policy so I would appreciate if the Minister could forward that information, information of a breakdown by school, using the same criteria that he used in Question No. 202 of 2005 giving me a breakdown of all the schools' bullying. I would appreciate that.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

A number of points I have to make on that. First of all, let me make it clear I was not blaming the press, I want to make it clear that I was not blaming the press for creating the wrong impression, if anything I was blaming ourselves. Innocently, our headteachers gave us a whole range of figures for all incidents, from trivial to the very serious ones of bullying and that is what they published, the press picked it up because it was in the public domain. I was not blaming them. What I mean is that the wrong impression was given by the criteria that we used and I am certainly not going to follow that criteria. I think it is absolutely totally irrelevant to give out bullying incidents which take place in the playground, as I said, and one kid blames the other and that sort of thing. I think it does not tell us anything about the discipline ethos of the school but I do agree that the serious incidents, yes, I will consider giving the hon Member a breakdown by schools. I will tell him what are the two incidents of bullying in whatever First School they took place, I do not know frankly. Also I will give him a breakdown of the eight incidents of serious bullying in Middle Schools. I will consider actually telling him what schools were involved and similarly with the 12 incidents of bullying in Secondary Schools. The criteria is the main thing I want to avoid because I think that was a very blanket, vague, general type of criteria which as I say does not tell us anything about the situation of discipline in the schools. I hope he understands what I am getting at.

**HON S E LINARES:**

It is incredible because I posed this question with a different wording from the last one. I will say why, because in the last question I asked how many incidents of bullying were reported to headteachers, because I can understand that a child comes to a teacher in the classroom saying 'he is doing this to me or that to me' and that is reported, and this time round I actually wanted to find out how many they were. Like I said, I would still appreciate that I be given a breakdown of incidents by schools confidentially.

ORAL

NO. 1195 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION - GASA**

Can Government state how many times classes from schools used the GASA swimming pool during school hours in the last academic year giving a breakdown by school?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 1196 of 2005.

**NO. 1196 OF 2005****THE HON S E LINARES****EDUCATION - GASA**

Can Government state how much was paid or is owed by the Department of Education to GASA for the use of the swimming pool in the last academic year?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached. Let me point out also that no money is actually owed by Government in respect of the use of school children in the GASA swimming pool, we paid to the last penny for all the uses made and that sum paid out for the sessions that were held this year amount to £1,669.

**Answer to Question 1196 of 2005****Answer to Question 1195 and 1196**

Classes from Government schools used the GASA swimming pool for a total of 42 sessions during the 2004/5 academic year. These are broken down as follows:-

<b>School using GASA pool (2004/5)</b>	<b>Number of sessions</b>
Bayside School	22
Westside School	8
Bishop Fitzgerald School	12

Since September children from Sacred Heart are also using the pool this academic year.

No money is owed by Government in respect of the use of school children of the GASA swimming pool during the last academic year. The sum paid out for the sessions that were held amounts to £1669.

ORAL

NO. 1197 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**EDUCATION – TEACHERS ON TEMPORARY CONTRACTS**

Can Government state how many teachers have been given temporary contracts for 1, 2, 3 years respectively?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 1198 of 2005.



**NO. 1198 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – TEACHERS ON PERMANENT SUPPLY**

Can Government state how many teachers are on permanent supply basis in the last and current academic year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

**Answer to Question No. 1197**

No temporary contracts have been as yet given to teachers for one, or two or three years respectively.

**Answer to Question No. 1198**

In 2004/2005, there were 12 teachers on long-term supply as opposed to occasional supply, and in 2005/2006 there were 17 teachers in this status.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1197 AND 1198 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

In the last House we had a big debate about contracts, about supply and we were assured that the way to go forward is to give a contract, Government were waiting for Human Resources to draw out a contract, can the Minister now tell us when those contracts will be in place? I think it is about time and we went through why there is a difference between having a contract and being on a permanent supply. I think it is unfair for the people who are on permanent supply, for the reasons we have gone through already, trying to get themselves mortgages, trying to settle down, all these issues. Can the Minister then state when we are going to have contracts for one, two or three years for teachers at least?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The hon Member is right, we had a long debate on this last time and I can tell him that the assurances given by the Chief Minister then agreeing the fact that temporary contracts should be given to teachers on a long-term supply basis, covering for

maternities or covering for politicians, the assurances still stand. As to when I am afraid that Human Resources is working on this in finding the appropriate legally drafted contract, I am assured that this is in process, but I cannot tell him more than that.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I think something should be done soon because one cannot have 17 on a permanent supply basis. Seventeen teachers who have no condition of work basically, they miss a day, they get ill, they do not get paid, as simple as that. I think it is unacceptable that having had this debate, not only in the last House but two or three Houses before, we are talking about nearly two and a half years that this debate has been going on and still the Human Resources are still drafting out a contract, I am sorry but I cannot accept that. So can the Minister do something about having Human Resources work faster in order to put those contracts in place?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I can assure the hon Member that the Minister will do his best to speed this up. Certainly I am concerned and I want to speed up things.

**NO. 1199 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOLS**

Can Government state whether there has been any consultation with users in relation to the community use of schools in order for the facility to begin earlier now that schools finish at 3.15 and 3.30 pm?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

There has been no consultation with users in relation to the community use of schools in order for these facilities to begin earlier. The Department is quite clear about this together with consultation with headteachers, and we do not believe that we should make these facilities available earlier since it would not enable the schools to organise their own extra-curricular activities without at the same time clashing or interfering with the cleaning programme if it is brought forward before the start of community use. That is the policy adopted by the Department.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1199 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

I would like to state that the policy is nonsensical if that is the Department's policy because if cleaners have now got three quarters of an hour to clean before, that means we have the school available three quarters of an hour before we had it in the past. What I am saying is that there should be consultation with the Associations, with users of the community scheme and therefore the schools should be made available. Whether the Department has a policy or not that is up to them but what I am saying is that the users want that, and we had that debate last time again and the answer from the Minister was that there was no demand, that none of the users had come to the Department to say 'I want to use it three quarters of an hour before'. Well, if put that way I do not think anybody will come, what has to be done is make it available and that is why I think that the policy is nonsensical. It should be reviewed. Can the Minister then look at reviewing that policy please?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No, I am not prepared to review it. I do not think my officers in the Education Department are liable to indulge in nonsensical policies, therefore, I am not prepared

to either overrule them or reconsider what they decide is the best practical way of managing the cleaning and the extra-curricular activities of schools.

ORAL

**NO. 1200 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE**

Can Government state how much has been spent on maintenance in each school giving a breakdown by school in this financial year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

The hon Member asked how much has been spent, the total is £729,966.

**Answer to Question 1200 of 2005**

Expenditure incurred from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005 to date on maintenance in each school.

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Bayside	£255,856
Westside	£131,137
Gibraltar College	£19,005
St Joseph's Middle	£8,408
St Anne's Middle	£63,870
Sacred Heart Middle	£5,164
Bishop Fitzgerald	£113,325
Hebrew Primary	£662
St Martin's	£14,558
Notre Dame First	£15,081
St Paul's First	£51,739
St Mary's First	£15,076
Governor's Meadow	£9,092
St Bernard's First	£6,793
St Joseph's First	£7,419
Varyl Begg Nursery	£12,781

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1200 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister state whether this is purely on maintenance or these are works which have been, for example, requested minor works as he is aware of, minor works which the headteacher says, 'I need a new extra room', which is not maintenance, it is a minor work. It means that it is something extra, because I am specifically asking about maintenance, things that are like a board falling down, a window that breaks, things like that.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

It includes everything. It includes things like, for instance, the total painting of Bayside School which is still on-going, but it is from the same vote that we draw for incidental repairs and problems that arise on a day to day basis.

ORAL

**NO. 1201 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Can Government state whether there has been any progress in relation to the health and safety policy document for schools since this Question was last asked in this House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No. 1202 of 2005.



**NO. 1202 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – REGISTER OF ASBESTOS**

Can Government state whether there have been any further inspections in order to draw up a register of asbestos in schools?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

**Answer to Question No. 1201**

The Health and Safety Policy has gone through all the stages of consultation. The Department is currently assessing the financial implications for inclusion in next year's estimates of expenditure. The document will be distributed to schools at the start of next term.

**Answer to Question No. 1202**

There have been no further inspections in order to draw up a register of asbestos in schools.

**NO. 1203 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – ST BERNARD’S SCHOOL**

Can Government state whether there has been any progress on the relocation of St Bernard’s School since this Question was last asked in this House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

No decision has been taken on a possible relocation of St Bernard’s School as yet, but the matter forms an important part of the inter-ministerial discussions which are taking place currently in relation to the new uses of the old St Bernard’s hospital site. It is within that context that we are looking at the relocation of St Bernard’s School, having accepted the fact that it would probably be advisable to relocate St Bernard’s School from where it stands today.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1203 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Does the Minister have an indication of when we will see a possible relocation?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

No, I cannot specify a particular date.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Out of interest, as an old boy of St Bernard’s School myself and the fact that there may now be a possibility that my alma mater may move, as a resident of the Upper Town, is it still going to be the case that the Upper Town will have its own first school?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Very definitely yes, I think the Upper Town deserves a worthy first school, we have a middle school in Sacred Heart, that is definitely on the mind of Government and on

my mind. Interestingly the history of St Bernard's School is a very interesting history actually my father used to go there, it used to be the Lourdes School in those days, 'la escuela de los pobres' it used to be called because the Christian Brothers had 'la escuela de los ricos' in Line Wall School paying and St Bernard's School was also run by the Christian Brothers. So it has a very interesting history and I say that because there is always an element of sentiment in actually departing from the educational thrust of schools but that is the way things are.

**HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:**

I cannot resist the temptation to join in the reminiscing, maybe my hon Colleague who has more experience than I does not seem to remember but the hon Member's alma mater was not always there, St Bernard's used to be, and it used to be my alma mater, by St Bernard's Hospital. St Bernard's used to be alongside St Bernard's Hospital in what is now a private dwelling, and we are going back to the mid 1950's.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

In my days it was next to what St Bernard's Hospital had expanded to and we were always next door to the hospital, is there any indication of where the school may go or is that one of the issues that is being considered?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

The indication is what I mentioned before, that we are looking, studying the global use of the site of the old St Bernard's Hospital and it is within that context that we are considering but no decision has been taken as yet as to the relocation of the school.

ORAL

**NO. 1204 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – MATERNITY LEAVE FOR TEACHERS**

Can Government state whether there has been any progress in relation to the proposal submitted by the NASUWT (GTA) on maternity leave for teachers?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS**

Answered together with Question No. 1205 of 2005.

**NO. 1205 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – WORKLOAD AGREEMENT**

Can Government state whether they have officially been notified by the executive of the NASUWT(GTA) as to whether they have a mandate to negotiate the workload agreement?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

These matters are now under negotiation between the Government and the NASUWT (GTA). Therefore, It is not thought to be appropriate to give information as to the progress in these negotiations while they are being carried out and the way that they are being handled.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1204 AND 1205 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

When the Minister says that they are negotiating, does he mean both the maternity leave and the workload agreement?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Yes, the hon Member is right, the workload agreement we have no notification from the NASUWT (GTA) that they have a mandate. Whether they have or not is of course not our business, it is their business, but what I mean is that this is a potential issue for negotiation. Obviously it will have to be negotiated, the workload agreement will have to be negotiated since it involves conditions of employment in the blue book and therefore we do not think it is appropriate to advance information or Government's thinking at this stage.

**HON S E LINARES:**

I posed the question on the workload agreement and I understand that has more implications than the agreement itself because it goes in conjunction with other things, but what I stated was that in October in the last House I asked the question on the workload agreement and the Minister stated, 'anyway the GTA has no

mandate to negotiate'. That is why I have posed the question again because I understand it that the GTA have not actually said to the Department they have no mandate, it has been taken for granted apparently by the Department that they have no mandate because there was a meeting and whatever. What I am saying is that despite the fact, and the question was posed in such a way, that I wanted to know whether the executive had actually written or had actually notified the Department about the mandate issue, because it seemed from the answer to the question the last time that they were not willing to look at the workload agreement because the GTA had no mandate to negotiate anyway. That is why I have posed the question. Therefore the question would be, is the Department going to start re-negotiating with the GTA the workload agreement, is it going to negotiate it with them?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I do not think I could have said, with respect, that we would not look at the workload agreement, we are looking at it all the time I assure the hon Member. We are very knowledgeable as to the implications in terms of conditions of employment and everything, and staffing as well which is one of the concerns I think of the Union that we have a very generous pupil/teacher ratio which in England they do not have, and that this would have implications in that respect. That the way out in many places in England is to employ unqualified learning assistants, as they are called, to be able to implement the workload agreement which is a reduction of chores for teachers and these chores are passed on to learning assistants which nevertheless, we know from practical experience, are taking on teaching duties and that is something that we have to be very careful about. I do not think I could have said that we are not looking at their workload agreement I think what we said is that at that stage, and certainly this is the stage at the moment, we have not been officially told by the GTA 'we now have a mandate from our members to get down to brass tacks and negotiate the workload agreement', that is the state of play at the moment.

**HON S E LINARES:**

When the Minister says that we have had no mandate it means that they do not have a mandate, double negative. I will explain it is very simple, he has just stated that the GTA have not gone to him and said 'now we have a mandate' but have they come to him saying 'we cannot negotiate because we have no mandate' this is the issue.

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

I am not sure of that I think there have been informal phone calls and conversations saying 'we are still waiting for our members to give us a clear fully fledged mandate to be able to enter into a proper negotiating process'.

**HON S E LINARES:**

The last supplementary to these two questions is that on the maternity leave issue, the last time I think the debate went through and it was mentioned that they were looking into having 20 weeks rather than 26 weeks and they were studying also the proposals that the GTA had put forward. Can the Minister state what would be the completion date of these negotiations, because they already have had proposals

forwarded to them and counter-proposals and I think it is about time that there is a decision taken either way?

**HON DR B A LINARES:**

If I went along giving that information I would be contradicting myself. I said before that these intricacies of the negotiating process are not appropriately discussed here until they are completed.

**NO. 1206 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – TLR AND EXCELLENT TEACHER**

Can Government state if there has been any progress in negotiations with the NASUWT(GTA) in relation to the TLR and EXCELLENT Teacher since the last Question Time in this House?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

At this moment, as yet, there has been no formal negotiation as such with the NASUWT on the issue raised in the question. The Department is currently undertaking a series of presentations to all teachers to inform them of the change from Management Allowances to Teaching and Learning Responsibility Payments. Since this requires a corresponding re-structuring of posts in all schools, the Department has launched a process of consultation with Headteachers and their staff. When the Department receives the views of Headteachers and their staff, it will be in a much clearer position to start negotiating with NASUWT (GTA) from that base.

The very interesting question of EXCELLENT Teacher formats, the EXCELLENT Teacher scheme is a new grade which commences actually in September 2006, next academic year, in England and Wales. The NASUWT (GTA) has not indicated whether they will actually be claiming for the introduction of such a grade. It could be, and a bit of speculation here, that grades such as, for example, the Advanced Skills Teachers grade (AST) have not been available in Gibraltar since the NASUWT felt that this was not necessary anyway and could in fact lead to divisiveness among teachers. As I say, that is an area of speculation. With regard to the main point about the TLR's, that will have to be re-structured into our schools, we have not reached the point yet of formal negotiations.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1206 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Why is it that the Government are consulting and doing presentations to Headteachers and with staff when the Headteachers and their staff are represented by the NASUWT (GTA), all of them including the Headteachers? Why are there formal negotiations not through the Association?



**HON DR B A LINARES:**

Let us be clear about this, one thing is information, dissemination of information and consultation and another thing is the formal negotiated process between Government and the Union. The stage at the moment is one of consultation, information, making sure that all teachers (including by the way in those presentations the members of the NASUWT as teachers have been present) that we all know what they are talking about, we all know what the state of play is, what the implications are and I think it is on side, it is not for me to speak for the Union but I think the Union should welcome this type of dissemination of information so that when they eventually make formal claims and get down to the negotiating table, there is some sort of a consensus of conceptual issues rather than just simply pure negotiation in the dark.

**NO. 1207 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – EQUALISATION OF POSTS**

Can Government state at what stage they are, in relation to the equalisation of posts within schools?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The wide consultation which is actually as I have just explained being undertaken by the Department, involving all teachers in every school, should, we think and hope, ensure that the new structures will meet the needs of schools appropriately and adequately. One has to remember that the last time schools, their posts and structures were actually carried out was in 1988, I know because I was involved at the time as Headmaster and I have to say that the teachers at that time were not consulted and this is certainly not going to be the case now.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1207 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

In 1988 it was to do with the National Curriculum and all the scaling changing from the old to the new scale which was the 'A' Allowance, 'B' Allowance system which I remember myself being involved. Therefore I was doing this work because it was the whole term of national curriculum coming in and all the big turmoil which now, another restructure as big as that one and probably even bigger, so that is why I have posed the question because I am happy to listen to the Minister say that he is linking the three issues in a way, which is workload, TLRs and EXCELLENT Teachers and equalisation of posts. Therefore it is the teaching profession now, because as I said before I do not think politics should get involved in this one, because it is to do with the whole restructure of the Education system and how we do it we need to get it right because if we do not get it right the ones who are going to suffer are our children. Therefore it is essential that we get it right and I am glad that the Minister has linked the equalisation of posts with the other two issues.

**NO. 1208 OF 2005****THE HON S E LINARES****EDUCATION – CLASSROOM AIDES**

Can Government state how many classroom aides are on a permanent supply basis giving a breakdown by school?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

**Answer to Question 1208 of 2005**

<b>Name</b>	<b>No. of Classroom Aides</b>
Notre Dame First School	4
St Bernard's First School	2
St Joseph's First School	2
St Paul's First School	1
Varyl Begg Nursery	1
Bishop Fitzgerald School	4
Westside School	1
St Martin's School	2
St Mary's First School	1

**NO. 1209 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – CO-EDUCATION**

Can Government state whether a co-education working group has been set up as promised by the Minister in answer to Question No. 2286 of 2004 and if so how many times has it met since its inception and who are its members?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

I can confirm that a working group was set up in January this year to carry out a feasibility study of co-education at secondary level. The working group has met five times from January to June and once more in October this year as I had occasion to explain in answer to Question No. 1191. It has actually produced an interim report setting out different options to be considered by Government. The members of the working group are the following:

Chairman:	Director of Education & Training
Alternate Chairman:	Mr J J Alcantara, previous Director of Education
Members:	Mrs E Pinna, Retired Deputy Headteacher President, NASUWT (GTA)
Headteachers:	Westside, Bayside, St Anne's, St Paul's; Principal, Gibraltar College; Senior Education Adviser; 3 Education Advisers.

**NO. 1210 OF 2005****THE HON L A RANDALL****ELECTRICITY – POWER FAILURES**

Can Government state the number of power cuts that affected whole districts in October and November 2005, providing a breakdown of the areas affected and the reason why they occurred?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1210/2005****Record of Power Cuts – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Districts Affected</b>	<b>Cause</b>
1	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2005 20.02hrs	7 mins to 1 hour 29 mins	Eight districts supplied from WPS. 10,11,12,13,14, 15,17,18 Four districts supplied from OBDC. 1,7,9,21	Fault in S49 Substation at Europort. Switchgear circuit panel to S72 Safeway Substation flashed over.

The districts fed from Waterport Power Station comprises parts of Queensway, Line Wall Road, Casemates, Marina Bay, Glacis Road, Waterport, North Mole and the whole of the Westside reclamation area.

The districts fed from Orange Bastion Distribution Centre comprises Laguna, Bayside, British Lines Area, Devil's Tower, Catalan Bay, Sandy Bay, Town Area, Moorish Castle area and parts of Queensway.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1211 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**OESCO**

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from OESCO in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1212 to 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1212 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**ELECTRICITY – PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY**

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from MOD in October and November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 and 1213 to 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1213 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the number of T3 (Domestic Consumers) units of electricity invoiced to customers in the periods April to September 2004 and 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211, 1212 and 1214 to 1219 of 2005.



ORAL

**NO. 1214 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the number of units of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity invoiced to customers in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 to 1213 and 1215 to 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1215 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the number of customers invoiced in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in October and November 2005 and for the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 to 1214 and 1216 to 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1216 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the total value invoiced to customers in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 to 1215 and 1217 to 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1217 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT**

Can Government state the total value invoiced to Domestic Customers in respect of Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 to 1216, 1218 and 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1218 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – STANDING CHARGES**

Can Government state the total value invoiced to Domestic Customers in respect of Electricity Standing Charges in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1211 to 1217 and 1219 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1219 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state what were the amounts collected and the amount billed in respect of electricity in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the attached schedule.

### **Answer to Question 1219/2005**

#### **Answer to Question 1211/2005**

Purchases from OESCO Ltd.

<b>2005</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
Units (kwh)	6,990,310	7,092,270
Value	£881,642.92	£823,885.09

#### **Answer to Question 1212/2005**

Purchases from the MOD.

<b>2005</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
Units (kwh)	281,687	309,069
Value	£29,140.80	£31,876.21

#### **Answer to Question 1213/2005**

Units billed to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers – period April to September 2004 and 2005.

	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>
<b>2004</b>	4,739,472	3,913,458	3,689,525	3,598,180	3,632,997	3,602,868
<b>2005</b>	4,450,595	3,904,212	3,616,896	3,535,749	3,521,128	3,892,278

#### **Answer to Question 1214/2005**

Units billed to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers in October and November 2004 and 2005.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	3,572,308	4,192,574
<b>2005</b>	3,721,939	3,949,655

#### **Answer to Question 1215/2005**

Number of Consumers billed (invoiced) under T 3 Domestic Tariff in October and November 2004 and 2005.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	12,619	12,626
<b>2005</b>	12,571	12,591

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1219/2005**

**Answer to Question 1216/2005**

Amounts billed (invoiced to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers in October and November 2004 and 2005.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	£357,944	£415,704
<b>2005</b>	£447,531	£471,024

**Answer to Question 1217/2005**

FCA billed (invoiced) to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	£100,364	£117,799
<b>2005</b>	£121,335	£128,761

**Answer to Question 1218/2005**

Standing Charges billed (invoiced) to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	£25,380	£25,388
<b>2005</b>	£50,772	£49,988

**Answer to Question 1219/2005**

Amounts billed to all consumers under all tariffs.

	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>2004</b>	£969,756	£1,003,736
<b>2005</b>	£1,253,976	£1,237,011



ORAL

NO. 1220 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the reason for the high level of amounts billed in electricity to all consumers under all tariffs in the month of September 2004, which was provided as £3,349,812 in answer to Question 611 of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

In September 2004 two large bills were issued in respect of two consumers. One was for the sum of £2,313,553.33 to Kruger Engineering (who were the original operators of the Incinerator at Europa Advance Road), and the other for the sum of £63,363.53 to the Rock Hotel.

ORAL

NO. 1221 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED**

Can Government state the number of customers that were invoiced for Domestic Primary Units of water during the period April to September 2005 and April to September 2004, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1222 to 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1222 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the number of units of Domestic Primary Units of water invoiced during the period October and November 2005 and for the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221 and 1223 to 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1223 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the value of domestic primary units of water invoiced in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months of 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221, 1222 and 1224 to 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1224 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the number of units of Domestic Secondary Units of water invoiced in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221 to 1223 and 1225 to 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1225 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the value of Domestic Secondary Units of water invoiced in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221 to 1224 and 1226 to 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1226 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the number of customers that were invoiced for Domestic Secondary Units of water in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221 to 1225, 1227 and 1228 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1227 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state the values in respect of Water Standing Charges invoiced to Domestic Customers in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 1221 to 1226 and 1228 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1228 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**WATER - CHARGES**

Can Government state what were the amounts collected and the amounts billed in respect of water in October and November 2005 and in the equivalent months in 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1228/2005**

**Answer to Question 1221**

<b>Months</b>	<b>April'04</b>	<b>May'04</b>	<b>June'04</b>	<b>July'04</b>	<b>Aug'04</b>	<b>Sept'04</b>	<b>Oct'04</b>	<b>Nov'04</b>
No. of consumers of Domestic Primary Units	11719	11718	11704	11729	11731	11729	11719	11719

<b>Months</b>	<b>April'05</b>	<b>May'05</b>	<b>June'05</b>	<b>July'05</b>	<b>Aug'05</b>	<b>Sept'05</b>	<b>Oct'05</b>	<b>Nov'05</b>
No. of consumers of Domestic Primary Units	11693	11694	11699	11698	11697	11686	11688	11669

**Answer to Question 1222**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
Potable water billed by Units Domestic (Primary)	382940	389964
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>October '05</b>
Potable water billed by Units Domestic (Primary)	382018	375511

**Answer to Question 1223**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
Potable water billed (Primary Units) by value	£63,945	£70,464
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>October '05</b>
Potable water billed (Primary Units) by value	£81,677	£79,362

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1228/2005**

**Answer to Question 1224**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
Potable water billed by Units Domestic (Secondary Units)	223615	246223
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>November '05</b>
Potable water billed by Units Domestic (Secondary Units)	208669	188109

**Answer to Question 1225**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
Potable water billed by Value Domestic (Secondary)	£100,627	£110,800
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>November '05</b>
Potable water billed by Value Domestic (Secondary)	£108,508	£97,816

**Answer to Question 1226**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
No. of Consumers of Domestic Secondary Units	5557	5822
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>November '05</b>
No. of Consumers of Domestic Secondary Units	5449	5330

**Answer to Question 1227**

	<b>October '04</b>	<b>November '04</b>
Standing Charges (Domestic)	£17,654	£17,679
	<b>October '05</b>	<b>November '05</b>
Standing Charges (Domestic)	£35,498	£35,751

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1228/2005**

**Answer to Question 1228**

	<b>2004</b>	
<b>Period</b>	<b>Amount Billed</b>	<b>Total Collections</b>
October '04	£375,297.30	£389,876.42
November '04	£358,123.83	£320,114.82

	<b>2005</b>	
<b>Period</b>	<b>Amount Billed</b>	<b>Total Collections</b>
October '05	£361,062.17	£505,222.19
November '05	£362,001.47	£379,286.25

**NO. 1229 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**GIBTELECOM**

Can Government state what was the staff level of Gibtelecom at the time that the Voluntary Separation package was offered to 32 employees and how many of these 32 employees have taken up the offer by the closing date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

On a number of occasions previously, and when the hon Member himself was a member of the senior management team of Gibtelecom, the Government made it clear that the Company no longer considered it appropriate in a liberalised market for the Government to provide commercial information on Gibtelecom to which they have access as one of the Shareholders. The hon Member should therefore approach the Company directly and it would be for them to decide what information on staffing they are prepared to release into the public domain at this time.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1229 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

The Minister is right in saying that both as General Manager of Gibtelecom and indeed as Shadow Minister for Telecommunications I believe that I should not ask questions related to commercial matters. However, I feel that perhaps it is going a bit over the top providing an answer to this question being classified as commercially sensitive, but if that is the way the Minister wants it fine, I will write to the company.

**HON F VINET:**

I beg to differ with the hon Member the staffing levels are connected to the commercial aspects of the company.

ORAL

NO. 1230 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**INCE'S HALL**

Can Government say how much has been spent giving a breakdown on the refurbishment of the Ince's Hall?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 1231 of 2005.

**NO. 1231 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**INCE'S HALL**

Can Government state what provisions have been made in the Ince's Hall refurbishment for disabled persons to access the Hall?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

A total of £49,609.85 has been spent to date, broken down as follows:-

Carpets and Curtains	-	£ 3,902.90
New seats	-	£13,492.86
Air Conditioning	-	£18,519.18
Refurbishment of toilets, staircase & lobby	-	£12,567.31
Mirrors, displays and posters	-	£ 1,127.60

I am informed that the Ince's Hall building poses particular technical problems, but we are nonetheless looking at what can be done in the next phase of the refurbishment programme so that disabled persons may have access to the hall.

**NO. 1232 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**YOUTH SERVICE - EXCHANGES**

Can Government state whether any youth exchanges have been organised this year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The Gibraltar Youth Service in partnership with Bracknell Youth Service in UK and as part of the Active Citizenship programme in Gibraltar organised one Youth Exchange trip in Bracknell, UK in 2005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1232 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

Can the Minister state what was the last one before this one?

**HON F VINET:**

No, I would require notice of that question.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Did the Government get any EU funding for this Youth Exchange?

**HON F VINET:**

My understanding is that no EU funding was provided.



ORAL

NO. 1233 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**YOUTH SERVICE – LEADERS COURSE**

Can Government state whether the qualifications obtained from the Youth Leaders course are accepted in the UK and/or the EU as a valid accreditation to conduct Youth work abroad?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 1234 of 2005.

**NO. 1234 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**YOUTH SERVICE – LEADERS COURSE**

Can Government state how many trainees have completed this year's Youth Leaders course and how many of those that completed are currently working within the Youth Service on a voluntary or professional capacity?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

This year eight persons undertook the part-time youth leaders course completed in July 2005. Three of these persons successfully completed and all are now working for the Gibraltar Youth Service as part-time youth leaders.

The part-time youth leaders course being delivered does not lead to valid accreditation from the UK or the EU to conduct youth work abroad. At present there are no courses available that provide such validation and/or accreditation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1233 AND 1234 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

When the Minister says there are no courses does he mean locally or generally?

**HON F VINET:**

I mean generally and certainly in the UK. The course being delivered follows that of the UK training practices developed in conjunction with the British Forces Youth Service. As I say, they use a similar course which is also not yet fully accredited or validated by the British Forces Youth Service itself.

ORAL

NO. 1235 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**HERITAGE ACTION COMMITTEE**

How often and on what dates has the Heritage Action Committee met since 21 September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 1236 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1236 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HERITAGE ACTION COMMITTEE**

What is the composition of the Heritage Action Committee as on 30 November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The Heritage Action Committee has met on two occasions, 21<sup>st</sup> September and 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

The composition of HAC is as follows:-

The Hon Fabian Vinet	-	Chairman
Professor Clive Finlayson MBE	-	Secretary
Cdr J L Ballantine OBE, RD, RNR (Retd.)		
Mr Dennis Beiso		
Mr Joe Desoisa		
Mr David Eveson		
Dr Darren Fa		
Mrs Geraldine Finlayson		
Mr Richard Garcia MBE		
Mr Paul Naughton-Rumbo		
Mr Paul Origo		
Mr Carl Viagas		
Ms Claire Valarino	-	Minutes Secretary

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1235 AND 1236 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is this the committee where heritage concerns are discussed between the Heritage Trust and the other organisations and the Government?

**HON F VINET:**

Yes, it is in fact a forum that allows the Heritage Trust to raise whichever grievances or issues they have directly with Government.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister confirm whether the issue of Rosia Tanks has been discussed in this committee?

**HON F VINET:**

The agendas are fairly lengthy, there are usually 14, 15, 20 different items on the agenda. The particular issue of Rosia has been raised as I recall once but not to any great extent.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Has the issue been raised at the meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> November, which is the only meeting that has taken place after the application for planning permission in relation to the Rosia Tanks development, can the Minister say whether the issue was raised and discussed in that particular meeting?

**HON F VINET:**

I cannot recall in all sincerity whether it was at that one or the 21<sup>st</sup> September one. In any case, it was a very generic discussion so that is the information I have available. I would have to check the minutes of the meetings in order to ascertain whether it was that one or the previous meeting.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

When the Minister says that it was generic, was it in relation to the proposed development at the Rosia Tanks for which planning permission was being sought or not?

**HON F VINET:**

Yes, the proposed development was referred to.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Was it the view of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust that that development should not be located in that particular site?

**HON F VINET:**

I think that question ought to be posed directly to the Heritage Trust and it is not for me to put in their words what they may or may not have said.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the view of the Government that the Rosia Tanks site has heritage value?

**HON F VINET:**

The question aims to elicit from me an opinion rather than facts and I would not like to comment any further.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The question simply seeks to elicit whether the Government consider that an area which was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century to supply what was essentially Gibraltar's naval base at that particular time, whether Government consider whether that area has heritage value or not. That is really a factual question.

**HON F VINET:**

There have been no discussions as to the particular heritage value or otherwise of the Rosia Tanks area itself. It is fair to say that Gibraltar is full of areas which have heritage value to a lesser or greater extent, as was the case for example of the Gas Works where the Vineyards Estate was built.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The construction of the Vineyards Estate in the Gas Works by the AACR is hardly a comparison with the 18<sup>th</sup> century supply area for the Napoleonic naval base, which is essentially what that area was. Can I ask the Minister whether he shares the view of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust that having this development overshadowing Parson's Lodge and the Victualling Yard would spoil the area and undermine our efforts to be considered as UNESCO World Heritage Site?

**HON F VINET:**

No, I do not share that view.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the view of the Government then that the Rosia Tanks area will not be spoiled by the construction of the building, will not overshadow Parson's Lodge and it will not affect the heritage of what remains of Rosia Bay and will also not affect our bid to be considered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

**HON F VINET:**

Yes, that is the view of Government.

ORAL

NO. 1237 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**HERITAGE – VICTUALLING YARD**

On what terms was the lease of the Victualling Yard given to the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and on what date did this happen?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 1238 of 2005.

**NO. 1238 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HERITAGE – VICTUALLING YARD**

What is the duration of the unexpired portion of the lease of the Victualling Yard which the Gibraltar Heritage Trust is being asked to surrender?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

A 20 year lease with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March 1996 was granted to the Trustees of the Friends of the Victualling Yard Charitable Trust on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1996, the consideration being the costs incurred in general works of improvement, restoration and preservation of the yard and the rent of one peppercorn per annum.

The residue of the term of the lease is 10 years 3 months. The lease will expire on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1237 AND 1238 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can I ask the Minister why the Heritage Trust are being asked to surrender the lease?

**HON F VINET:**

No, I have not been privy to negotiations between Government and the Trust.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Does the Minister know whether there are any plans for the development of that particular area?

**HON F VINET:**

No, there are no plans for this area that I can reveal today.



**NO. 1239 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HERITAGE – WORLD HERITAGE STATUS**

Can Government list the heritage assets which have been listed by the Heritage Division for inclusion in a possible bid for World Heritage Status?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

It is premature to reveal a list of properties prior to consideration and discussion by the Government.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1239 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The existence of the list was actually revealed by the Minister himself in his address to the Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Trust, is it that there are actually no items on the list at present and the list is still being drawn up, or has it not got to that stage yet?

**HON F VINET:**

The matter is still being considered at length by the Heritage Division, there have been no formal proposals put to Government at this stage.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Just to clarify, the proposals put to Government are made by the Heritage Division which is part of the Government?

**HON F VINET:**

The proposals are put by the Heritage Division to the political Government.

**NO. 1240 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HERITAGE – CASTLE GATEHOUSE**

Who will carry out the trial excavation soundings at the Castle Gatehouse starting this month and with what objective?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The soundings will be conducted out by Mr Francisco Giles Pacheco, archaeologist with great experience in the field and a person who has been involved in archaeological works on the Rock since 1994. The work will be supervised and monitored by the Director of the Gibraltar Museum and his staff.

The objective falls within the broad strategy of research into the medieval and late medieval urban heritage of the first city of Gibraltar. The Gatehouse has been the subject of vandalism over the years and the Heritage Division took steps to secure the site two years ago. The site presents a unique opportunity to understand the archaeology of the medieval castle of Gibraltar and will give insights into possible future work in the wider castle site once the prison is moved to its new location.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1240 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the archaeologist who is carrying out this work selected by the Government or who does the actual selection?

**HON F VINET:**

The archaeologist is selected by the Heritage Division with whom this gentleman has a professional relationship dating back to 1994.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can I ask the Minister how long the works are expected to take?

**HON F VINET:**

I would not like to hazard a guess, I have not been provided with that information.

**NO. 1241 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CULTURE – NEW YEAR’S EVE AND MISS GIBRALTAR 2006**

How many tenders have been received for:

- (a) the organisation, production and staging of the New Year’s Eve celebrations at Casemates Square; and
- (b) the organisation, production and staging of the Miss Gibraltar 2006 beauty contest;

who was the successful tenderer and what was the sum bid?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

With regard to the New Year’s Eve celebrations I have just been informed this morning that there have been three tenders received. The successful tenderer was Word of Mouth concert promoters and the sum being £34,819.96.

As far as the Miss Gibraltar 2006 beauty contest is concerned, this is still under consideration and I will inform the hon Member once the decision is made.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1241 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the Minister in a position to say how many tenderers there were for that or not?

**HON F VINET:**

I am not aware of the number of tenderers. I would also add, for the sake of clarity, if I recall prior to the deadline I think there were three but I am uncertain as to whether there was a late tenderer or not.

**NO. 1242 OF 2005****THE HON DR J J GARCIA****HERITAGE – HEAD 102 SUBHEAD 11**

How much of the £100,000 estimated expenditure for the financial year 2005/2006 shown as Head 102 Sub-Head 11 Heritage Projects has been spent as at 30 November 2005, with a breakdown showing the project, the amount and who the money was paid to?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The information requested by the hon Member is contained in the attached schedule.

**Answer to Question 1242/2005**

<b><u>PROJECTS</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>PAID TO</u></b>
Gibraltar Caves Project	£2825.00	Carlos
	£5321.00	A & M Scaffolding
	£42.00	Angora Ltd
	£18.00	GTR Technical Systems
	£337.32	Hire-U-Shop
	£4680.00	Subsistence for Excavation Personnel
	£3870.00	Emile Youth Hostel (Accommodation)
	£1170.00	The Retreat House Trust (Accommodation)
	£9862.66	IZASA S.A. (equipment)
	£1216.73	Customs (duty on equipment)
St Michael's Cave Painting Restoration	£2447.50	Eudald Guillamet
Museum Air Conditioning	£16514.00	Cold Aire Engineering

**Total**                      **£48304.21**

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1242 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The first item on the schedule, the way I read this, relates to Gibraltar Caves Project, amount £2,825 and it was paid to Carlos, who is that?

**HON F VINET:**

Carlos is the trading name of a shop in Main Street. I would assume that is the case otherwise there would be a surname attached to the forename.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Continuing the Minister's assumption, this must have been for equipment to use in the cave I suppose?

**HON F VINET:**

Yes, this is all for technical electronic equipment, specialised equipment dealing with the archaeological work at the caves.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The largest sum in relation to that project is nearly £10,000 that was paid to IZASA S.A. which is a Spanish company, what equipment does that relate to and on what equipment was that amount used to buy?

**HON F VINET:**

All the equipment listed under Gibraltar Caves Project is technical, scientific equipment to do with the archaeological excavation works there. I do not know what the exact equipment is, I have no difficulty in providing the hon Member with a more detailed breakdown. At this stage I do not know what the particular equipment is.

ORAL

**NO. 1243 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**GIBRALTAR BUS COMPANY LIMITED**

Can Government state the number of paying passengers that were transported and the value of fares collected from these passengers by the Gibraltar Bus Company Limited in October and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The passengers carried were as follows:

October 2005	127,241, an increase of 37 per cent over October 2004
November 2005	110,069, an increase of 12 per cent over November 2004

The value of fares was:

October 2005	£80,332
November 2005	£69,174

ORAL

NO. 1244 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSING DEPARTMENT**

Can Government provide an update on the status of the dispute regarding Examiners at the Motor Vehicle Licensing Department?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The dispute has been satisfactorily resolved.



ORAL

**NO. 1245 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**EMPLOYMENT – UNEMPLOYED GIBRALTARIANS**

Can Government give a breakdown of male and female unemployed Gibraltarians aged 18 and over in the months of October to November 2005 receiving:

- (a) Unemployment Benefit;
- (b) Social Assistance;

no payments giving a further breakdown of sex in each age group?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1246 and 1247 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1246 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**EMPLOYMENT – VACANCIES FILLED**

Can Government provide in respect of each month of this year the breakdown by industry and nationality of the vacancies filled?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1245 and 1247 of 2005.

**NO. 1247 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EMPLOYMENT – RESIDENCE PERMITS**

Can Government state as at 30<sup>th</sup> November how many non-EU males aged 65 and over and females aged 60 and over are registered as seeking employment and have been given Residence Permits to continue in Gibraltar for this purpose?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The statistics that have been requested are produced on a quarterly basis. Therefore the information sought will be available during the course of January 2006.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1245 TO 1247 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Minister must be aware that in fact when it has been given in the House, although the totals are the same as is published the breakdown that has been provided is in fact more detailed than that that is published in the summary of the press releases that are produced quarterly. Is he saying that he can provide it after the end of the year in that format?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

What I am trying to say is that once the figures for this quarter, which will obviously be covering the period October/November/December, will be available in January I can make that information available to him, the details that he requests. Now he can either subsequently ask another question in this House or we can have an undertaking that I send him the information in writing, whatever he prefers.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In respect of Question No. 1247 of 2005, that is not something that is going to be published in January I figure?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, that is why I say I am happy to answer a subsequent question in the House or I am able to write to him with the information when that becomes available.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can he say how many non-EU nationals were seeking employment at a date other than 30<sup>th</sup> November, does he have a figure at all?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, I do not have any figures available here but I can actually give him the information in writing if he so wishes after the quarterly information has been compiled, and this can be done as at 30<sup>th</sup> October/November but it is done on a quarterly basis.

ORAL

NO. 1248 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**CREMATORIUM**

Can Government say who has conducted the EIA into the Crematorium project and at what cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1249 to 1251 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1249 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**EASTSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

Can Government say whether the Environmental Impact Assessment into the Eastside project has now been completed and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1248, 1250 and 1251 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1250 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

Can Government say whether Environmental Impact Assessments will be required for the projects by OEM at North Gorge, Buena Vista, Cumberland Road and Rosia Tanks?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1248, 1249 and 1251 of 2005.

**NO. 1251 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MID-TOWN PROJECT**

Can Government list all the grounds contained in the Screening Opinion submitted by the Town Planner which led him to recommend that there should be an Environmental Impact Assessment into the Mid-Town project?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The decision in respect of the Mid-Town Project was that an Environmental Impact Assessment was not required. This was stated in answer to Question No. 829 of 2005. The advice and opinions of officials to Ministers and to the Development and Planning Commission is confidential and will not be provided in answer to questions in this House.

No EIA has yet been carried out in respect of the Crematorium project.

The EIA in respect of the Eastside project has not yet been completed.

At the date that answers to the questions were prepared, no application for planning permission had been received in respect of the Buena Vista and North Gorge projects. In consequence, the issue of whether or not there is a need for an Environmental Impact Assessment does not arise.

The Town Planner has determined that there is no requirement for an EIA in respect of the Rosia Tanks and the Cumberland Road applications.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1248 TO 1251 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Given that when we discussed the Environmental Impact Assessment issue into the Mid-Town Project, the Government freely explained that although the Town Planner had given an opinion in favour of such an environmental impact assessment it was the view of the DPC as a whole that it did not carry enough weight or they were not going to go along with it and it is only as a result of that there is no environmental impact assessment, not because the Town Planner did not recommend it. Again, this information already came out in the House at the last meeting, why is it confidential today?



**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, I think I need to explain to the hon Member what the procedure is. The Town Planner on any form of application, especially on major projects, carries out his own assessment as to whether there should be or not an environmental impact assessment. Then on the strength of that he prepares a scoping opinion which is basically an opinion as to whether an EIA should be conducted or not. Then it is up to the Minister statutorily to decide whether this EIA or not goes ahead. I take the view that it is sometimes too much of a responsibility in a sense of taking a view as to whether to allow the EIA to be conducted or not, and therefore I practice the idea of putting it to members of the Development and Planning Commission as to whether what they feel and I get feedback from them before I make my own decision. On this particular matter a scoping report was produced because obviously this is a major project, and it was put to me for consideration and I felt that even though I had my own views on the matter that the members of the Development and Planning Commission ought to have the opportunity to be briefed on the matter and express a view. Based on that I took my own view on the matter and in this particular case, the scoping report was put to the Development and Planning Commission and they took the view that there was no need for an environmental impact assessment to be conducted and therefore, an environmental impact assessment was not conducted after my own decision was taken.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Was it the case nonetheless that in the scoping report produced by the Town Planner as his own opinion and anything else the Minister has explained, that report actually recommended there should be an EIA taking place? That is what we discussed last time and I understood the Minister had confirmed.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Let me say that these scoping reports do not actually say yes or nay, normally it is a view and basically the Town Planner, obviously with his experience and knowledge, puts across a set of views to both sides so that a balance and accurate assessment can be taken by somebody like myself who has no experience or expertise in this particular area. I sometimes do discuss these verbally with him in order to gauge what he feels but I do not think that the Government have taken the view, scoping opinions are not really for the public because it would open up a lot of debate on issues as to whether or not an environmental impact assessment ought to take place or not.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the case then that the Town Planner did not actually say that there should not be an EIA into this particular development either?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, absolutely. The scoping report does not actually go and say, 'you must have a scoping report, you must have an EIA'. There are times when he is very convinced of that and there is no area of doubt, in which case I would not even take it to the

Development and Planning Commission, I would take the decision myself, like for example in the Eastside Project, but if there is a wide range of issues which basically do not give a categorical opinion one way or the other, then I normally take the view of taking it to the Commission for the Commission to have their own view and express those views to me as well.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I accept that that is what the Minister said in his previous answer but it is not the answer he gave at the beginning that the impression was that it was actually the Town Planner himself had also recommended there should not be an EIA into the project. The fact is that he did not recommend that there should be or that there should not be, that is the position as I have understood it given his last answer. That is not what he said at the beginning.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I need to clarify, again for those who may not have understood clearly, the scoping report, scoping opinion prepared by the Town Planner does not actually in some cases give a definitive recommendation one way or the other, and that is left for the Minister with responsibility for Planning to actually decide on whether an environmental impact assessment ought to be done or not. In this case, whenever there is doubt in my mind as to whether there should be one or not, the Development and Planning Commission is consulted in order for me to have a wider range of views expressed and not just the opinion of the Town Planner himself.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

There were a number of questions taken together so I will be referring to some of the others now. The answer the Minister gave in relation to the environmental impact assessment into the Eastside Project, although it is not yet completed, can the Minister say whether a target date has been set for its completion, is this completion imminent or what is the situation?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The completion was due to have been done some time in November, in other words last month. This date was extended until mid-February and again there is a possibility of some slippage there as a result of the fact that some of the surveys that are being conducted as part of the EIA have taken longer to present to the main body of consultants that are undertaking the EIA on behalf of the developer. We are hopeful that the slippage may be a month or two after February next year.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Previously we have discussed in this House the question of the Spanish request for participation in the environmental impact assessments or the environmental effects of the Eastside Project, is that something which has happened at this stage or will happen at a later stage? Is the Minister in a position to shed some light on this question?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

When an EIA is conducted a wide cross-section of representative bodies, associations and anybody who feels are in some way affected by this are consulted, and I know that there has already been consultation with a number of parties in this respect. I think there are still more parties to be consulted and allow input into this scheme.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

When the Minister says that parties have been consulted and more will be consulted, does he mean parties in Gibraltar or parties in Spain?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The consultation is being done with local entities and nowhere else.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1250 of 2005, which was requesting information as to whether an EIA was needed on the projects at North Gorge, Buena Vista, Cumberland Road and Rosia Tanks, the Minister replied that the North Gorge and Buena Vista projects had not formally applied for planning permission at this stage. In the other two cases the information was that an environmental impact assessment did not arise into Rosia Tanks or Cumberland Terraces. Can the Minister say whether any other type of assessment, for example a heritage assessment is something which would be done in this particular instance or not?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, in respect of Buena Vista and North Gorge, as I have already said, that would be considered by the Town Planner when an outline application is made by the developers. In respect of Rosia Tanks and the ex-Cumberland building site, that has had the benefit of the Town Planner carrying out an assessment and he has determined that there is no need for an environmental impact assessment to be undertaken by the developers. As far as consultation on heritage matters, these are issues that are discussed by the Development and Planning Commission because the Gibraltar Heritage Trust is represented there so their views are taken on board.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I do not think the views of the Heritage Trust are taken on board in relation to the Rosia Tanks project. The Minister has just said that the Town Planner himself has determined that there should not be environmental impact assessments into the Rosia Tanks or Cumberland Terraces. Did he not say in answer to previous questions that this went up to the Minister and the Minister would then take a decision, because there was a statutory responsibility as to whether there should be an EIA or whether there should not, and that the Town Planner had made no recommendations simply stating the pros and the cons of the project?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, if the Town Planner feels that there is no pros and cons, in other words, that there should not be an environmental impact assessment, he does not even notify me as Minister whether there should be an environmental impact assessment. He just raises the issue with me of an environmental impact assessment if he feels that there are issues that ought to be considered for a possible EIA but not otherwise.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We seem to be getting two different answers to the same question from the Minister. Just before the last supplementary from my Colleague he said, 'the Town Planner has determined there should not be an EIA in this case'. Now is it that he has determined that there should not be or is it that he is unsure whether there should be or should not be and has therefore put to the Minister the arguments for and against. Which of the two is it? He seems to be telling us both things in answer to the same question.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not think that is correct. In respect of the Rosia Tanks and Cumberland application, the Town Planner has determined that there should not be an EIA because he does not feel that there are any issues that give rise for him to even give consideration to an EIA. Now if he had thought that there would have been issues of concern that would have been for consideration for an EIA, he would have issued a scoping report where he would have raised some of the issues that were of concern to him and would have given me a balancing situation as to pros and cons in respect of the scheme. Then I would have taken the view as to whether his recommendation was something that was valid or something that I wanted further input from the Development and Planning Commission. I hope that clarifies what the procedure is because there is only one procedure and I hope I am not confusing the issue.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Therefore, in the case of Rosia Tanks the situation is that it has not gone to the Planning Commission at all.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, well a scoping opinion is done internally but it has not been submitted to me for consideration because he does not feel that there are issues that require an environmental impact assessment.

ORAL

NO. 1252 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

How many meetings of the Development and Planning Commission have taken place since 1 September 2005 and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1305 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1253 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

Can Government list the applications for planning permission in respect of projects that have been granted and rejected since the last meeting of the Development and Planning Commission on 1 September 2005 showing those that are still under consideration, including the name of the applicant and of the project in question?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

**Answer to Question 1253**

Application Type	Site Address	Decision	Name
Formal building application	Old Naval Hospital Site Naval Hospital Road	Approved	Hopefield Properties
Formal building application	2 Victualling Office Lane	Approved	M E Bellio & Partners
Demolition building application	Chatham Counterguard	Pending	Government Project (C Viagas)
Demolition building application	Sir Herbert Miles Road Both Worlds	Approved	ABCO International Limited
Minor Works building application	Minor works building application	Approved	Bay Management Limited
Outline planning application	Queensway Quay	Pending	Andrew Kent & Stone (AKS)
Outline planning application	5 Hargrave's Parade	Pending	AKS
Outline planning application	60B Sunrise Motel Devil's Tower Road	Refused	AKS
Formal building application	19 Flat Bastion Road	Pending	W Gomez
Formal building application	129/131 Main Street	Approved	Green Clover Holdings
Demolition building application	Ex MOT Centre North Mole Road	Approved	M E Bellio & Partners
Minor works building application	83 Rosia Dale	Approved	D & T Conroy
Formal building application	58/1 Engineer Lane	Approved	Lawrence Stagnetto
Formal building application	Ex Crag Bottling Plant North Mole Rd	Pending	AKS
Minor works building application	1 Fish Market Road	Pending	L Stagnetto Limited
Minor works building application	Casemates Square	Pending	Cool Blues Limited
Minor works building application	18/19 Lathbury Barracks Industrial Park	Pending	Messrs Minimarkets
Minor works building application	5/6 International Commercial Centre	Pending	Space Projects
Minor works building application	28/30 Medview Terrace Catalan Bay	Pending	Mr Diego Mena
Minor works building application	1 South Barrack Mews	Pending	AKS
Minor works building application	Second Floor Regal House	Approved	Party Gaming, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Bldg 7 Europort
Minor works building application	The Tower Marina Bay	Pending	Ibex Insurance Neptune House
Formal building application	Caleta Hotel Sir Herbert Miles Road	Pending	AKS
Formal building application	Gala International Casino Europa Road	Pending	Gala Group Limited
Minor works building application	8 Transport Lane	Pending	M L Romero
Formal building application	Second Floor Regal House	Approved	Bay Management Limited
Minor works building application	309 Main Street	Pending	Risso Limited
Minor works building application	Glacis Road	Pending	PCG Group Overseas Limited
Formal building application	14/7 South Barracks Ramp	Pending	M Chipolina & Ms Trico
Formal building application	9 Willis's Road	Pending	Natalie Montegriffo
Demolition building application	Victualling Yard	Pending	GJBS Limited
Minor works building application	306 Devil's Tower Rd Wellington Court	Approved	Drusilla Caballero
Formal building application	1/5 Imossi House 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Irish Town	Approved	Timbercove
Demolition building application	2 Buena Vista Road	Pending	AKS
Minor works building application	Leanse Place Town Range	Approved	Victor Chandler
Minor works building application	221/222 Mauretania Both Worlds	Approved	Mr L Rigby
Outline planning application	Rosia Water Tanks Rosia Road	Pending	OEM Rosia Developments Limited
Minor works building application	Hambro House Line Wall Road	Pending	Space Projects
Outline planning permission	Ex Cumberland Building Cumberland Rd	Pending	OEM Cumberland Developments
Demolition building application	Old Substation Sir Herbert Miles Road	Pending	The Gibraltar Government
Formal building application	215B Marks & Spencer Main Street	Pending	M E Bellio & Partners
Outline planning application	Europort Avenue	Pending	Jehovah's Christian Witnesses
Minor works building application	15D-1 Baudelaire House Town Range	Pending	Mike Clarke
Minor works building application	12/1 Buena Vista Barracks	Pending	AKS
Minor works building application	126/128 Main Street	Pending	Mr S Mahtani
Minor works building application	Europort	Pending	Europort Int. Holdings Limited
Minor works building application	6/8 Library Street	Pending	Broadbay Co Limited
Minor works building application	6a Gardiner's Road	Pending	Dr Ron Coram
Minor works building application	Victualling Yard	Pending	GJBS
Outline planning application	1/3A Bedlam Court	Pending	Sharrock Shand Holdings Limited
Minor works building application	30 Parliament Lane	Pending	Messrs Paradiso Limited
Minor works building application	Suite 801 Europort	Approved	WSRM Architects
Minor works building application	56/58 Irish Town	Pending	Pizzaghetti Factory
Formal building application	47 Europa Road	Pending	Manuel Peralta
Formal building application	19A Halifax Road	Pending	J B Engineering Consultants

Contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1253**

Application Type	Site Address	Decision	Name
Formal building application	55 Flat Bastion Road	Pending	J B Engineering Consultants
Minor works building application	101 Wellington Court	Approved	Mr & Mrs P C Graham
Minor works building application	15 Line Wall Road	Pending	Arthur Ferrary
Minor works building application	Unit 7 & 8 Ocean Heights	Pending	R Shukla
Minor works building application	604 Wellington Court	Approved	Erika Wainwright
Minor works building application	94/96 Irish Town	Approved	M Cabedo
Minor works building application	158 Main Street	Pending	H D Mahtani
Formal building application	19-37 Castle Ramp	Pending	Carl Viagas
Formal building application	1 Parody's Passage 19/21 Castle Ramp	Pending	Mr & Mrs Carl Viagas
Minor works building application	2 Blackwood Tower Brympton	Pending	Mr & Mrs Jones
Minor works building application	12 Town Range	Pending	Mr Richard Almeida
Minor works building application	Leanse Place Town Range	Pending	Victor Chandler Worldwide
Minor works building application	503 Both Worlds	Pending	Mr Chris Homewood
Formal building application	14 John Mackintosh Square	Pending	WSRM Architects
Minor works building application	3 Mayfair Close Montagu Crescent	Pending	William Gomez
Minor works building application	2 Hamilton Court Harbour Views	Pending	Mr & Mrs D C Segovia
Formal building application	33 Naval Hospital Road Admiral's Place	Pending	AKS
Minor works building application	King's Wharf Queensway	Pending	King's Wharf Limited
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>



ORAL

NO. 1254 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**ELIOTT HOTEL**

Has planning permission been granted to the Elliott Hotel to construct a multi-storey annexe and if so have any changes been requested to the project from the plans that were originally submitted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1255 to 1259 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1255 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**LOQUAT HOUSE**

Can Government say whether the Development and Planning Commission has now granted planning permission or rejected the application for the construction of a swimming pool at Loquat House, South Pavilion and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1254 and 1256 to 1259 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1256 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PLANNING PERMISSION TO OVP LTD**

Further to Question 840 of 2005, has the application for planning permission made by OVP Ltd now been granted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1254, 1255 and 1257 to 1259 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1257 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**CREMATORIUM**

Has planning permission now been granted to the Crematorium project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1254 to 1256, 1258 and 1259 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1258 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**CLINICAL WASTE INCINERATOR**

Has planning permission now been granted to the Clinical Waste Incinerator project and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1254 to 1257 and 1259 of 2005.

**NO. 1259 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PLANNING PERMISSION TO OEM LTD**

Has planning permission been granted to OEM in respect of the following projects and if so when:

- (a) North Gorge;
- (b) Buena Vista;
- (c) Rosia Tanks
- (d) Cumberland Road?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

At the time of preparation of the replies to these questions, planning permission had not yet been granted to the Clinical Waste Incinerator and Crematorium project, the multi-storey annex to the Elliott Hotel, Ocean Village Properties Limited, Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road, even though obviously it is now common knowledge that Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road have been given outline planning permission.

Planning permission to construct a swimming pool at Loquat House was granted on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

No application for planning permission has been received in respect of North Gorge and Buena Vista.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1254 TO 1259 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1259 of 2005, which raises the planning permission issues in relation to OEM, the two that have been granted out of the four sites are Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road. The Minister is on record as having said that the decision was made by majority, can he give the figures in relation to that majority?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, that is not possible, the voting of the members of the Development and Planning Commission is confidential to the members there and cannot be made public.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say how many members sit on the Development and Planning Commission?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I believe that there are nine voting members, although there are some members that sit and do not have a vote and mainly are officials from the Planning Department who actually sit at the meetings but they do not have a vote. Nine vote.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Out of the nine people who sit on the Development and Planning Commission who are voting members of it, how many of those are Government Ministers or Government Officials?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

There are two Ministers on the Development and Planning Commission, there are three officials and there is a member of the MOD, there is a member of GONHS, a member of the Heritage Trust and I would not know whether to classify the Managing Director of LPS as a Government Official or not because it is a Government Agency.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

So in effect when the Minister spoke of majority the two Government Ministers and the three officials alone already would allow for a Government majority anyway without taking into account the Managing Director of the Government agency. The question relates to the planning permission awarded to OEM in respect of this site, I have a question in relation to the actual company to which the Government have awarded without tender these two sites at Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road. My question relates to the shareholding of the company itself, it is public information that OEM International Limited has 1,000 shares, 500 of which are owned by Prime Nominees Limited and the other 500 by Prime Securities Limited, are the Government aware who the beneficial owners of these shares actually are?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The beneficial owner I think has been made public. The beneficial owner is Mr Robert Noonan who is a major property developer with interest in the UK, Ireland and Spain, I believe in America as well, and OEM International I would not know whether one would legally say is part of but it is definitely associated with OEM plc which is a plc company in the UK. Now whether the strictly legal relationship is one of being an

associate or being a parent company or otherwise I would not be able to say, but definitely it is Mr Robert Noonan who is the beneficial owner.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The reason for the question obviously is that they are considerable sites, they are four sites in all but I have questions in relation to two of them and the actual information of the company does not show who these shareholders are. Are there any local interests involved or is this purely entirely shares held by Robert Noonan insofar as the Government are aware?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Not that the Government are aware of, the Government believe that the shares are held by Robert Noonan in its totality.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The position at present in relation to the projects which OEM is responsible for is that two have been granted planning permission and two are awaiting the application for planning permission, the ones for North Gorge and Buena Vista. Given that North Gorge and Buena Vista were actually the two sites that were put out to tender and that Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road were added to the tender afterwards, can the Government explain, it is obviously a peculiar position because they have actually applied for planning permission for the ones which they did not tender for and which were not part of the original contract, can the Government explain what would happen in the situation where the developer pursues the last two and not the first two? In other words, the ones that they were not awarded a tender for and not the ones that they were.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think the hon Member has made a statement which is incorrect. The tender went out for North Gorge and Buena Vista with one of the conditions being that the North Gorge was for affordable housing in order to be able to ensure that at least part of that land was available for affordable housing. The tender was submitted and in that submission OEM decided that they would bid a financial consideration for those two pieces of land and in addition to that said that they had recently acquired one of the sites themselves, that is the Cumberland Building, for a sum and therefore belonged to them and they asked that in order to meet the economies of scale in the affordable housing and in order to meet certain targets of pricing as far as affordable housing is concerned, they asked the Government whether the Government would be able to make available to them an additional piece of land in order for them to build at least 200 of these affordable housing units, and this was part of their tender submission. Now, the Government could have turned round and decided to go another way and accept another of the bids that was on the tender table for consideration but the Government decided on the merits of the scheme and the merits of the financial consideration, but most important on the merits of the fact that we were going to be able to develop 900 affordable housing units, the Government went down the route of identifying the Rosia Tanks as that possible site that was up for development. This was not a site that the developers had earmarked as part of their tender, they



submitted a tender where they had actually bid for any land, we could have given them land anywhere, to be able to build 200 affordable housing and we in turn decided that that would be a site that was suitable for that particular purpose.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I do not think that anything in my original intervention is inaccurate. The Minister has confirmed that the inclusion of Cumberland Road was part of the tender submission made by the applicant but it certainly was not part of the tender process or the tender conditions, and it was certainly not something which was advertised in the two official notices and which was mentioned in the Government press releases that were issued even after the tender award. It was only much later on in the process that we found out that Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road were to be included in this development at all. Certainly, for the Minister to stand up in this House and confirm that Rosia Tanks was identified by the Government themselves and not by the developer does not say much for the Government in terms of their often professed concerns for Gibraltar's heritage. My original question was, is the developer in a position to proceed with Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road, for which they already have planning permission, without North Gorge and Buena Vista which was the original tender that they submitted or was advertised?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

There are premiums that have been paid and are to be paid to start with which if they did not proceed with the site the Government would have obtained a premium and I do not think they would have been short of developers to develop the North Gorge and Buena Vista, judging by the interest at the time of the tender and some of the bids that were submitted. Therefore, the Government are not going to find themselves in a difficult situation by the fact that the developers may decide to develop one site and not the other. The whole process, as one can well imagine, is a major series of developments that need time and therefore they have decided to start on what they feel are the easier. The Cumberland Building site and the Rosia Tanks is a flat site, it does not need a lot of surveying and studies that need to go into it as for example North Gorge and Buena Vista, but in the agreement that we have with OEM there is a detailed programme of dates by which these things must happen and so far everything has been complied with in terms of the master agreement.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

When the Government got the tender proposals from OEM in which they put forward the idea of doing 200 more housing units provided land other than the one that they had bid for was included, did the Government think of re-opening the bids on the basis of seeing what other people could do? Presumably from the answer we have had the only one who came up with this idea was OEM, other people just limited themselves, all these competing bids they told us and the level of interest was exclusively for North Gorge and Buena Vista I take it? If so, do the Government think that it might be in their interests to find out what would be the response from other people if they were given an opportunity of doing more houses on a different site, which need not have been as we now know Rosia Tanks because that was not something that the developer wanted?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the Government gave consideration to what the hon Member is saying but the difference between the bids that had been submitted by OEM and others was such a huge gap that it would not have served the purpose. We are talking of a number of millions of pounds between the highest bidder and the second bidder. In fact, OEM had actually bid money for the site itself, the additional site, it was not that they asked for a free piece of land. The site was for a fixed price for the Buena Vista and North Gorge and then offered a £1 million premium for one site and another £1 million premium for the site that they owned for the right of being able to develop. So therefore the difference on the financial aspect was so huge that there was no way that re-tendering would have opened up the possibility of financial benefits to the Government at all.

ORAL

NO. 1260 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**MID-TOWN PROJECT**

Can Government say whether the construction of the tower and residential blocks of the Mid-Town project had the support of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and GONHS?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1261 of 2005.

**NO. 1261 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**MID-TOWN PROJECT**

What were the conclusions of the aeronautical study carried out by Halcrow Group Ltd into the Mid-Town project at the request of the RAF?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

In answer to Question No. 829 of 2005, I stated that the aeronautical study in connection with the Mid-Town project was commissioned by the developer at the request of the RAF and not the Government. I further stated that Government's interest is simply in the result of the study, namely that there should not be any negative impact on Gibraltar's airport arising from the development. The Government have been informed that the Halcrow aeronautical study has not found any negative impact on Gibraltar's airport arising from the development.

It is not Government policy to state how individual members of the Development and Planning Commission vote in relation to matters coming before the Commission.

ORAL

**NO. 1262 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PLANNING PERMISSION TO OEM LTD**

How many objections were received by the DPC in relation to the application for planning permission by:

- (a) OEM Cumberland Developments Ltd at Cumberland Road;
- (b) OEM Rosia Developments Ltd at Rosia Tanks?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1312 and 1313 of 2005.

**NO. 1263 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Can Government say whether the recommendations to the draft Gibraltar Development Plan made by Land Use Consultants of Bristol have now been considered both by the Government and the Development and Planning Commission?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1263 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Are the Government in a position to say when those recommendations will be considered?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The Government and the Development and Planning Commission are not going to be considering the recommendations made by Land Use Consultants, they do not have any role or any representation to be made to them. I think that the line of questioning makes me feel that the hon Member does not really understand why this Land Use Consultants of Bristol have been commissioned to actually carry an EIA on the draft development plan. This is something that we as a Planning Department have decided to conduct in order to ensure that whatever is in the Development Plan actually conforms to aspects that do not contravene any environmental, negative impact and so therefore it is just a safety net for the draft Development Plan and not for the Government or DPC to actually give any consideration to.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

My line of questioning and my level of understanding reflects what the Minister has been saying in this House. That is why the question has been tabled, as a follow-up to the previous question which he answered without difficulty. Can the Minister then

say when this plan is expected to be in place, given that we run the risk that whatever environmental dangers there may be with the developments that are happening, that the developments will all be in place by the time the Plan has been enacted?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Before I answer the question I would just like to clarify that what is being considered by the Government and then the Development and Planning Commission is actually the draft Development Plan before it goes out to public participation, not the actual draft or the Land Use Consultant's environmental report on the Development Plan. That is part and parcel of the exercise that the Town Planning Department is doing in the preparation of this Development Plan and does not form part of the actual documentation.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I understand that. Is it not the case that the Town Planning Department is part of the Government, it is not a separate entity?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

If the Town Planning Department, in the context of the question, yes, obviously the Town Planning Department has considered the draft land development consultant report all through the process. As far as the Development Plan is concerned, that is currently with the Government giving it consideration and will be going to DPC for consideration very shortly and then public participation. Once the public participation have finished and the Government have decided to incorporate or not the recommendations made under this, then Land Use Consultants of Bristol will then be re-assessing the final version of the report in order to ensure that it is environmentally compliant.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Is the Minister telling us in sum total of all the questions we have heard in answers so far and the last one that all the objections in respect of the proposed developments at Rosia Tanks et cetera, all the objections received by the DPC were dealt with by the Commission by way of proposing amendments to the scheme which the objectors then accepted dealt with their objections, or were they otherwise withdrawn, is that what he is telling us? In the answers that the Minister gave earlier he said that there was no way of differentiating between objections and a number of objections had been received which were identical. Is he telling us that the Commission took on board those objections and amended the scheme in a manner which was in keeping with those objections so that the objectors then said, 'we are satisfied our objections do not stand', or that the objections have otherwise been withdrawn and that therefore the DPC went ahead and granted permissions without those objections?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the objections have not been withdrawn. I never said that the objections had been withdrawn, what I did say I think was that the objections are taken on board and

the Commission decide whether to allow a scheme to go forward, be it as presented or amended, once it has given consideration to the objections that are put in place. It does not mean that the objections are taken on board and then the scheme is subsequently amended. It could be that the objections that have been submitted are not taken on board and that will be known when the outline planning permission is actually, although we may accept the scheme, the scheme sometimes are approved with amendments. I know the Government made a statement to the effect that they had reached agreement with the developers in order to alter the scheme, that has not been given any consideration by the Development and Planning Commission because there is no such amendment before the Commission for consideration. We have considered the application on the merits of what is before us which is the original application. I hope that clarifies.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Yes, I appreciate that but was notice of that meeting given to all of the objectors, was 14 days notice of the meeting of the DPC given to all of the objectors whose objection stood?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Well I assume that the Town Planner has done so, I cannot confirm. This is an administrative procedure which I am sure that the Town Planner, I know that the Town Planner replies or at least acknowledges all the objections that are submitted before any planning application, and I assume he carries out the requirements if what the hon Member says is something that is statutory and needs to be followed. I have not got a copy of the Ordinance here in front of me and I assume that if he does have a statutory obligation he would have followed that procedure in the same way as he follows all others.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The whole point is this, the legislation actually provides that individuals are entitled to attend and be heard, is that not the way that we can determine who it is that appears before the Commission and who does not? If it is 400, 4,000 or any more.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think that he will probably find that the same Ordinance does say that the Commission has the ability to determine whether it hears or does not hear any particular, or does it not?

**HON F R PICARDO:**

What is very clear from the Ordinance is that the Commission shall consider written statements of the objectors and the objectors should be given not less than 14 days notice and the objector or his authorised representative may attend such a meeting, and if he desires shall be heard.



**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I take the point that the hon Member says but I would probably like to get some legal advice, he is a lawyer and I am not. I assume that the practice has been for the Commission not to give consideration to objectors to be making representations. I assume that that is something that has been done according to the law now for some time but I would like to make sure that is the case and probably later on in the Session will be able to clarify the matter.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I appreciate the Minister's candour. Can I ask him now that the project appears no longer to be going ahead as a 10 storey development but as an eight storey development, will there be a need for the DPC to consider the amended project that the developer and the Government as landlord will be putting before it?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the outline planning will be issued as per the original application because DPC had actually accepted a 10 storey building. What will actually happen is that the developer, who now have a commitment with the Government to amend its project, will actually be submitting a full planning application and therefore, at that stage, they will have the opportunity to make the relevant amendment. There is no need for it to go through the outline planning again.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

In that case I will just leave it on the basis that the Minister will come back in relation to the issue I have just pointed out.

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**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I would just like to clarify a point that was made this morning by the Hon Fabian Picardo in respect of the ability of objectors to be able to make representations to the Development and Planning Commission and then have a right to be heard personally and not just restrict themselves to making a written representation. I have now had the matter looked into and I am advised that the section of the law which the hon Member was referring to this morning refers to Part 3 of the Town Planning Ordinance, which refers to planning schemes. Planning schemes means any plan or plans prepared from the direction of the Commission under section 5, and includes any written statement or explanation forming part thereof, and therefore does not refer to a planning application like we were discussing this morning which is subjected to Part 4 of building control under the same Town Planning Ordinance. If he refers to section 22 of that particular section of the law, under section 22(3) it says, 'in determining any application for planning permission for development of a part to which section 19 applies, the Commission shall take into account any written representation for or against the grant of a permit relating to that application which are received by them before the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the date of the application or the advertisement, whichever is the latter'. Therefore I do not think that there is any doubt on the Government side of the House that objectors

have any right to be able to make representations to the Commission in person as had been alluded to by the hon Member this morning. I presume that due to the fact that at a moment's impulse he jumped to get the law and he probably read into the wrong section, therefore I hope that he will be able to clarify the matter from his perspective.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I am grateful for the Minister having looked at that particular section. As I told him when I made the interjection the set of Ordinances that is on the Opposition side is not updated and I referred to the set which the House have and that is updated very quickly in order to be able to deal with the point that was being raised. He is right to say that the section that I pointed him to deals with planning schemes and not with applications for planning permission before the Planning Commission. Those, he rightly says, are to be dealt with under section 22 and there is there no right for individuals to be heard as there would be in relation to planning schemes. I am very grateful for him having pointed that out. This brings me in particular to section 22 which is the section that deals with, as he has told us, the way that these applications should be dealt with. What that says is that the Commission, at section 22(1), in dealing with an application for planning permission shall be guided by the provisions of the approved planning scheme then current, and by any other material considerations, one of them obviously is the right to object in sub-section (3). Will the Minister not accept that there is no planning scheme to which there could have been objections or any public input in respect of that part of Gibraltar, and that that is one of the problems that this particular project we were dealing with will be labouring under, that people have not had the right to make representations as to what should happen in that area for the planning scheme. In this House, on a number of occasions, he has been pressed by my hon Colleague in respect of when there is going to be a new City Plan for Gibraltar, which would be one of those planning schemes.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The last Development Plan, which is the one that we all have to abide by, actually confirms that the development of residential houses is possible and therefore there is no issue as to what the Development Plan says or should say.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

That of course would be a perfectly acceptable explanation if it were not that the conditions of tender for the site opposite in exactly the same area, which is the Anchorage Development, actually says 'the redevelopment should focus on the premise that the area is over-developed as a residential area and under-developed as a local and tourist asset'. On what possible basis can the Minister then tell us that adding a ten or eight storey building there is in keeping with the Planning Scheme?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, it is in keeping with the Planning Scheme. Governments can change their minds and that original tender I think included the Victualling Yard as a redevelopment site, which we then withdrew from that tender and then gave out

again. But the tender from which he is just reading envisaged the development of the Victualling Yard, I do not remember I may be wrong, I think it was a hotel and also the Rosia Bay. The things that were put out with the Anchorage site were the Victualling Yard land site so to speak, now controversially in question, and also proposals were invited for the old Swimming Club, the old Rosia Swimming Club. So that tender envisaged the development of that site. Now the issue that the Minister was addressing was whether or not there was in law a right for objectors to be heard at an oral hearing of the DPC. I think we can all more or less agree that that is not the case. Everything else that he has said is just revisiting the issues. Now I do not know what view the hon Members have when their only public statements in relation to these schemes relate to the fact that the site was not included in the original tender. I do not think the hon Members have expressed any criticism of the erection of that site there. In fact I think they have been careful not to do so. Whether the hon Member's submission signals that or whether he is simply saying 'Government have obviously changed their minds', in which case fine, Governments can change their minds.

ORAL

**NO. 1264 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EASTSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

When do Government expect the surveys currently being carried out in connection with the Eastside Project to be completed so that it will be possible to establish what will be the marine depth and the maximum distance from the present shoreline that will be reclaimed when the area of land is extended?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No. 1265 of 2005.

**NO. 1265 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EASTSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

Can Government clarify whether the 6 year time limit on the granting of a lease for the Eastside development will apply to the completion of the whole scheme or the completion of the land reclamation part of the scheme?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The surveys in question are not being carried out by the Government but by the developer. The Government nevertheless hope that the surveys will be completed by the spring of 2006.

The six year time limit on the granting of the lease applies to the completion of the "required scheme", which includes the Marina, the hotel, 500 apartments, the boutique cruise liner terminal, the cruise liner berth, the Eastern Beach car park and the temporary Catalan Bay car park.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1264 AND 1265 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Question Nos. 1015, 1016 and 1017 in the previous meeting of the House, my Question No. 1017 was whether there is a time limit within which the additional reclamation in the Eastside development has to be completed, and I was given the answer of six years, that is why I am seeking clarification now. Is there a limit under six years within which the actual reclamation part has to be completed?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, but it is obvious the reclamation will have to take part before all of what I have just listed happens. So all this has to happen before the six years are up and the reclamation does not have a limit, it is within the six year limit, but within the six year limit all this has to be done as well.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The Government were unable to give me answers in the last House to the maximum additional land area and the maximum depth at which land will be reclaimed. In fact the original question was the depth and the extension of the shoreline which they were permitted, and the reply I got was that the Government were not able to say that until the survey results come in. So in fact, given that we now know that the survey results are likely to be in mid-2006, what happens then? The Government then change the terms of the agreement to specify the permitted depth and the permitted extension or how do they do that?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the actual master agreement actually defines an area out into the sea and the land itself which basically is the site area, within which all this project has to be contained. What we do not know is whether they are going to go right up to the borderline of that site line or whether it is actually going to go further in depending on some of the surveys that are being conducted, some of them have already been done, some of them are still to be done, which will determine the actual positioning mainly of the arm, what they call the protection arm of the site.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But then the answers that I was given in the last House are not correct, because I did not ask whether the developer was going to decide to go up to the limit or not, I asked what the limit was. My question in the last House was, can the Government say what was the maximum additional land area that the developer is permitted to reclaim and what is the maximum depth at which the maximum permitted reclaimed area will take place? The answer I got to that was that that was not known until the survey, but in fact the Minister is saying that it is no because the survey will only determine whether the developer feels that commercially it is a viable proposition to go to that limit or to do it within that limit falling short of it. That the limit itself is not dependent on the result of the survey then.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think when the master plan was actually drawn up and done we needed to identify an area, both on land and on sea, under which the scheme would have to be developed. The surveys will determine whether not just commercially but the viability of being able from an engineering point of view as well of how the site is going to be laid out. I think at that point we will be able to define as to where the boundary lines are going to be. There may be need for alterations depending on what the surveys show and what the commercially viable project will be. I understand what the hon Member is trying to say but strictly speaking I do not think until the surveys are finished we will be able to actually determine what the length of reclamation and the depth under which the project is going to be confined to.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am seeking information and either the information is available and may have to be altered as a result of the survey or the information does not exist until after the

survey. The last time I was told that the Government did not have a figure, am I right in thinking that the Minister is saying there is a figure but is not set in tablets of stone and that figure may be altered? If that is the case then the figure that we were asking for in Question Nos. 1015 and 1016 of 2005 obviously is the figure at that point in time, not the figure that may emerge following the survey since the Minister is in no position to tell me what the survey will produce.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, I think the survey will become the actual location of the reclamation and the actual depth of the sea. There is in the master agreement an outline or a site line of the sort of area that we are talking about but subject to determination once the survey has been conducted and discussions with Government to determine the site. So strictly speaking both answers are correct but I can let him have the information on the site available of the master agreement but it is just there purely for the sake of actually determining the sort of area that we are talking about but it will not determine or show what the reclamation area will be or what the angle of the arm will be, or the depth under which the project will be constructed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So then in fact there is a third answer which is that there is no maximum permitted distance or maximum permitted depth specified by the Government.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

What the master agreement does actually specify is a line around the site which will be where the project will be constructed. If there is a need to reconsider that, that will be subject for discussion with the developer but there is an outline or a tentative line around the site which will show where the project will be encompassed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I go back to the question I asked previously the answer to which was that the Government were not in a position to provide the information because that would be determined by the survey. I am trying to get a very specific answer to a very specific question, is there somewhere in the agreement between the Government and the developer a line that says the maximum depth at which one is permitted by this concession to reclaim land from the sea is a depth of x metres, does that exist?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The answer is no.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So it does not exist, and will it exist once the survey is completed?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, absolutely.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So then in fact the answer is that there will have to be negotiation then subsequent to the survey saying to what extent they are permitted by the Government, as a result of the concession that has been granted to them, to go out away from the existing shoreline and at what depth that will be. Presumably that is something that will be binding on the developer and that the Government can do something about if those conditions specifically spelt out are not adhered to.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Well, in the master agreement there is, as I have said, a line around the development site which identifies the site and the area under which the project must be contained. However, if the surveys show that there is a need for further expansion then obviously consideration and discussion will need to be entered in order to agree to that.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the Minister know the depth at which that line that exists is?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not have the information here. Yes, I am sure it could be worked out on the depth but the line is actually based on distance from the land.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I accept that but presumably where that distance happens to be there is a depth underneath.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Absolutely.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In terms of the extent of the land, because my questions originally and my questions today are all the time talking about land area as opposed to an arm within which there is water and a marina, is there a limit to the total amount of land in this outline and will that be also subject to change as a result of the survey? If there is a limit.



**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, the principal scheme has already been agreed but the actual configuration of the outline of the land will be needed to be considered once all the surveys have been concluded. The arm could change, the angle of the arm could change and all that has implications further inland.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is it that the Government are able to provide an answer to the question that I put in the last House which is, what is the maximum additional land area in square metres that the developer is permitted to reclaim? Is that information that can be provided or not?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, what I can provide is details of the line under which the site is defined but not the maximum length and distance from what he is asking there because that is subject to assessment once the study has been concluded.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But either the study is to see if what is in the original concept needs to be altered and changed and extended or reduced, or the original concept does not contain any restriction at all as to the level of land other than this imaginary line drawn on top of the water. If the agreement is silent on how much land can be reclaimed from the sea then theoretically it is possible for the developer to reclaim as much land as he wants within that line, is that the position?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, absolutely. The developer will be able to develop as much as he wants within that imaginary line. However, in that same agreement there is a detailed concept description of the scheme which identifies areas which will be land, marinas et cetera, so therefore there is a limitation to how much, the changing of that concept will require negotiation with the Government obviously.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am not trying to get the Minister to provide me with something that is impossible, which is what would happen if those negotiations took place. I am trying to get a very specific piece of information which is how much land, as the thing stands now, irrespective of what may happen in future that may change it, how much land other than the 60,000 square metres that are already there within that imaginary line are they permitted by the present concept to reclaim? Are we talking about another 60,000 square metres, another 100,000 square metres or what?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I can let him have that information it does exist.

ORAL

NO. 1266 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - UKGTA**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the UKGTA meeting that took place in London in October?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1267 to 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1267 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - INTUR**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of Gibraltar's participation at the Intur tourism trade fair in Valladolid from 24-27 November?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266, 1268 to 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1268 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - INTUR**

How many persons made up the official Gibraltar delegation to the Intur tourism fair in November and what offices do they hold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266,1267, 1269 to 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1269 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - INTUR**

How many journalists from the Spanish travel trade press attended the informal gathering at the Gibraltar stand which took place on 24 November?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1268, 1270 to 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1270 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – BRISTOL EXHIBITION**

How many persons made up the GTB delegation to the exhibition held in Bristol on 30 November and what posts do they hold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1269, 1271 to 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1271 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – BRISTOL EXHIBITION**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the GTB exhibition held in Bristol on 30 November?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1270, 1272, 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1272 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – WORLD TRAVEL MARKET**

Can Government say whether they have now taken a policy decision to exhibit at the World Travel Market next year and if so list the criteria on which this decision is based?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1271, 1273, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1273 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - UKGTA**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the UKGTA brochure and of the UKGTA brochure launch which took place in November?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1272, 1316 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1274 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – GIBRALTAR/MANCOMUNIDAD**

Has the Tourism sub-committee set up between Gibraltar and the Mancomunidad met again after the meeting of 15 April, and if so where and on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

No.

**NO. 1275 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – MADRID OFFICE**

Can Government say whether the Gibraltar Office in Madrid now has a Marketing Co-ordinator in post?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Yes, a Marketing Executive is in post.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1275 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

On what date was the person selected for the job?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not have that information with me but his appointment has been quite recent. I would guess it would be some time in the beginning to the middle of November.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The post had been vacant for some time, was this one of the people who applied originally?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, I believe when the vacancy was advertised originally there were applicants, I think the selection board did not feel there were suitable candidates, I think it was re-advertised again. I am not sure whether it was re-advertised again or not because I have lost track but at least twice it was advertised and the last time it was advertised there were two applicants and we finally managed to find a candidate suitable for the post.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is the person who was selected a Gibraltarian or not?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes.

**NO. 1276 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – MINISTER’S OVERSEAS VISITS**

Can the Minister with responsibility for Tourism give the dates when he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business since the last Question-Time in this House, giving the event or function attended, the venue, the city and the country visited?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

I have been away on three occasions as follows:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 17 October     | UKGTA meeting in London, and other meetings in London at the Gibraltar Government Office in London; Gibraltar Day in the City of London at the Guildhall.   |
| 14-16 November | UKGTA meeting in London and launch of UKGTA brochure, both at the Gibraltar Government Office in London; visit to World Travel Market at Excel; Shipping presentation in Athens, Greece at the Athens Hilton. |
| 30 November    | GTB Roadshow in Bristol, England at the Bristol City Marriott Hotel.  |

**NO. 1277 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – PERSONS INTERVIEWED**

Can Government say how many interviews have been carried out with persons who said:

- (a) that they had stayed at a hotel;
- (b) that they had not stayed at a hotel;

since August 2005 inclusive on a monthly basis, stating where they were interviewed and the number interviewed at each location, and in the case of those who stayed in hotels what was the average length of stay in each case?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The information in respect of September, October and November 2005 has only been partially inputted. It is not possible to provide the information sought in respect of these months at this stage.

The information in relation to August is contained in the table that I now hand the hon Member.

**Answer to Question 1277 of 2005**

Place of Interview  
Number of Interviews Stayed at Hotel

	Total No of Interviews	Stayed at Hotel	Airport	Average Length of stay	Frontier	Average Length of stay	Elsewhere	Average Length of stay
Aug 05	1,943	12	11	6.2	1	9.5	-	-

Place of Interview  
Interviews Not Stayed at Hotel

	Total Interviews Not Stayed at Hotel	Airport	Port	Frontier	Waterport	Marina	Coach Park
Aug 05	1,931	9	40	1,882	-	-	-



ORAL

NO. 1278 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVANTS**

How many persons are employed in tourism as civil servants and what posts do they hold as at 30 November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1279 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1279 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - GDC**

How many persons are employed in tourism through the Gibraltar Development Corporation as at 30 November 2005 and what posts do they hold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The only Civil Servant who has a tourism role is the Chief Executive of the Ministry for Trade, Industry, Employment and Communications.

There are 73 GDC staff employed in tourism. Details are set out in the table that I now hand to the hon Member.

**Answer to Question 1279 of 2005**

**GTB POSTS - GDC EMPLOYEES**

<b>Title</b>	<b>No of posts</b>	
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	1	
SALES & MARKETING MANAGER	1	
PRODUCT MANAGER	1	
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER	1	
UPPER ROCK MANAGER	1	
TERMINALS MANAGER	1	
PA TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE	1	
ACCOUNTS SENIOR OFFICER	1	
SALES & MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR	1	
INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR	1	
UPPER ROCK CO-ORDINATOR	1	
SITE OFFICERS' SUPERVISOR	1	
MAINTENANCE CREW SUPERVISOR	1	
TERMINALS SUPERVISORS	2	
SALES & MARKETING OFFICER	1	
SENIOR INFORMATION OFFICER	1	
PRODUCT OFFICER	1	
UPPER ROCK ADMINISTRATION & ACCOUNTS OFFICERS	3	
UPPER ROCK SITE OFFICERS	23	
TERMINALS ASSISTANTS	3	
ACCOUNTS & ADMINISTRATION OFFICER	1	
INFORMATION OFFICERS	8	
VISITOR INFORMATION PATROL OFFICERS	1	
RECEPTIONISTS (PART TIME)	2	
UPPER ROCK MAINTENANCE CREW	8	
COACH PARK ATTENDANTS	2	
ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT	1	
MESSENGER	1	
<b>TOTAL (GIBRALTAR)</b>	<b>71</b>	
MARKETING EXECUTIVE	1	
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER	1	
<b>TOTAL (MADRID)</b>	<b>2</b>	

ORAL

NO. 1280 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – TOWER OF HOMAGE**

Can Government provide a detailed breakdown of the restoration work carried out at the Tower of Homage, giving a breakdown of the cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1281 of 2005.

**NO. 1281 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – TOWER OF HOMAGE**

On what date was the Tower of Homage closed for restoration works and on what date are such works expected to be complete and the Tower re-opened?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The Tower of Homage was closed for restoration works on 7 April 2003. The first phase of the works concentrated on the upper floors and the second phase concentrated on the lower floors, chambers and passageway. The cost of the restoration works has been:

Phase 1	-	56,052 Euros
Phase 2	-	47,575 Euros

It is expected the works will be concluded in the spring and the target date for re-opening the Tower to the public is May 2006.

The restoration of the Tower of Homage has involved:

1. Careful manual removal of all areas that had been reconstructed and covered with grey Portland cement.
2. Consolidation of the original masonry.
3. Consolidation of all walls including the injection of lime and sand mortar to all joints between stones.
4. Filling of spaces where original materials disappeared with lime and sand mortar, tinted appropriately.
5. Study and exposing of architectural elements, such as windows and doors, previously hidden.
6. Removal of modern flooring.
7. Search and, where found, consolidation of original floors.
8. Study and execution of plan to conserve original floors where found and expose them for viewing.

9. Filling of spaces in floors with materials of similar character.
10. Refurbishment of existing windows.
11. Study of water penetration through the roof of the Tower.
12. Treatment of roof of the Tower to prevent water penetration in the future.

The Tower of Homage was in a very bad state of conservation, particularly given the degree of damage caused by the use of Portland cement to the walls in the 1970's. The current works, done following international criteria and standards of conservation and restoration, have given the Tower a new lease of life.

During the works new chambers, tunnels and passages, previously unknown, have been discovered and excavated. A chamber that was utilised during the Second World War and which used a medieval secret exit from the castle has been discovered. The deep well of the castle has also been surveyed. Finally, the results are still under study but I am pleased to inform the House that the Gibraltar Museum is of the view that the original tower of the castle, perhaps dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, has been found within the 14<sup>th</sup> Century tower. This significantly raises the heritage value of the site, placing its origins to 200 years earlier than previously known.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1280 AND 1281 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can I ask the Minister who carried out the actual restoration work?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I have obviously a very strong involvement from the Chief Executive of my Ministry because of the tourism dimension to this but it is a project that has been led by the Ministry for Heritage and especially the Director of the Museum. Therefore, I am happy to supply any additional information that he may want.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

If the Minister could write with that answer, who carried out the restoration work.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, I will write to the hon Member.

ORAL

**NO. 1282 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – HEAD 104**

Can Government give a breakdown of the following Forecast Outturns for 2004/2005 shown in Head 104, showing the amounts paid, to whom, and the date of payment:

- (a) £136,000 Sub-Head 6 Upper Rock Improvements and Maintenance;
- (b) £244,000 Sub-Head 7 Beaches Improvements and Maintenance;
- (c) £225,000 Sub-Head 9 Tourist Beautification Projects;
- (d) £1,106,000 Sub-Head 10 Other Development Projects?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No. 1283 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1283 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – HEAD 104**

Can Government say how much of the following estimated expenditure for the financial year 2005/2006 shown in Head 104 has been spent as at 30 November 2005, showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose:

- (a) £650,000 Sub-Head 6 Upper Rock Improvements and Maintenance;
- (b) £268,888 Sub-Head 7 Beaches Improvements and Maintenance;
- (c) £156,000 Sub-Head 9 Tourist Beautification Projects?
- (d) £889,000 Sub-Head 10 Other Beautification Projects?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS**

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



**Answer to Question 1283 of 2005****Answer to Question 1282**

- (a) Out-turn in respect of Head 104 Subhead 6, Upper rock improvements and maintenance.

DATE OF PAYMENT	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
24.06.04	CIAP	TOILET SEATS	£108.00
30.06.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	JEW'S GATE TICKET OFF. RENOVAT.	£18,938.06
30.06.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPLACE WATER PIPE AT APES DEN	£2,510.01
31.07.04	SIGN DESIGN	MANUFACTURE UPPER ROCK SIGNS	£1,640.00
01.07.04	SIGN DESIGN	TARIFF SIGN RE:UPP.ROCKENTRANCE	£400.00
21.07.04	G. I. B.	AIR FARES - MR.SMITH& M. HEWITT	£168.20
01.07.04	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING- FIREBREAKSAT U.ROCK	£14,998.00
01.07.04	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES	£7,310.00
01.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	WORKS TO P.PHILIP ARCH &.BALCONY	£6,339.12
21.07.04	BRISTOL HOTEL	HOTEL ACCOMM. RE.M. HEWITT	£105.40
29.07.04	SIGN DESIGN	EUROPA RD.SIGNS-JUNCTION B.VISTA	£570.00
10.08.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIR PLAQUES AT Q. BALCONY	£834.00
10.08.04	SIGN DESIGN	NEW SIGNS AT EUROPA ROAD	£635.00
10.08.04	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES & AREAS	£4,422.50
10.08.04	G.I.B.	AIR TICKET RE: MR. HEWITT	£50.00
10.08.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS OF UPPER ROCK SITES	£22,648.52
08.09.04	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES SEPT. 04	£4,422.50
20.09.04	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES JULY 04	£4,422.50
20.09.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIR TO WATER INGRESS-CRUISE T.	£1,864.43
10.11.04	G.J.B.S.LTD	RENEWAL OF TILES AT CRUISE TER.	£2,180.80
14.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	WORKS RE:UPPER GALLERIES	£22,620.00
15.04.05	GIB.ELECT. AUTH.	ELECTRICITY WORKS CARRIED OUT	£855.52
12.01.05	MASTERSERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES OCT.05	£4,422.50
22.02.05	GREEN ARC	REP.OF FENCING - W.PORT ROUNDABOUT	£1,260.00
20.03.05	MED.COMP.SERV	REPAIR EPOS MACHINE-UPPERROCK	£2,570.00
23.03.05	ELECTRSONIC	YRLY MAINT.CHARGE-ST.MICHAELS CAVE	£7,990.00
29.03.05	GREEN ARC	REP.FENCING- W.PORT ROUNDABOUT	£1,050.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£135,335.06</b>

- (b) Out-turn in respect of Head 104 Subhead 9, Tourist Beautification projects.

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
01.05.04	MASTER SERVICE	EASTER TOILET FACILITES & APRIL TOILET FACILITIES	£15,526.45
01.05.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES	£2,895.75
21.05.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES	£13,113.10
07.06.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS TO TOILETS	£65.00
24.06.04	MARR CO.	PAINTING MATERIALS	£818.60
24.06.04	P.C.A	PAINTING MATERIALS	£3,084.00
01.07.04	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING WESTERN BEACH & GAVIOTA SHOW	£3,706.50
01.07.04	MASTER SERVICE	CABLES & BUOYS	£3,188.00
01.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPLACE SHOWER PLATES	£281.00
01.07.04	SAVERLAND	KETTLES	£39.97
01.07.04	OXY LTD	MATERIALS	£336.81

01.07.04	CORNER SHOP	PAINT	£70.80
01.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	LITTLE BAY RAILINGS	£6,489.36
21.07.04	BELL PHARMACY	FIRST AID	£68.10
21.07.04	SPORTS&LEISURE	WHISTLES	£80.00
21.07.04	MASTER SERVICE	REMOVE BOULDERS & INSTALL BINS/CLEANING & TOILET ATTENDANTS	£31,218.40
29.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	POOL COVER CAMP/LITTLE BAY	£491.01
29.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPLACE PADLOCKS	£152.00
29.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	ENGINE CLEANING	£218.20
29.07.04	BOLANOS	ENGINE REPAIRS	£338.30
29.07.04	MASTER SERVICE	BUTTONS & FOOTWASH FOR SHOWERS & CLEANING WESTERN BEACH	£3,492.75
29.07.04	BP OIL	OIL FOR POOL ENGINE	£8.00
29.07.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS	£3,272.49
29.07.04	SIGN DESIGN	BEACH SIGNS	£267.00
29.07.04	SECURITY EXPRESS	ROTUNDA CAR PARK	£2,160.00
10.08.04	C.GAGGERO	MATERIALS	£80.82
10.08.04	P.C.A.	PAINT	£960.00
10.08.04	MARR & CO.	PAINT	£142.35
10.08.04	INTERBUILD	MATERIALS	£195.93
10.08.04	SAVERLAND	BEACH UMBRELLAS	£31.96
10.08.04	E.J. HAMMOND	LIFEGUARD SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	£47.15
10.08.04	BAGLIETTO	FIRST AID	£18.40
10.08.04	SIGN DESIGN	BEACH SIGNS	£50.00
10.08.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES & CLEANING WESTERN BEACH	£22,331.50
10.08.04	PETTY CASH	MISCELLANEOUS	£10.00
10.08.04	E.J. HAMMOND	MATERIALS	£260.69
10.08.04	ATLAS	MATERIALS	£13.50
10.08.04	HIRE U SHOP	MATERIALS	£40.00
10.08.04	D&H CERAMICS	MATERIALS	£127.00
03.09.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES & CLEANING WESTERN BEACH	£22,331.50
14.09.04	E.J. HAMMOND	CHAIN & PADLOCKS	£45.60
31.08.04	G.C.P. WORKS	OVERTIME RE: WORKERS	£18,653.23
20.09.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES	£20,250.00
20.09.04	N.N. SENE	LIFEGUARD TRAINING	£2,690.00
20.09.04	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID	£280.20
20.09.04	A.J. PHONES	RELOAD CARD FOR BEACH SUPERVISOR	£25.00
20.09.04	INTERBUILD	PAINT	£119.70
20.09.04	CORNER SHOP	MATERIALS	£319.60
20.09.04	BROOKWEST	EMPTYING SEWAGE & REMOVE SILT	£5,200.00
20.09.04	BROOKWEST	EMPTYING SEWAGE	£2,795.00
20.09.04	INTERBUILD	MATERIALS	£51.00
20.09.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS	£601.00
20.09.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS	£19,674.56
20.09.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS	£509.40
20.09.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS	£553.00
01.10.04	OXY LTD	DISINFECTANT & CHLORINE	£134.03
10.11.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REMOVING GREASING TAPS	£420.00
12.11.04	C. GAGGERO	TIMBER	£18.20
19.11.04	INTERBUILD	FLOOR PAINT	£39.90
19.11.04	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID	£238.70
19.11.04	ATLAS	PIPE FITTING RE: POOL	£25.91
24.11.04	A.J. PHONES	RELOAD CARD FOR BEACH SUPERVISOR	£25.00

01.12.04	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATTENDANTS	£3,680.00
09.12.04	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID	£561.80
19.12.04	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID	£425.85
09.12.04	H.SHEPPARD	LANYARD	£39.60
19.12.04	ABEGON FITTERS	COCO MATTING	£43.50
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	BEACH REPAIRS	£4,333.00
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	BEACH REPAIRS	£555.00
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	BEACH REPAIRS	£1,892.79
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	BEACH REPAIRS	£271.00
19.12.04	ST.JOHNS AMB.	ICEPACKS	£20.00
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	BEACH REPAIRS	£450.00
19.12.04	WYSE HIRE	HIRE EQUIPMENT	£251.00
19.12.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS TO SHOWERS	£95.00
01.10.04	OXY LTD	DISINFECTANT & CHLORINE	-£55.74
31.07.04	CHELLSONS	BINOCULARS	£95.70
12.01.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATTENDANTS	£11,240.00
12.01.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATTENDANTS	£940.00
01.02.05	BOLANOS	SPARES RE: EQUIPMENT	£402.00
22.02.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES	£3,320.00
22.02.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REMOVAL OF STEEL STAIRS	£548.00
20.03.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FACILITIES	£4,150.00
			<b>£243,949.92</b>

(c) Out-turn in respect of Head 104 Subhead 9, Tourist Beautification projects.

DATE OF PAMENT	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
20-Apr-04	BUDRANI	Misc	£50.75
24-Jun-04	G.J.B.S.	Our Lady of Sorrows restoration works window	£5,954.00
01-Jul-04	ROCKCOOL	Air conditioning House of Assembly	£13,222.85
01-Jul-04	PRINCE RESEARCH	Moorish Castle works (prison relocation)	£130,257.40
21-Jul-04	G.L.R.C.	Mid harbour rec	£5,000.00
29-Jul-04	SHARROCK SHAND	Frontier canopy	£49,139.00
29-Jul-04	SHARROCK SHAND	Frontier canopy	£89,440.00
29-Jul-04	COLD-AIRE	Air conditioning Air Terminal	£14,187.40
10-Aug-04	ARCADE KEYS	Boots repairs	£70.50
10-Aug-04	GLASS HOUSE	Signs	£53.00
08-Sep-04	COLD-AIRE	Air conditioning Air Terminal	£6,080.35
08-Sep-04	SHARROCK SHAND	Frontier canopy	£68,553.00
01-Oct-04	G.J.B.S.	Our Lady of Sorrows fit frames and window	£5,483.16
14-Oct-04	SHARROCK SHAND	Frontier canopy	£41,093.00
10-Mar-05	PRINCE RESEARCH	Moorish Castle works (prison relocation)	£42,000.00
29-Mar-05	PRINCE RESEARCH	Moorish Castle works (prison relocation)	£14,000.00
			<b><u>£484,584.41</u></b>

(d) Out-turn in respect of Head 104 Subhead 10, Other Development projects:

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
30.04.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION- APR. 04	£5,000.00
01.05.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION- MAR.04	£5,000.00
21.05.04	FABRICOM AIRPORT	CONVEYING EQUIPMENT GIB.AIRPORT	£19,535.98

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
		SYS.	
21.05.04	TS. LOGISTICS	BAGGAGE CONVEYOR SPARES	£252.00
27.05.04	REDWOOD	DEL.OF GOODS RE: ELECTRONIC UK	£252.50
27.05.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION-MAY 04	£5,000.00
01.06.04	ALFRIEND SWANTEX	FLOODLIGHTING-NORTH FACE ROCK	£38,133.24
29.07.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR MANAG. FEES JULY-AUG 04	£10,000.00
14.10.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR MANAG. FEES- SEPT. 04	£5,000.00
14.10.04	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIR FLOODLIGHTING - ROCK FACE	£1,230.00
10.11.04	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR MANAG. FEES - OCT. 04	£5,000.00
01.02.05	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR MANAG.FEES - NOV-DEC 04	£10,000.00
22.02.05	D.H.V.	WESTERN BEACH RECLAMATION	£19,575.00
01.01.05	PROJECTS	NON EU JV TO US	£690,925.31
28.02.05	GIB. ELECTRICITY AUTH.	GUNWHARF&COALING ISLAND	£11,136.87
01.03.05	MACKLEY TRICON	MARINA COALING ISLAND	£178,245.02
01.03.05	D.H.V.	WESTERN BEACH RECLAMATION	£2,270.28
10.03.05	MACKLEY TRICON	GUNWHARF&COALING ISLAND	£45,891.47
11.03.05	D.H.V.	WESTERN BEACH RECLAMATION	£1,545.28
11.03.05	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	WESTERN BEACH RECLAMATION	£4,620.00
23.03.05	D.H.V.	WESTERN BEACH RECLAMATION	£1,545.28
16.03.05	adj. Pv 1153	OVERPAYMENTS	-£2,270.28
29.03.05	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	MID HARBOUR REC. JAN/FEB/MAR	£15,000.00
29.03.05	M.E . BELILO	PROF.CHARGES - COALING ISLAND MARINA & GUNWHARF	£30,170.00
31.03.05	GIB. LAND RECLAM. CO	REVERSAL OF PAYMENT JV 169	-£14,820.00
			<b>£1,088,237.95</b>

### Answer to Question 1283

(a) Expenditure to 30.11.2005 in resepct of Head 104 Subjead 6.

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
16.05.05		PETTY CASH	£2.40
01.06.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS TO CHARLES V WALL	£784.00
01.06.05	BLANDS	AIR FARE H&H SCULPTORS VISIT	£282.00
20.06.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	CONCRETE BASE - RE:JEW'S GATE TRAFFIC BARRIERS	£1,400.00
20.06.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF FIREBREAKS AT UPPER ROCK	£14,998.00
06.07.05	BRISTOL HOTEL	HOTEL ACCOMM - HEWIT & HALL	£563.00
10.07.05	REDWOOD	COURIER CHARGES	£303.72
03.08.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	FITTING CHAINS AT COACH PARK	£2,718.86
03.08.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	FIT GALVANISED RAILING AT JEW'S GATE	£1,355.25
03.08.05	SELINA	BRACKETS FOR UPPER ROCK SITES	£152.00
03.08.05	REDWOOD	COURIER CHARGES	£233.95
24.08.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES - JULY 05	£4,887.50
30.09.05	H&H SCULPTORS	MAINT.WORKS RE:EXH. AT UPPER ROCK	£3,559.50
10.10.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES - AUG/SEPT 05	£4,887.50
13.10.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES - 1st to 26th Aug	£4,887.50
21.10.05	CAR CARE CENTRE	SIGNS RE: JEWS GATE & ST. MICHAEL'S CAVE	£67.50
17.11.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF SLOPES - 26 Sep to 21 Oct	£4,887.50
21.11.05	PORTMAN LTD	GALVANISED RAILINGS RE: LITTLE BAY	£660.00
			<b>£46,630.18</b>

## (b) Expenditure to 30.11.2005 in respect of Head 104 Subhead 7.

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
12.04.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEAN BEACHES&TOIL. ATT. EASTER	12123.83
12.04.05	BOLANOS	MAINTENANCE-MERCURY ENGINES	319.92
12.04.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEAN BEACHES&TOILET ATT. APRIL 05	3320.00
09.05.05	SAVERLAND	BLEACH BOTTLES	39.60
09.05.05	MONTEVERDE	CLEANING&MAINT.C/BAY-E/BEACH	20970.00
16.05.05	ALTAS	MATERIALS RE: BEACHES	14.56
16.05.05	MRS. H. SHERIFF	RED&YELLOW FLAGS FOR BEACHES	85.00
16.05.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATT. & MAINT. OF BEACHES MAY	14947.60
16.05.05	MASTER SERVICE	OFF-SEASON CLEAN. OF BEACHES	13868.60
16.05.05	E.J. HAMMOND	CUTTING STEEL DISCS RE:DEAD WEIGHTS	10.15
16.05.05	SELINA LTD	FLAT BAR RINGS-DEAD WEIGHTS	350.00
16.05.05	MARR CO.	PAINTING MATERIALS	82.40
16.05.05	E.J. HAMMOND	PADLOCKS	313.25
16.05.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	FENCE AT C/BAY&REPAIR TOILETS	2017.10
01.06.05	SAVERLAND	4 KETTLES FOR BEACHES	47.96
01.06.05	FASTAFOOD LTD	MINERAL WATER	86.50
01.06.05	MARR CO.	PAINTING MATERIALS	4181.10
01.06.05	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID KIT	744.40
01.06.05	CHELLSONS	BINOCULARS RE: LIFEGUARDS	135.60
01.06.05	MARR CO.	PAINTING MATERIALS	197.90
01.06.05	E.J. HAMMOND	CHICKEN WIRE RE: BEACHES	59.80
01.06.05	MASTER SERVICE	ARTICULATED WALKWAYS-BEACHES	11003.16
01.06.05	E.J. HAMMOND	PADLOCKS-TOILETS&SHOWERS	313.25
10.06.05	A.J. PHONES	GIBTEL RELOAD CARD	25.00
10.06.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF L/BAY&CAMP BAY	3320.00
10.06.05	SPORTS&LEISURE	WHISTLES & WRISTBANDS	318.00
10.06.05	CEMATS	SAND & GRAVEL	33.75
10.06.05	BHARAT LTD	LIFEGUARD UNIFORMS	1387.75
10.06.05	CIAP	GLASS WIRE & MIRRORS - CATALAN BAY	66.93
16.06.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEAN.&MAINT.CAMP BAY&L/BAY	23102.84
20.06.05	CORNER SHOP	PAINTING MATERIALS	45.20
20.06.05	KOALA HOLDINGS	MOTOR OIL RE: OUTBOARDS	99.75
20.06.05	E.J. HAMMOND	BOLTS,HINGES & SCREWS	119.80
20.06.05	GTR TECH.SYSTEMS	BATTERIES RE:WALKIE TALKIES	47.00
20.06.05	G.F.I. TRADING CO.	HYDRAYLIC OIL PUMP-CAMP BAY	45.00
20.06.05	M.SHEPPARD & CO	SPARK PLUGS&FUEL CONECTORS	91.30
20.06.05	P.C.A. LTD	PAINTS FOR SWIMMING POOLS	1522.00
24.06.05		PETTY CASH (MISC)	49.49
06.07.05	MARR CO.	PAINT FOR CAMP BAY	44.95
10.07.05	WYSE HIRE LTD	HIRE OF EQUIPMENT FOR BEACHES	257.86
10.07.05	CEMATS	SAND & GRAVEL- DEAD WEIGHTS	86.50
07.07.05	E.J. HAMMOND	RAWL BOLTS	22.50
07.07.05	MARR CO.	PAINTING MATERIALS	32.80
07.07.05	INTERBUILD	BUILDING MATERIALS	24.00
07.07.05	P.C.A. LTD	PAINT	450.00
07.07.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS RE: BEACHES	20325.70
07.07.05	AQUAGIB	MAINT. PUMBING STATION-CAMP BAY	288.50
07.07.05	OXY LTD	CHLORINE TABLETS FOR POOLS	154.98
07.07.05	PORTMAN LTD	MODIFICATION TO BEACH CABINS	350.00
07.07.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS - BEACHES	53.35
07.07.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUFACTURE OF SIGNS	80.00
07.07.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUFACTURE OF SIGNS	68.00
20.07.05		PETTY CASH (MISC)	57.80

20.07.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS	134.74
20.07.05	A.J. PHONES	GIBTEL RELOAD CARD	25.00
20.07.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUFACTURE OF SIGNS	20.00
20.07.05	OXY LTD	CHLORINE TABLETS FOR POOLS	154.98
20.07.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	BOAT DEMARCATION POLES	372.00
20.07.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET FAC. WEST.BEACH JUN/JULY	27730.00
03.08.05	S. OLIVERO	REFURBISH TOILETS-CAMP BAY	12650.00
03.08.05	MASTER SERVICE	GAVIOTA SHOWER BASES EAST. BCH	325.00
03.08.05	E.J. HAMMOND	MATERIALS RE:SHOWERS/EAST. BCH	8.40
03.08.05	GIBTELECOM	RENTAL -LIFEGUARD POSTS -JUNE	623.18
03.08.05	GIBTELECOM	RENTAL -LIFEGUARD POSTS -JULY	147.50
03.08.05	BEACON PRESS	CORK NOTICE BOARD -BEACHES	24.95
03.08.05	M.SHEPPARD & CO	ENGINE STOPS-OUTBOARD ENG.	9.60
03.08.05	B.I.A. LTD	PLASTIC CHAIRS-LIFEGUARDS	42.00
03.08.05	ST.JOHN'S AMBUL.	ICEPACKS RE: BEACHES	40.00
03.08.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS - POOLS	71.30
03.08.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUF. OF SIGNS-WESTERN BCH	24.00
03.08.05	E.J. HAMMOND	MATERIALS RE: SWIMMING POOL	8.75
03.08.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS-CAMP BAY	22.75
03.08.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS-BCH.SHOWER	10.12
09.08.05	SELINA LTD	METAL TUBE-LIFEGUARD BOAT	78.00
09.08.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS	15.20
09.08.05	GIBRAL FLORA	REEDBED- EASTERN BEACH	9.95
09.08.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUF. OF SIGNS-CAMP BAY	30.00
09.08.05	ELECT.DISTRIBUTOR	FITTING CAMP BAY CHANG.ROOM	6.35
09.08.05	E.J. HAMMOND	RIVET GUN FOR BEACHES	9.50
09.08.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	UNB.TOILET DRAINS-EASTERN BCH	114.00
24.08.05	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID KIT	691.35
24.08.05	SIGN DESIGN	MANUF.BEACH CLEANING SIGNS	132.00
24.08.05	AQUAGIB	SUPPLY OF METER	43.30
24.08.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATT.&CLEAN.WEST.BCH AUG	27340.00
24.08.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MAT. LITTLE BAY	22.17
24.08.05	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID KIT	373.95
08.09.05	OXY LTD	WELDING ELECTRODES	28.16
08.09.05	E.J. HAMMOND	MAINTENANCE MATERIALS	20.40
08.09.05	WASTAGE PROD.	WASTAGE PUMPING - CAMP BAY	510.00
08.09.05	A.J. PHONES	GIBTEL RELOAD CARD	25.00
08.09.05	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID KIT	278.00
08.09.05	E.J. HAMMOND	MAINT. MATERIALS - BEACHES	14.50
08.09.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS TO SHOWER ROOMS	510.00
08.09.05	GIBTELECOM	TEL.BILL-LIFEGUARD POST- AUG	87.50
08.09.05	WASTAGE PROD.	WASTAGE PUMPING - CAMP BAY	1020.00
16.09.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	UNBLOCK SEWER - CAMP BAY POOL	114.00
16.09.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIR SHOWER & FOOT BATHS	5293.12
16.09.05	SELINA LTD	HINGES-CATALAN BAY PLAYGROUND	25.00
16.09.05	GIBTELECOM	TEL.BILL-LIFEGUARD POST- SEPT	87.50
30.09.05	G.C.P	OVERTIME FOR WORKERS	20433.70
30.09.05		PETTY CASH (MISC)	26.40
30.09.05	HIRE U SHOP	JUBILEE CLIPS-SANDY BAY RAILING	21.20
11.10.05		PETTY CASH (MISC)	7.55
12.10.05	D&H CERAMICS	SAND&CEMENT-DEAD WEIGHTS	10.20
12.10.05	SELINA LTD	HINGES - WESTERN BCH TOILETS	12.00
13.10.05	MASTER SERVICE	TOILET ATTENDANTS - CAMP/L BAY	1397.14
13.10.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MATERIALS-BEACHES	9.00
13.10.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MAT. CAMP&LITTLE BAY	13.00
13.10.05	WASTAGE PROD.	SEWAGE PUMPING	765.00
13.10.05	ST.JOHN'S AMBUL.	COOLPACKS RE: BEACHES	40.00

13.10.05	A.J. PHONES	GIBTEL RELOAD CARD	25.00
26.10.05	MILL PHARMACY	FIRST AID KIT	77.95
26.10.05	CIAP	PLUMBING MAT. CAMP BAY	36.70
26.10.05	FASTAFOOD LTD	TOILET PAPER CAMP/LITTLE BAY	32.40
11.11.05	N.N. SENE	TRAINING & EXAMS- LIFEGUARDS	2060.00
17.11.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF L/BAY&CAMP BAY	1520.00
17.11.05	MASTER SERVICE	SEWAGE PUMPING	255.00
21.11.05	MASTER SERVICE	CLEANING OF L/BAY&CAMP BAY	1520.00
21.11.05	G.J.B.S. LTD	REPAIRS TO SALT WATER PIPE	63.00

**245450.89**

(c) Expenditure to 30.11.2005 in respect of Head 104 Subhead 9.

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
12.4.05	CLEANING CENTRE	METAL POLISH	16.80
12.4.05	SHARROCK SHAND	NEW FRONTIER CANOPY	8910.00
16.5.05	P GOMEZ	FEES FOR PROPOSAL EUROPA P	3795.00
20.7.05	SHARROCK SHAND	NEW FRONTIER CANOPY	18797.00
15.8.05	SHARROCK SHAND	NEW FRONTIER CANOPY	999.68

**32518.48**

(d) Expenditure to 30.11.2005 in respect of Head 104 Subhead 10.

DATE	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
12.4.05	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	PROPOSED MARINA COALING ISLAND	213502.40
	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	GUN WHARF	79896.98
	DHV OVER PAYMENTS REC	OVERPAYMENTS	-1545.28
20.6.05	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	PROPOSED MARINA COALING ISLAND	59499.41
	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	GUN WHARF	43071.25
10.7.05	G.L.R.C.	W/BEACH MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION	
9.8.05	G.L.R.C.	W/BEACH MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION	
18.8.05	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	PROPOSED MARINA COALING ISLAND	17686.04
24.8.05	M.E. BELILLO	APPLIC COALING ISLAND MARINA	18500.00
24.8.05	M.E. BELILLO	RELOCATION MARINE SERVICES GUN W	
16.9.05	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	GUN WHARF	14352.15
30.9.05	G.L.R.C.	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION	5000.00
26.10.05	G.L.R.C.	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION	10000.00
8.11.05	MACKLEY TRICON WILKIE LTD	MID HARBOUR RECLAMATION	181548.86
			<u>668011.81</u>

ORAL

NO. 1284 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB – HEAD 104**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £14,000 shown at Head 104, Sub-Head 13 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 Airlines, Ferry and Hotel Assistance Schemes, showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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



**Answer to Question 1284**

**Head 104 Sub-head 13, Outturn for 2004/5**

All payments relate to the 20 per cent rebate that Government allow hotels on their electricity bills, if these are paid within 3 months of being issued.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>
10 August 2004	Bristol Hotel	1,837.99
1 February 2005	Bristol Hotel	2,162.79
29 July 2004	Rock Hotel	5,836.55
20 October 2004	Rock Hotel	823.00
30 April 2004	Caleta Hotel	2,865.76
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,526.09</b>

**NO. 1285 OF 2005****THE HON DR J J GARCIA****GTB – TOURISM MARKETING BUDGET**

Can Government say, with a breakdown, how much of the estimated £750,000 tourism marketing budget for 2005/2006 has been spent as at 30 November 2005?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Answer to Question 1285****MARKETING SPEND AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2005**

<b>Marketing, Promotions &amp; Advertising</b>	<b>£</b>
Literature	£35,044.36
Activity (Trade)	£15,767.07
Activity (Media)	£5,139.36
Promotional Material	£1,209.39
Advertising	£289,139.55
Trade/Consumer Fairs	£15,577.29
Website	£21,294.89
Recurrent Expenditure	£82,624.05
Events	£45,613.41
Contingencies	£28,241.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£539,650.37</b>

**NO. 1286 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – REVENUE RAISED**

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised on a monthly basis from October 2005 inclusive:

- (a) by charging coaches that use the coach park;
- (b) in admission fees to the Upper Rock;
- (c) in admission fees to the Gibraltar Museum?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The revenue for October 2005 was as follows:

Coach Park	£10,020
Upper Rock admissions	£288,102
Museum admissions	£1,918

The revenue for November 2005 was as follows:

Coach Park	£5,690
Upper Rock admissions	£145,486
Museum admissions	£983

ORAL

NO. 1287 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GTB - AIRLINES**

Can Government say with how many airlines interested in flying to and from Gibraltar they are currently in discussion?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1288 of 2005.

**NO. 1288 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB - AIRLINES**

Can Government say on what date was the last contact that they had with:

- (a) Thomsonfly;
- (b) Easyjet;
- (c) Flybe;

regarding their interest in commencing flights to and from Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The last meeting with these airlines were held on the following dates:

Thomsonfly	-	3 March 2005
Easyjet	-	10 October 2005
Flybe	-	9 September 2004

The Government are not in active discussions with any other airline at present.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1287 AND 1288 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The contact with Thomsonfly goes back to March this year, do Government consider that that particular airline is still one which the contact is actively being pursued or not?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That is anybody's guess really. We are told that Gibraltar is in their development destinations and therefore one does not know if it is going to take a month, a year or 10 years to actually get up the priority list as far as their commercial interests are concerned. I notice that he asks for the last contact and the reply that I have submitted refers to the last meetings. Probably whoever was drafting the answer in the Gibraltar Tourist Board thought of the meeting as the contact but there are

regular contacts with these airlines, it is not something that we have not seen to for the last eight or nine months.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to re-opening or exploring the possibility of renewing air links between Gibraltar and Morocco is it that there are now no airlines with whom that possibility has been discussed?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, because the issue there is one of commercial viability and for example Royal Air Maroc could be a possibility, ones who used to previously fly to Gibraltar no longer operate in the same format as they used to before and I believe they are now restricted to internal flights, even though I think that they still fly to Malaga. The reality is that the demand seems not to be there when airlines have considered the viability of the route.

**NO. 1289 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – SCHEDULED FLIGHTS**

How many flights between Gibraltar and the following airports were timetabled and how many were cancelled on a monthly basis to or from:

- (a) London Gatwick;
- (b) London Heathrow;
- (c) London Luton;
- (d) Manchester;

since October 2005 inclusive?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The following flights were timetabled:

<b>October 2005</b>		<b>November 2005</b>	
London Gatwick	45	London Gatwick	30
London Heathrow	31	London Heathrow	30
London Luton	31	London Luton	26
Manchester	18	Manchester	17

The total number of air arrivals at Gibraltar as at the end of November 2005 stood at approximately 161,565 for the year. This figure, which is yet to be confirmed, represents an increase of 11 per cent on last year.

Only two flights were cancelled. Both were Manchester flights and both occurred in November 2005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1289 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

I thank the Minister for the figure in respect of arrivals. Does he know how many of those people actually flew to Gibraltar to stay in Gibraltar and how many flew in transit to Spain?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

We do not have an accurate figure but the estimates that have been supplied to me whenever I have asked that question is that the figure can fluctuate and even the airlines as well, because the airlines do carry out surveys. For example, if a passenger is flying from London Luton whether they actually live in the Luton area and they try and find out whether there actually is a connecting flight coming in, then the same survey they do whether they are staying in Gibraltar or Spain. The figures that I have fluctuate between 45, 55, 55, 45 and that figure has always fluctuated between that, so whether we put a 50/50 figure to that equation I do not know whether that is strictly correct, but that is the feedback that I get from the airlines and from Immigration here. On Gibraltar passports they do not ask the question but for foreigners they ask, 'are you staying here, are you staying in Gibraltar?' so that we try and keep some form of record. It turns out that it fluctuates between 45 per cent and 55 per cent, one way or the other.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is this the same information which is produced in the Tourism Survey or the Air Traffic Survey, which actually lists the visitors in transit and those staying in Gibraltar?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That is probably the case, yes. To be honest, I would not know but if the hon Member is asking me to give him a figure I would say somewhere between 45 per cent and 55 per cent stay in Gibraltar or go to Spain, the figure fluctuates between those.



**NO. 1290 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GTB – FERRY SERVICE**

Can Government say whether they have now considered the formal application for a ferry service between Gibraltar and Algeciras and when they expect the licence to be issued?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

No.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1290 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

No they have not considered it, or no they do not expect the licence to be issued or no formal application has been made?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, no formal application has been made so therefore the Government have been unable to give any consideration.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The last time we asked this question in the House, I think it was in October, I was told it was one formal application and one informal application that had been made, the question was tabled because we were chasing up the previous answer.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I think what I said was that there was one application that was more formal than another, in the sense that one particular party had actually written in to the Government expressing an interest to do so and putting forward representations to their plan to apply for the licence. The other has been basically in a meeting where I have been expressed an interest in wanting to pursue that. None of them have come

back and said, 'here is an application for me to run this route', although the more formal one I can say has now formulated a proper business plan which is about to be submitted for Government to look at. I assume that it carries relevant and various provisos in there in terms of 'can I get some help?'. I am assuming that but the Government will give consideration to that when that is presented, but no formal application has been made saying, 'I wish to run that service'.

ORAL

**NO. 1291 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**WORKS ABOARD THE ROTTERDAM**

Can Government confirm, given their previous public statements in respect of this matter, why the works at Cammell Laird shipyard on the vessel Rotterdam were not completed in Gibraltar as previously announced by that company and the Government?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question No. 1292 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1292 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**WORKS ABOARD THE ROTTERDAM**

Was any asbestos or other hazardous material removed from the vessel Rotterdam before it sailed from Gibraltar and if so was any such removal carried out in a manner that is safe and in keeping with, inter alia, the Factories Ordinance and the Asbestos at Work Regulations and that further any asbestos or other hazardous material removed from the vessel was disposed, stored (aboard or otherwise) or treated safely?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The works were not completed in Gibraltar because the new owners of the Rotterdam wished immediately to dock the vessel in Cammell Laird dock No. 1, which is occupied and will continue to be occupied until mid-January 2006. The vessel has therefore been taken elsewhere where it can be dry docked in accordance with the new owners' timescale.

No asbestos or other hazardous material was removed from the ship during her stay in Gibraltar.

**NO. 1293 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CAMMELL LAIRD**

Can Government confirm what progress has now been made in respect of the removal of the grit mountain at Cammell Laird, where it has been removed to, how much remains, what procedures are being followed in respect of the removal, what environmental damage has been done by the failure to remove the grit earlier and what the cost of removal to date has been?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

As at the end of November, 395 lorries had removed over 9,000 tonnes of grit, leaving about 1,500 to 2,000 tonnes which are presently being removed. It was originally estimated that the accumulation of grit contained about 8,000 tonnes. As stated in reply to Question No. 651 of 2005, the spent grit is being taken to an approved disposal site at Los Barrios.

The grit is being removed by a specialist contractor, EWMS, who is ensuring that the grit is handled correctly. The specific procedures being followed are that only approved lorries and approved drivers are used for this job, and the consignment of spent grit is covered in transit.

No assessment has been carried out by Government to establish what, if any, environmental damage has been caused by the spent grit during the time the grit mountain was allowed to accumulate.

The cost of removal of the grit is £360,000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1293 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Minister just repeat the name of the contractor that is being used?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I said EWMS, which is Environmental and Waste Management Services Limited. It is a company registered in Gibraltar whose offices are located at Ragged Staff Wharf in Queensway Quay.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Why have the Government decided not to carry out any assessment of what pollution, if any, there may have been on the site?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not believe that the Government have decided not to carry out any form of assessment. I have assumed that the Environmental Agency, who has responsibility for these matters, would have conducted any survey required if they felt that there was any danger or any chance of there being any environmental damage at all. When they have not conducted the survey I assume it is because they feel that there is no question of there being any environmental damage caused by this.

ORAL

NO. 1294 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT – ATHENS SEMINAR**

How many persons from Gibraltar made up the official Government delegation to the shipping seminar in Athens in November and what posts do they hold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1295 and 1296 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1295 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT – ATHENS SEMINAR**

How many persons were invited to the shipping seminar held in Athens in November, how many attended and how many were from Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1294 and 1296 of 2005.



**NO. 1296 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**PORT – ATHENS SEMINAR**

What was the cost with a breakdown of the shipping seminar held at the Athens Hilton Hotel in November?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Greek shipping interests account for a large proportion of the world fleet. It is therefore important to market the services offered by the Port of Gibraltar and the advantages of the Gibraltar Ship Register at the heart of the Greek shipping world in Athens. The Government identified that it would be more beneficial if a specific Gibraltar event were to be organised, that did not coincide with any other shipping event, so that we would secure the undivided attention of those involved in shipping circles.

This is not the first time that the Government organise a promotional event in Athens. As on previous occasions, the seminar was a public/private partnership, and industry players contributed over £8,000 in total to the cost of the event. This represents about two thirds of the costs. The sponsors ranged from bunker operators Aegean, Vemaoil, Peninsula Petroleum and Java Oil; through to legal firm Marrache & Co; and ship managers Marine Services Gibraltar to Cammell Laird Shiprepair.

The presentation itself was excellent and was well-received by an audience of 75 guests. The Ship Registry, in particular, will now follow up some of the contacts made at the event.

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

**Answer to Question 1296**

75 guests attended the seminar and lunch.

The Port Authority and Department of Shipping sent out 174 invitations.  
Private sector sponsors sent out a further 65 invitations.

The Government delegation at the seminar comprised:

Hon J J Holliday – Minister with responsibility for Shipping  
Mr R Garcia – Chief Executive, Ministry with responsibility for Shipping  
Mr A Davis – Chief Executive, Gibraltar Port Authority  
Captain C Brand - Maritime Administrator (Head of Gibraltar Ship Registry)  
Mr P Canessa – Chief Executive, Gibraltar Tourist Board

The following were the representatives of the shipping industry in Gibraltar:

Mr J Bassadone  
Mr T Christodoulides  
Mr R De la Rosa  
Mr J Ghio  
Mr D Laguea  
Mr F Pitto

Additionally, Mr J Bassadone Jnr, who is based in London, joined the Gibraltar shipping industry representatives.

The costs of the seminar were:

Room and equipment hire	2,407 Euros
Lunch and hospitality	9,815 Euros
Fees for assistant	245 Euros
Flights, subsistence and accommodation	£3,196

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1294 TO 1296 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Minister lists in terms of the cost, it is clear that it was five persons who made up the Gibraltar Government delegation and a further six or seven were from Gibraltar, one based in London, in terms of the costs it says the flights et cetera were £3,100, the room and equipment 2,400 Euros, the lunch and hospitality was nearly 10,000 Euros. Can I ask the Minister, he mentions the industry paid around £8,000, is that in addition to this or were those £8,000 part of this figure and were included in it?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, this is the total cost of which £8,000 come from the private sector sponsorship. If the cost is added up it would be just over 12,000 Euros which is roughly £8,000 plus £3,000 is £11,000 out of which £8,000 were paid for by the private sector, thus the two thirds one third proportion that I mentioned earlier on has been covered by the private sector.

ORAL

NO. 1297 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT – BUNKERING LICENCES**

Can Government say whether any new applications for a bunkering licence have been made since the last Question-Time in this House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ORAL

NO. 1298 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT - BUNKERING**

What direct revenue have the Government obtained from the provision of bunkers to ships in 2004 and 2005 to date giving a breakdown on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1299 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1299 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT – SHIP VISITS**

How many ships have called at Gibraltar since September 2005 inclusive on a monthly basis for:

- (a) bunkering;
- (b) cargo;
- (c) repairs;

and how many tonnes of bunker fuel were sold each month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

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

**Answer to Question 1299/2005**

(a) Direct revenue obtained from bunkering operations, on a monthly basis:

<b>2004</b>	
January	£32,751.01
February	£33,540.90
March	£35,477.25
April	£31,315.79
May	£36,179.95
June	£32,705.63
July	£33,624.25
August	£30,502.97
September	£31,172.66
October	£33,636.5
November	£35,643.93
December	£32,686.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£400,237.77</b>

<b>2005</b>	
January	£34,925.12
February	£34,047.41
March	£31,862.36
April	£30,619.03
May	£34,555.38
June	£35,331.61
July	£42,479.79
August	£34,874.57
September	£38,525.51
October	£38,509.36
November	£52,673.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£408,403.14</b>

(b) Number of ship calls since September 2005, on a monthly basis:

	<b><u>Bunkers</u></b>	<b><u>Cargo</u></b>	<b><u>Repairs</u></b>
September 2005	535	1	3
October 2005	507	-	10
November 2005	441	-	9

(c) Tonnes of bunker fuel sold per month:

September 2005	394,499 tonnes
October 2005	388,055 tonnes

The volumes sold in November 2005 are not yet available.

ORAL

NO. 1300 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**COALING ISLAND - BERTHS**

Can Government say of the boats that now occupy berths at Coaling Island, how many have transferred there from Western Beach?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1301 of 2005.



**NO. 1301 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**COALING ISLAND - BERTHS**

Can Government say how many boats now occupy berths at the new marina in Coaling Island as at 30 November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The management of the Coaling Island marina is vested in the Cormorant Camber Boat Owners Club and not in the Government. The Government cannot say how many berths at Coaling Island were occupied as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

A total of 200 boats that previously had moorings at Western Beach have now been moved, and it is presumed that they have gone to Coaling Island.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1300 AND 1301 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Given that one of the objectives of the marina was to have a site at which to transfer people from Western Beach, how do the Government measure the success of the policy without the figures?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The Government will be able to have the information available to themselves quite soon. However, the Committee at the moment is involved in all the moving and all the different logistical issues that need to be put in place in order to have the marina fully operational and therefore, they have asked that some time be given to them in order to straighten up their record. Therefore, at that point we will be able to gauge the exact number. We know from the angle of the Port Authority that 200 vessels have moved from Western Beach and we are assuming that they have gone in that direction, I can not see them going anywhere else.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say how many vessels have stayed behind in Western Beach?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I believe the figure is round about the 100 mark but that is actually the physical count if one goes there today. Having said that, a lot of boats have actually moved in to Western Beach irrespective of the fact that they never had the berth there at all. Therefore, once this exercise is concluded we will know exactly how many there are that had a berth there originally.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is it the case that all the boats now in that new marina have come from Western Beach or are there some that have not?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, some of them have not but I just want to make clear that the facilities that were available at Western Beach will no longer be available in the format that they existed, so therefore it should be made clear that Western Beach facilities will no longer be available once the whole exercise has been completed.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say what will happen to the 100 who are now located at Western Beach, are there any plans for those people?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Could I just add by way of clarification that all the boats who were at Western Beach had the opportunity to move to the Coaling Island, some chose not to do so because they did not agree with this or they did not agree with that. Government have made it clear that we will not be maintaining a facility in both places, so those that chose not to go will have to make alternative arrangements for their boats. The Government may have some alternative facilities in the area of Waterport but the Government are not going to be operating Western Beach in the future. The whole point in doing the other investment is because Western Beach could not be made reasonably safe at reasonable cost because of the weather exposure.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

What has been the investment in the new marina?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The total amount, I have not got the exact figure here, but it is roughly about £1.1 million.

ORAL

NO. 1302 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**IMPORTS - COMPUTERS**

What was the value and number of computer components imported into Gibraltar since September 2005 inclusive on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1303 and 1304 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1303 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**IMPORTS – GOODS VEHICLES**

What was the value and number of goods vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers;

on a monthly basis since September 2005 inclusive?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1302 and 1304 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1304 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**IMPORTS – PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES**

What was the value and number of private motor vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers;

on a monthly basis since September 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

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

**Answer to Question 1304 to 2005**

- (a) Value of computer hardware imported since September 2005 inclusive.

September 2005	£345,000
October 2005	£594,000

- (b) Value and the number of goods vehicles imported by licensed dealers since September 2005 inclusive.

	Value (£ thousand)	Number
September 2005	38	4
October 2005	27	13

There were no goods vehicles imported by individuals in this period.

- (c) Value and number of private motor vehicles imported by licensed dealers and private individuals since September 2005 inclusive.

- (i) imported by private individuals

	Value (£ thousand)	Number
September 2005	216	42
October 2005	119	30

- (ii) imported by licensed dealers

	Value (£ million)	Number
September 2005	5.3	386
October 2005	5.7	403

**NO. 1305 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

How often and on what dates have the following met:

- (a) the Tourism Advisory Council since 22 September 2005;
- (b) the Port Advisory Council since 8 September 2005;
- (c) the E-Business Advisory Council since 1 September 2005;
- (d) the Business Advisory Council since 15 September 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The Development and Planning Commission met on:

12<sup>th</sup> October  
24<sup>th</sup> October  
23<sup>rd</sup> November  
5<sup>th</sup> December

The Advisory Councils meet quarterly, and they were next due to meet in November and December as follows:

Business Advisory Council	-	Met on 24 <sup>th</sup> November
Port Advisory Council	-	Met on 8 <sup>th</sup> December
Tourism Advisory Council	-	Due to meet on 15 <sup>th</sup> December
E-Business Advisory Council	-	Due to meet on 15 <sup>th</sup> December

ORAL

NO. 1306 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**HOUSING – VALUATION LIST**

Can Government state how many residential units were (a) added and (b) removed from the Valuation List for Rating purposes in the financial year 2004/2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1307 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1307 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**HOUSING – VALUATION LIST**

Can Government state how many residential units were (a) added and (b) removed from the Valuation List for Rating purposes in the financial year 2004/2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A total of 111 units were added in 2004/2005 and four units were deleted.

**NO. 1308 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GOVERNMENT LEASES**

Can Government say, in relation to the area occupied by Rock Motors and the BP petrol station to the south of the Waterport roundabout:

- (a) is the area a Government lease;
- (b) if so what is the area in square metres comprised in the lease;
- (c) what was the unexpired period in the lease;
- (d) has there been a transfer of lease and an application for change of use and if so on what date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The area in question is a Government lease, over a property containing about 1216m<sup>2</sup> which has an unexpired residue of 149 years 3 months.

There has not been any formal application by the lessee to transfer the lease or for a change of use.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1308 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

When the Minister says there has been no formal application, has there been any informal contact with that objective in mind?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I understand that there is an interested party in the area in question who has met with LPS and exposed to LPS some of their thinking in order to gauge Government thinking on their proposed plans. That is as far as it has gone, there has not been any formal meeting with the Government at Ministerial level on the matter.

**NO. 1309 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GDC EMPLOYEES**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the following items shown as Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005:

- (a) £81,000 Business Advisory Unit?
- (b) £36,000 Inward Investment and Lands?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The figures relate to the salaries of the GDC officers employed by the Business Advisory Unit and the Investment and Lands Division.

The GDC staff at the Business Advisory Unit consisted of the head of Unit and a Business Adviser. Their salaries came to £69,535. The balance related to social insurance contributions, pension schemes et cetera.

The GDC staff at the Investment and Lands Division consisted of one Grade V Officer. His basic salary was £30,119. The balance relates to social insurance contributions, pension contributions et cetera.

ORAL

NO. 1310 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**QUEENSWAY QUAY**

Can Government state whether a premium has been paid or will be paid to the Government for the granting of permission to carry out the island reclamation at Queensway Quay?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 1311 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1311 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**QUEENSWAY QUAY**

Can Government confirm that once the island reclamation at Queensway Quay is completed it will become Crown Land subject to a lease for the proposed development and if so has the premium for the granting of this lease already been agreed and what is the sum involved?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

A premium consisting of £500,000 and the surrender of No. 40 Berth at Gun Wharf was paid for the island project and the rights to develop a low density project on the north end of the former Camber.

Once the island reclamation at Queensway is completed it will become Crown Land. This land mass is already the subject of a lease.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1310 AND 1311 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact the £500,000 premium was the payment for the land or the lease rather?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

And the development of it, yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Was the release of No. 40 Berth, which appears to be part of the value, something that the developer that is doing that already had?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

That is correct.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That now belongs to the Government, is that correct?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, it was returned back to the Government however, the question relates to how it is today. I think it may have been released to the MOD as part of the MOD lands agreement.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the £500,000 an amount that has been credited to the Improvement and Development Fund or has it gone somewhere else?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, I believe that is the case.

ORAL

NO. 1312 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PLANNING PERMISSION TO OEM LTD**

Can Government give the total area in square metres, with a breakdown in square metres for each component part of the different project sites, for which OEM (International) Limited will pay the Government £15 million?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1262 and 1313 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1313 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**NORTH GORGE**

To what site are the present users of North Gorge being relocated to make way for the developments there and when is this expected to happen?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

OEM will pay the Government a £15 million premium for the following sites:

Buena Vista Barracks Site	-	13,330m <sup>2</sup>
North Gorge	-	15,400m <sup>2</sup>
Cumberland Site	-	3,600m <sup>2</sup>
Rosia Tanks	-	3,350m <sup>2</sup>

The area of the sites is approximate.

Present users of North Gorge will be relocated and discussions in this regard are ongoing. The Government do not wish to prejudice these discussions by providing detailed information on this matter at this stage.

Five written representations were received from the public in respect of the Cumberland Road development. One of these represented an association of North Pavilion Road tenants. 483 written representations were received from the public in respect of the Rosia Tanks development.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1262, 1312 AND 1313 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to the Rosia Tanks representations received is one of those 483 a petition?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the petition was made to the Government and not to the Development and Planning Commission and was delivered to the Government well after the period of representations being made to the Commission.



**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Given the whole concept of the public being able to express their views and express objections or support at projects, what threshold do the Government consider to be acceptable before they decide to look at something again, given if a high volume of objections is received?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Is the hon Member referring to Government or to the Development and Planning Commission?

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The DPC or the Government as the majority stakeholder in the DPC.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I can say that the Development and Planning Commission does not have a threshold by which they look at things depending on the quantity of representations. If one looks at the representations made by the 483 written submissions, most of them were stereotyped. In other words, most of them were saying the same thing signed by different people and so therefore what the Commission considers is not the number of people that have written submissions but the contents of the various issues that are raised. Therefore, if 483 people were to write objecting to one particular aspect of the project then the Commission would be considering obviously the strength of feeling, but on the other hand that it is referring to one particular item only. In respect of the Government, the Government make their decisions not based on submissions either, I do not think there is a threshold by which if they get 3,000 signatures we look at it again, if they do not then we do not. I think the Government have a wider remit of responsibilities that they need to consider in any of these particular cases, so therefore it is not just the interest of the 400 odd people that write in or the 3,000 submissions, but actually they look at a far wider range of issues and responsibilities as a Government in order to deliver their policies generally.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

My point was that in relation to the 483 objections, firstly I suppose people are entitled to have a similar view or feel equally strongly about a particular aspect of the project whether it is heritage or not. My question is a wider question in relation to the value or the weight which such public objections or representations have with the Government or with the DPC, and how far is that a criteria in deciding whether a building should have two floors less or whether it should be located somewhere else? That is my question.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

One has to understand that each case is considered on its own merit and representations are very much taken on board. We only have to see the example of the applications for the funicular. The funicular had representations made but the

Development and Planning Commission did not take its views on the funicular based on the 7,000 signatures but on the merits of what was being presented before the Commission to consider, and each case is actually considered on its own merits and not on the quantities or number of people who actually sign a petition. Otherwise, we might as well hand over the Government to the 7,000 of those petitioners, we have to take these things very much on board and the Commission does take a very serious view of peoples' views but one thing is taking it on board and another thing is not being governed by other peoples' views and not what we feel as a Government we ought to be doing.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can I ask the Minister whether OEM as an applicant were allowed to present submissions before the Development and Planning Commission?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the Development and Planning Commission is not going to allow objectors to appear before the Commission.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Obviously my question was whether OEM.....

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I am getting on to that but we had representations made by the objectors to do that and we have had those requests before and if one actually opens up the possibility for that to happen, then decision making would become a very difficult and long process. I think the public now, since the year 2000, have the ability to be able to make representations to the Development and Planning Commission and therefore we have opened up the possibility of public consultation, something which never existed before let me say. So therefore the public has to be made aware of the fact and reminded that it is only till the year 2000 that they are now able to make representations. When it comes to the application, which is the point the hon Member just made, the fact is that the Commission does sometimes call in applicants in order to make submissions but not for them to present their case but to be questioned by the Commission on issues that may not be clear to them. It is especially so with big projects where there may be quite a wide range of issues which are maybe not clear at outline planning. Let me say that some of these queries are based sometimes on some of the points that are made by the objectors themselves, so we take those on board and where we feel we are not able to clarify the issues amongst ourselves, we actually call the applicants in. This happened in the case of OEM, they were asked to come in with their team of architects to be able to explain to the Commission certain issues that we wanted explaining, and that was done.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

When in 2000 this provision was made in the law to allow people to object it was something that Opposition Members supported but in any case there was always provision in the law for people to object before the DPC. What the Minister has said then is that OEM were allowed to appear before the DPC in order to be questioned by the DPC but not to present their case, whereas the objectors were not allowed to present their case directly to the DPC.

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I want to clarify the matter so as to ensure that there is no misunderstanding. The applicants were not allowed, the applicants were called in by the Development and Planning Commission to be questioned on certain aspects of the project that needed clarification. The objectors to this project, like objectors to all other projects in the past, have never been allowed to make submissions to DPC because we feel that this is a practice which would make the working of the DPC extremely long-winded and applications would never get by. We had to listen to 483 applicants for example, who differentiates amongst those 483 objectors who would have the right to object, everybody could feel that they had the same right to object and it would become practically impossible for anybody to allow that to happen. It does not happen anywhere else and we are not going to allow it now.

**NO. 1314 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**DU FAROL BUILDING**

Can Government say in respect of the tenders received for the proposed demolition of the Du Farol Building and Signal Fog House, whether any bid was received which was lower than that of the successful tenderer, in what amount, and in what respects it was judged to be not fully compliant?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There was one tender that was lower than that of the successful tenderer. This tender was in the sum of £58,374.63.

The tender was not compliant because it failed to provide details, as required, of the method statement and it also failed to provide the necessary health and safety information.

The lowest bidder was asked on two occasions to submit the missing information and they failed to do so.

**NO. 1315 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GRAND MAGAZINE**

Can Government confirm whether the tender documents in respect of Grand Magazine stipulated that buildings erected on that site should not exceed ground plus three storeys?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The tender conditions were that the project should consist of a low rise residential development.

There were then planning guidelines that set out that the development should be restricted to four storeys.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1315 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister say when the tender for the development of the Anchorage was awarded what was the maximum height that the successful tenderer was going to construct on that site, the number of storeys?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

This is before my time but from what I recollect I believe that the four storeys guideline was actually observed in the submission.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Minister confirm that adverts have appeared and the development has been marketed in terms of seven or eight storey apartments?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, that is correct. I believe that negotiations were held with the developers subsequent to that and there were buildings that were staggered, in other words, some seven, eight, nine floors and some which were low-rise in order to create a variety of heights amongst the different buildings in the development.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Were other tenderers given an opportunity to tender in terms of the changes that had taken place in the heights of the development projects?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The answer is no, we did not give the opportunity for others to consider but let me say that it is not uncommon for Government to negotiate with developers after the tender has been awarded when issues arise in respect of different peculiarities in respect of any tender. In respect of this tender a staggered rooftop, it says in the guidelines, that adds visual interest to the area and careful consideration will need to be given to the relationship between individual building heights and building layout. In fact, the protection also and the need for them to protect Grand Magazine, which is an important feature within that, therefore all these considerations needed to be taken into account and I remember negotiation taking place in order to be able to assess a commercially viable project for the area bearing in mind what I have just said.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The considerations the Minister has read out are two sentences from the planning guidelines, he has not read out the sentence immediately before that which says, 'the height of the building shall be restricted to a maximum of four storeys, variety in length and building heights' then it goes on to mention the staggered roof scape and all the rest of it. What Opposition Members cannot understand is how a condition which is laid out in the planning guidelines, I remember that tender went back to the days of the Hon Peter Montegriffo when he was in that post, and there was a problem particularly with the need to conserve the historical site in which the development is going to take place, can the Minister clarify why the conditions of the tender were altered after it was awarded to this particular developer?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

First of all the hon Member appears to be labouring under a misapprehension about the nature of tender processes. Certainly it would be wrong to allow one participant in a tender process to participate on a different basis to another participant, but once tenders have been submitted on the same basis and there is a winner, it is standard practice, it is not uncommon certainly, for the Government to negotiate with the winner. The winner is already the winner on the basis of the tender, now certainly what cannot be done is that one cannot negotiate with somebody who is not the winner in order to make him the winner at the expense of the real winner. But re-negotiating or negotiating with the winner of the tender is by no means uncommon practice. As I recall, the negotiations I think related to the costs of the premiums that

were submitted as part of the bid were not sufficient to make the economic case given the expenses that had to be incurred by the Government in relocating all the various people that were in occupation of that site. That was the context in which the negotiation took place to extract a higher premium in order to ensure that at least the cost of the relocations were met. Of course, as developers always do, they said the only way they could sustain a higher premium is if they could build more sellable square metres and that is the context of the height increases. If what I have told the hon Member is wrong I will correct it at a later date with him but I am almost certain that the reason related to the fact that the premium was not sufficient to cover the cost of relocating the North Depot, the South Depot, the Buildings and Works, the RSPCA, the RGP garage and all those things.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Presumably the Government knew what it would cost to relocate all those things when they went out to tender, did they not indicate to prospective tenderers that there was a floor below which the Government would lose money on the operation instead of making money?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

At the time of going to tender one does not know what bids one is going to get.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, but if the land had people in it unless the people who were bidding were the ones already in it, if the bid came from somebody else it must follow inevitably that the person that was there had to be relocated by the Government. The Government went out to tender presumably with vacant possession of the site and invited proposals for a site that would be made available to a developer without tenants, or was it not like that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not recall.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It would be very peculiar, given that we are talking about what is common and not common, it would certainly not be common for somebody to apply to develop something where there is already somebody sitting there doing something else without it being taken for granted, at the very least if it was not spelt out, that the Government would be handing this site without people sitting there.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Or would relocate subsequently.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

My question therefore is, did the Government not already know what it would cost to relocate when they went to tender and therefore had already an idea of what they would be expecting to get from a developer to cover their relocation costs?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, I do not know whether people had done an assessment of the relocation costs but whether they had or they had not, and I do not know the answer to that, my recollection is that the bids that came in did not sustain those costs. Whether by then they had been established or it only became clear afterwards I could not tell him, but certainly my recollection is that the Government did not specify in the tender, 'by the way the relocation costs are £x million and therefore no bids under that figure will be entertained'. That certainly did not happen.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In fact, if the discussions with the successful tenderer, the winner, was on the basis that although he had won he was not offering enough then presumably it is not quite the same as saying, 'well look, we will negotiate with somebody that we would rather have one building higher and another one lower simply because it will look prettier'. I think we have been given two slightly different versions here because I think the hon Member's colleague said that in looking at this it was so as to produce a balance of what the buildings would look like and that that meant some going higher and some coming lower from the four.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The renegotiation with the tenderer was not motivated or caused by the fact that somebody thought it would be prettier if some of the buildings were higher and some lower. Somebody might well have thought that but that certainly was not the reason why there was a negotiation with the winner. Now the guidelines may have entertained that possibility but that still was not the reason why it was done.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact, the answer to the original supplementary that it meant some buildings going up instead of all being uniform does not follow because nothing came down. That is to say, nothing went down below four storeys to make up for something going up higher because in fact what we are talking about is greater density. Not the same number of flats but a greater number.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, there was certainly a greater number of flats, whether it was achieved by leaving everything at the same height and increasing some, or by increasing some and lowering others I do not know. Certainly the net effect was a higher number of sellable square metres.



**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Do the Government have readily available what was the original number anticipated and what was the final number agreed?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That information is of course available but I do not have it here.

ORAL

NO. 1316 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GOVERNMENT UK WEBSITE**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the relaunch of the Gibraltar Government UK website?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 1266 to 1273 and 1317 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1317 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GOVERNMENT UK WEBSITE**

On what date did the production of a new Government UK website go out to tender?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

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

**Answer to Question 1317 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1266**

There were no costs of the UKGTA meeting which was held on the same day as the Gibraltar Day in London.

**Answer to Question 1267**

The information requested in respect of this event is not yet available.

**Answer to Question 1268**

Three persons made up the official Gibraltar delegation to the Intur tourism fair in November as follows:

Nicky Guerrero, Sales & Marketing Manager  
Peter Kirkby, Sales Executive, GTB Office Madrid  
Gillaine De Los Santos, Administration Officer, GTB Office Madrid

**Answer to Question 1269**

Twelve journalists attended the informal gathering on 24 November 2005.

**Answer to Question 1270**

The GTB delegation consisted of five persons as follows:

Peter Canessa, Chief Executive, Gibraltar Tourist Board  
Nicky Guerrero, Sales & Marketing Manager, Gibraltar Tourist Board  
Ian Leyde, UK Sales Manager, Gibraltar Government Office in London  
Katie Cload, Executive Officer, Gibraltar Government Office in London  
Lucy Frost, Marketing Manager, Gibraltar Government Office in London

**Answer to Question 1271**

The cost of the Bristol roadshow, with a breakdown, was as follows:

Hire of room and hospitality	£6,660
Hire of powerpoint equipment, plasma TVs etc	£1,236
Printing and postage	£ 890
Accommodation costs	£1,098
Air fares	£1,711
Subsistence	£ 307
Travel expenses	£ 176

**Answer to Question 1272**

No policy decision has yet been taken with regard to Gibraltar's possible participation in the 2006 World Travel Market.

cont...

**Contd Answer to Question 1317**

**Answer to Question 1273**

There was no cost of the UKGTA brochure launch, which took place on the same day as the last UKGTA meeting.

The cost of the brochure was £32,285 of which Government paid £18,833. The balance was paid by industry participants in the brochure.

**Answer to Question 1316**

The cost of designing, producing and launching a new Gibraltar Government UK website was £17,567. This included all work on the database, new domain names and hosting.

**Answer to Question 1317**

The website project was put out to selective tender on 24 January 2005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1266 TO 1273, 1316 AND 1317 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1269, the 12 journalists who attended the meeting at the INTUR Tourism Fair, does he have the list of the media that they represented?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I do not have the information here available but definitely we do have a list of those that did attend the informal gathering.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Could the Minister supply that in writing?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

I will send it to him.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1271, the Road Show in Bristol, there is one entry which cost £6,660 and that was the hire of the room and hospitality, does the Minister know how much was the hire of the room and how much was the actual hospitality?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

The hire of the room was £3,030 and the balance was in respect of the dinner and some pre-dinner drinks that were offered during the exhibition.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1272, the Minister says that no policy decision has been taken with regard to Gibraltar's possible participation in the World Travel Market next year. Is the matter currently under discussion to arrive at a change of policy or is it that the Government will not be participating?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, the policy is still currently under review. It is normal at this time of the year, in fact for example, last year at the UKGTA meeting members were advised to give their views, not particularly on this issue but on general marketing activities and strategies and to submit this to me by 14<sup>th</sup> December. The same will happen next week at the meeting of the Tourism Advisory Council where advertising and marketing for the next financial year will be considered, and I think once all the relevant input is submitted by the various parties that tend to influence policy, then a

decision will be taken in line as well with the Estimates and general budget available for marketing. Then we will prioritise what activities we undertake and what we do not and at that point we will normally know this possibly towards the beginning of March time.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Is this discussion or this review something which normally happens in the normal course of events every year or is this something which is happening because of the World Travel Market only?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, it is the normal course of events that I adopt in the different areas for which I hold responsibility in order to allow the different sectors to be able to input into general Government policy. At the end of the day it is just input, it may not be that we decide to go down a different route altogether but I can say that generally consensus of the UKGTA is that we should not be there, and it is probably most in their interest if anything. I do not always share that view and I think I have made it known in public, but I bow down to those that are in the industry, those that are on the spot and at the end of the day they are probably the ones to benefit most from a successful attendance at World Travel Market. So in the last two years we have decided not to attend, it may change for the future.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to Question No. 1273, which is the UKGTA travel brochure, the brochure cost £32,000 of which the Government paid £18,833, is this a brochure that is usually put out to tender, the printing and production of it, how does this come about?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

No, in the UK it is not possible to go out to tender as we would do in Gibraltar. There is no way that we can put an advert in The Times or whatever for something like this, it just would not attract any attention whatsoever and it would be a very expensive way to go about advertising the tender. What we do is that we go out to selective tender which means that we go out to at least three or four parties who are given a brief and they are then told to submit proposals, not just on costing but on ways of undertaking the project forward, and then a selection is made. That is how it has been done in this particular year as has been done now for a few years.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The next question I had was in relation to the Government website cost of £17,500. The procedure used for that was the same as for the brochure?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Absolutely, that is the procedure we follow.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

In relation to the website is that not something which could have been done by a local company or local expertise, given that it is internet and it really does not matter where one is in order to produce it?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Well that may have been the case but the idea is that whoever has to coordinate the project has to be in the UK, because it needs to link up with all the participants, all the tour operators, all the various players that operate within that industry and then it needs to be kept up, contact has to be kept on establishments. I know all this can be done through the internet nowadays but I think that there is an element of personal involvement that would make it more feasible perhaps for somebody with real presence. Let me say, and this is not a determining factor, but let me say that one of the companies that actually got the contract had one of its senior executives being a Gibraltarian, but that is actually more by coincidence than by actual choice of determining who would get the tender or not, but he helped in the understanding of the product which I think was important.



**NO. 1318 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**EU FUNDING**

Can Government list the parties that have applied for:

- (a) EU funding; or
- (b) Gibraltar Government funding;

since the last Question-Time in this House, 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, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Answer to Question 1318 of 2005**

(a) Applications for EU Funding

Project Sponsor	Status	Funding Requested		Purpose of Grant
		ERDF	GOG	
Dabutti Limited	Active	£2,185.80 (15%)	£2,185.80 (15%)	Renovation, office furniture, IT infrastructure and rent
Rysar Limited	Active	£2,571.00 (15%)	£2,571.00 (15%)	Website development, trade advertising, web marketing, database creation and management, merchant services, e-commerce fulfilment at e-commerce house and e-commerce house premises
Food & Beverages Management Ltd	Active	£4,935.60 (15%)	£4,935.60 (15%)	Building & renovation works, purchase of health and safety equipment, purchase of catering equipment, purchase of restaurant furniture

(b) Applications for Government Funding

Project Sponsor	Status	Funding Requested		Purpose of Grant
		ERDF	Costs	
Threshold Counselling Services	Newly submitted		To be confirmed	To set up a therapy and counselling service

ORAL

NO. 1319 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**KONVER PROGRAMME**

Has the final payment of over £500,000 in respect of the Konver programme now been made and if not when do the Government expect to receive this amount?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The final payment of the Konver II Programme has yet not been received. The payment is still pending the UK's final Programme report being ratified by the EU Commission. No timescale has been given by either the UK or the EU Commission.

**NO. 1320 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**POSTAL SERVICES**

Can Government state of the £100,000 forecast outturn for 2004/2005 under postal services miscellaneous receipts how much was due to e-Commerce sales?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The estimated revenue from e-Commerce was £90,000. The actual revenue was £79,399.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1320 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

These e-Commerce sales are what? Sales by the Post Office of philatelic material or something like that or is the fact that it is under the Post Office anything to do with the sale of stamps or nothing?

**HON J J HOLLIDAY:**

Yes, the services are run by the Post Office and basically what they do is store goods and ship them out, post them out on instructions from the e-Commerce operator.

ORAL

NO. 1321 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP**

Can Government list the conferences that they have assisted with, sponsored or co-sponsored in Gibraltar since the last Question-Time in this House, showing the dates when the conferences in question were held, the cost and the department that was most directly involved?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

There have been none.

ORAL

NO. 1322 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

Can Government state whether the Youth Services have been consulted in relation to the facilities that will be made available in the King’s Bastion Leisure Centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1323 to 1326 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1323 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

Can Government state whether the Department of Education has been consulted in relation to the facilities that will be made available in the King’s Bastion Leisure Centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1322 and 1324 to 1326 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1324 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

Can Government state whether any other Government Department has been consulted in relation to the facilities that will be made available in the King’s Bastion Leisure Centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1322, 1323, 1325 and 1326 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1325 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

On what date was a licence issued under the Heritage Trust Ordinance for the occupation of King’s Bastion by the developer and the contractors and to whom was such a licence issued?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1322 to 1324 and 1326 of 2005.

**NO. 1326 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**LEISURE CENTRE – KING’S BASTION**

What is the value attached to the cost of the demolition of King’s Bastion power station provided in the agreement between the Government and the developers of the Mid-Town project?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government will make an announcement about the Leisure Centre shortly. This is a leisure project and is therefore within the domain of the Ministry for Sports and Leisure.

The King’s Bastion is in the occupation of the Government as it has always been. The Government are the Developer of the Leisure Centre at King’s Bastion. The Contractor and his sub-contractors currently have access to the site only for the purposes of demolition and design.

The King’s Bastion is listed in Schedule 1 of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust Ordinance. The demolition has been carried out in close consultation with the Heritage Trust and pursuant to an inventory of structures to be demolished approved by the Trust. Obviously, no structure that forms part of the historical King’s Bastion has, or will be, demolished or even damaged. Indeed, the demolition of all these structures restores the Bastion to its historical, heritage form.

The design of the Leisure Centre itself has also been and will continue to be the subject of detailed consultation with the Trust.

The Government expect that such licence as may be required under section 39 of the Heritage Trust Ordinance will be issued at the appropriate time. As I have said already, the Developer are the Government and it remains to be determined whether the Government require such a licence since they would be licensing themselves.

The developer’s premium for the Mid-Town project requires it to pay £5.5 million towards the cost of the Leisure Centre. The cost of the demolition, which is on-going, is about £900,000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1322 TO 1326 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

In relation to the three questions I have asked, as in consulting different departments of Government, can the Chief Minister give us an indication whether he has done so or not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member will forgive me if we answer questions as we choose. The first sentence I read was the answer to his questions and that is that the Government will make an announcement about the Leisure Centre shortly. This is a leisure project and is therefore within the domain of the Ministry for Sports and Leisure.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Government confirm whether the £900,000 is actually part of the £5.5 million the developer will therefore have £4.1 million left?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It will be, it is not yet. In other words, the Government have actually paid that but it will form part of the £5.5 million when all the documentation takes place. As a matter of cash flow the Government have paid it out, have advanced it out to the demolition contractor. So if the Government pay for this the developer have to pay the next £5.5 million of the project.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So the demolition contractor is actually working directly for the Government and not for the developer of the site, the adjoining site as it were?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The demolition contractor is working under the auspices of the main contractor. The main contractor is not the Government, the Government is the developer. The demolition contractor is not in contract directly with the Government. The project costs more than £5.5 million so the Government will have to put additional funds, either at this stage or at a later stage, for the difference between the cost of the project and the £5.5 million which is the developer of the Mid-Town project's contribution to the Leisure Centre, as well as other things.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So there is now a main contractor that was appointed by who the Government or by the developer of the adjoining site? The one that is supposed to be providing the £5.5 million appointed the contractor or the Government appointed them?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

They did.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It is that main contractor that gets paid by the Government who then pay the sub-contractor. Who are Government making the payments to?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think the Government are making the payments to the main contractor. Not to be confused with building contractor. There will be a building contractor as well but this project is not yet at the building phase. There is a contractor to the Government to build on behalf of the Government, who are the developer, a leisure centre. That contractor is the developer of the Mid-Town project. That developer of the Mid-Town project then engages architects, demolition contractors and in due course building contractors.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact, the developer of the Mid-Town project that got the Mid-Town project on the basis that they would do things for the Government free of charge, are actually the ones that are being paid by the Government the £900,000?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The contract was not that they would do things free of charge, they would do some things free of charge to a certain value. The Government have chosen, in the context of the Leisure Centre bit of the package, remember that there is a school and other bits of the package as well, in respect of the Leisure Centre bit of the package the Government decided they wanted a leisure centre which was bigger and had more things in it than could be delivered for the element of the premium that had been earmarked for the leisure centre. So the Government said fine if we want more then we will pay for the difference. We could have had a £5.5 million leisure centre, it would have been smaller and had less things in it, and then they would have paid the lot.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If they were paying up front as it were, like they would do with the premium, £5.5 million worth of work why is it that the Government are having to do not the additional cost over and above the £5.5 million but the starting cost of the whole thing, which is what they offered in their proposal?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

As I said, I thought I had said or intimated that it is early days because the documentation is not yet in place and they do not want to be shelling out large sums

of money for transactions that are not yet in place. I think it is funding issues with the bank, so as not to delay the demolition we have put the money in, they have got to pay in £5.5 million and we have got to put in the balance. Whether we put in a bit at the beginning or a bit at the end or a bit in the middle is neither here nor there. We could have waited until everything is documented but then the demolition would not yet have started.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Just to come back to the question of the licence under the Heritage Ordinance, if I understood the Chief Minister correctly the Government, he said, are the developer so it remains to be determined whether the Government as the developer requires such a licence or not. What about the contractor, does the contractor have such a licence under the Heritage Ordinance?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, the person who would require a licence is somebody to go in to do a development there. Now if the hon Member put in a bid to the Government to do a development in the King's Bastion, he would need a licence. Everybody that works then for the developer would not need a licence, the contractor, the electricians, the plumber, it is the developer that needs a licence to access the site and do whatever he is permitted to do under the terms of the licence. It has not yet been legally decided whether the Government need such a licence, since as I said before they would be licensing themselves. I have a personal view on the matter but at the end of the day it remains to be seen whether I am right or wrong. The correct reading of the Ordinance is not that everybody that goes in there needs a licence, the licence is needed by the principal party that gets permission to build or develop or to alter and things like that. The contractor, for example in the context of planning permission or building permission, the contractor does not get planning permission. Planning permission is obtained by the developer of a project, in other words, the party on whose behalf a project is being built.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Then am I correct in assuming that as the Chief Minister sees it, the words "to occupy any part of the building, structure, site or land" are words which he would argue apply to the developer and not to the contractor? Would the contractor need a licence to occupy, that is the question?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

In my view no, but it remains to be determined. I think the Government are in occupation of the King's Bastion as they have always been. If we were to put it out to tender and allow a private developer access, then that private developer would certainly require a licence.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

So if a contractor moves in with machinery, bulldozers or whatever equipment they need and it is a contractor doing it on behalf of the Government, then the Government's contention is that they would not need the licence. Secondly, can I just clarify when he says this needs to be determined or needs to be legally determined, is this before a court or something of that nature?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, not before a court.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Some time ago when the issue of whether or not this particular development should have gone out to tender, I recall the Chief Minister saying that it was not going out to tender because the proposal made to the Government was so exactly what the Government wanted that they felt no need to tender or to go out to tender. Is it that it was not so exactly what the Government wanted for that site, because we are now being told the Government will not accept a £5.5 million leisure centre, they actually want to do something better and therefore that another tenderer might have been able to propose that to the Government?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member cannot resist the temptation to construct his own words in order then to justify the point that he wants to make on the back of them. I have never said that it was so exactly what the Government wanted that the Government felt, the Government said that there is an exception to their policy of putting things out to tender and that is when there is an exceptional, economic or social benefit to Gibraltar, and that this was a case in which the Government felt that the social benefits to Gibraltar justified it in the form of not just a leisure centre but also the underground parking, the park, the school, all of which would be presented. We have only been discussing, in the context of the leisure centre, one slice of that premium, there are other bits but of course each slice had a monetary value attached to it. It is not a question of the developer saying, 'well I will build you a leisure centre, a school, a park and underground car park' without saying how many floors of the underground car park, how big is the school or how expensive is the leisure centre. I think the hon Member I am sure envisages that there is a cash sum attributed to these things and the amount that was pencilled in for the leisure centre in the event did not deliver the sort of leisure centre that we wanted. We could have had a £5.5 million leisure centre but we thought it would be a wasted opportunity and that with a little bit of Government extra investment it could be made much better.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can I just come back to the question of the licence just to clarify it or to seek information? Can the Minister say whether the Government or whether advice has been sought from the Attorney General on this point as to whether a licence is required under the Heritage Ordinance?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Government do not disclose whether or from whom they may seek advice on legal issues.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Government publish every year in the Estimates of Expenditure not only from whom they seek legal advice but actually how much they pay for that legal advice. I am simply asking in this case whether advice has been sought from the Attorney General or not. Given the Chief Minister's words were that it remains to be determined whether such a licence is required, that is what has opened up the question.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It remains to be determined is a very different question of whether who we may have sought advice from or not sought advice from. The Government will determine this on the basis of a device if they feel it appropriate to seek it from whatever party they consider it appropriate to seek it from. But when we do seek that advice, it is not normal to give details of the advice that the Government receive. The Attorney General is the Government's in-house legal adviser, there are occasions in which the Government take advice from him and then also take advice from people in the private sector, there are occasions in which they take advice only from people in the private sector and there are occasions when they take advice only from him.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

It is not that we want details of the advice, it is simply to know whether the point has been referred to anyone for advice.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The point has not yet been determined, I am not willing to go beyond that. My own personal view is that if a piece of legislation says that somebody needs a licence from the Government, and the person doing the things that needs the licence is also the Government, it is pretty odd that the Government should be licensing themselves. Of course I suppose it is possible to give oneself a piece of paper that gives permission to do something but it is all pretty academic stuff.

ORAL

NO. 1327 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**WATERPORT HOUSING PROJECT**

What costs if any were incurred by GRPI Company Limited in connection with the Waterport Housing Scheme in the financial years 2002/2003, 2003/2004 and 2004/2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1328 and 1329 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1328 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**WATERPORT HOUSING PROJECT**

Can Government confirm whether the fee of £3.1 million payable to the design team appointed for the housing development at the Waterport is reflected in the cost at which the properties have been put on sale?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1327 and 1329 of 2005.

**NO. 1329 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**WATERPORT HOUSING PROJECT**

Are there any additional costs other than the price of tender award to the construction company and the design team fees reflected in the overall costs of the housing project at the Waterport and if so which and what is the total cost of the project?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Costs incurred by GRP Co Ltd were nil in 2002/2003, £92,357 in 2003/2004 and £1,489,772 in 2004/2005.

The £3.1 million in fees relates, and it may be that I did not make this clear when I last answered a question on this subject from him, to the design and contract administration of four projects. The portion of the fee related to the residential properties for sale at Waterport Terraces is £1.8 million and this is included as part of the projected costs, and therefore reflected in the sale price of the properties. That is the £1.8 million and not the £3.1 million.

The sale prices reflect all foreseeable costs that GRP and the Government will incur in relation to this project until sale of the properties to the purchasers. Some of these costs cannot be ascertained until completion and are therefore estimated. It is not appropriate to provide details of them at this stage, but Government will be happy to publish a full account of the development when it is completed.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1327 TO 1329 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The tender award of the £50 million and the £3.1 million is at the moment the ones that are in the public domain and quantified, anything above that at this stage are estimates which the Government do not know whether the estimate is going to be too high or too low?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, what we actually expect to happen is that some of them will come in higher, some of them will come in lower, but I think we would be very lucky to get away with the total amount that we have provided for and which we have used as the basis for

the sale price calculations, very lucky indeed because with these sorts of contracts unforeseen costs always crawl out of the woodwork. Let me put it this way, I think it is most improbable that it should transpire at the end of the day that we have used a figure that is too high a base price for calculating sale price. Much more likely to be the opposite but in fact we have sold for less than cost. Some of these costs may be higher. The total costs may be higher.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But the money that has been spent by GRPI to date is all part of the £3.1 million or the £50 million or is it paying for any of these other things out of that money?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I could not tell him for certain, it may have paid for some of its own marketing expenses and things of that sort, but I cannot think of any of the other items that have been incurred yet, or other things like infrastructure costs and things of that sort.

ORAL

NO. 1330 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

**SOUTH DISTRICT HOUSING PROJECT**

Can Government state what provisions have or will be made within the south district to cater for the inevitable demographic move of people after the announced building projects are completed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1331 of 2005.

**NO. 1331 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**SOUTH DISTRICT HOUSING PROJECT**

Can Government state what education impact study has been conducted by the Department of Education as to the implications of the demographic move of people to the south district in the near future?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Government are satisfied that these developments will not disrupt the provision of any public service or amenity any more than it did when the much larger demographic move occurred at the time of the larger Westside developments.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1330 AND 1331 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

So if I take that the criticisms from the GSD at the time that nothing was made, the Chief Minister is now making the same mistake by not doing anything at all, is that correct?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, it is not correct but certainly if we were replicating the mistake it would be on a smaller scale since Westside was much larger, many more houses, much more demographic movement went into the Westside areas than these projects in the south district. As I say, the Government are satisfied that none of the public services or amenities will be disrupted, and that includes the educational ones, the sewage, the traffic and everything else that has been erected by those who would much rather not see this development happen.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Does the Chief Minister know how many more children might go into St Joseph's School?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not possible to know that until we have the list of purchasers and therefore know how many of them were living in the south district already and might already be going to St Joseph's School. Certainly the hon Member should be aware that if one has a first and a middle school in the south district, when that school has finished educating the children of the first wave of residents into the south district, for example, Brympton and Vineyards and Rosia Dale, unless one puts in new young married couples with young children, St Joseph's School will very quickly become surplus to requirements, because the children that have been going to St Joseph's First and Middle Schools for the last few years will not stay at St Joseph's First and Middle Schools for long, they progress to the Comprehensive. So perhaps we ought to be building more in the south district to make sure the excellent first and middle schools which the hon Members developed when they were in Government does not go to waste.

**NO. 1332 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**THEATRE ROYAL**

Can Government state whether the value of the property where the Theatre Royal was situated has increased since they signed the agreement with the owners?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

This site is earmarked for a theatre and therefore has no value other than as a site for a theatre. There is no market in Gibraltar for theatre sites and it is therefore not possible to gauge whether its value has increased or not.

Were the site not earmarked as it is for a theatre, and were it available, which it is not, for other types of development, I imagine that its value will have increased.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1332 OF 2005**

**HON S E LINARES:**

I say this because he was the one that stated that this property was valued at £1.3 million for the sale to the Government itself, so it was the Government who were interested in buying the theatre and the value he gave at the time was £1.3 million reviewable every three years. I think it is a reasonable question to ask whether the owner had now reviewed the value for the sale of a theatre, or a hole, a crater in the middle of town which is what is left, to more than £1.3 million which he said in this House. This is the question, so a sarcastic answer that the Chief Minister is trying to give is not good enough. So can he tell me whether the owners have actually increased the value which he stated in this House, which was £1.3 million, or have not it is a simple question?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It may be a simple question and indeed as he says it may be a reasonable question but it is not the question he asked on the Order Paper. He did not ask me in the Order Paper whether the owners had revalued the property, he asked me whether the value of the property has increased.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Since the owners signed, can he not carry on reading?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Since they signed the agreement with the owners. That is only fixing in time, whether something has increased in value or not is a product of the market, it is not a product of what the owners think or even what I think. In any event, presumably he recalls that what was to be revalued was the rent and not the strike price of the option. If he wants to know whether the owners have said whether they think the property is worth more now than it was three years ago, he should have asked that question. That is not the question that he has asked. The question that he has asked is whether the value of the property, not the price, but whether the value of the site has increased since we signed the agreement with the owners. Now that is the answer that he has got and it is the right answer, he is not getting another one.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Has the price increased then? I will ask the Chief Minister the question that he wants asked in the manner he wants it asked.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

If he means were the Government to exercise their option to purchase the property under the original deal, has the formula for the calculation of the price increased beyond that which he is aware of, the answer is no.

**HON S E LINARES:**

Just to put on record, 'aware of' comes from himself in this House, £1.3 million.



**NO. 1333 OF 2005**

**THE HON S E LINARES**

**EDUCATION – TEACHERS PENSIONS**

Can Government state whether they have reformed the pension scheme to ensure that teachers receive recognition for all the periods of service in the computation of their pensions and therefore disregarding any break in service?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

As the hon Member knows it is a manifesto commitment of this Government to reverse the historical position in the public service, not reversed by previous Governments, whereby the pre-break in service periods of service are disregarded from calculation of occupational pension entitlement. This policy will be implemented, I am confident next year, but it is not limited to teachers.

ORAL

NO. 1334 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**WATERPORT HOUSING PROJECT**

Can Government now state, of the 1112 applications received by the closing date for the purchase of Waterport Terraces, how many were from applicants on the pre-list for housing and how many were from applicants on the housing waiting list proper?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government cannot yet provide that information, it is being calculated as we speak.

**NO. 1335 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**SOUTH DISTRICT HOUSING PROJECT**

Can Government state what is the meaning of the phrase "Established residents of Gibraltar" which appeared in their Press Release 239/2005 dated 12 October 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The exact eligibility criteria for the South District developments has not been settled yet and awaits analysis of the applications for Waterport Terraces. But the phrase 'established residents of Gibraltar' means what it says – residents who are established. What remains to be decided is the exact parameters of how it will be fixed. In other words, the definition of what the parameters are going to be for fixing the concept of established. But it will extend to categories of people who are not Gibraltarians under the Gibraltarian Status Ordinance and will extend to established UK Nationals.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1335 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

Will this include Moroccans?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have said what I have said, I cannot say more than what I have said which is not to say that anything more is written in or written out. It is just that this is so far as the decisions have gone pro tem.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

There is no reference then to persons having to be eligible for Government housing, which I think was the criteria that was being used previously, this is a different approach.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, I think it is likely to be different and of course a distinction has to be drawn between eligibility to buy and eligibility to take part in any co-ownership scheme that the Government may design, they are different things. This is a private development and therefore, as opposed to Waterport Terraces which was a development carried out by the Government using public funds, this is a private development done by a developer using private funds. The Government's interest is in the co-ownership scheme and in the resale prices given that there is an element of interest in terms of the way the sites were allocated and the value attached to the sites, which I think themselves contain an element of subsidy. So a distinction has to be drawn between the eligibility to purchase and the eligibility to participate in any 50/50 scheme, but I should say that the 50/50 scheme for these projects have not been designed or thought about yet. Well they have been thought about but they have not been settled in detail.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact, the phrase 'established residents of Gibraltar' at this stage is about eligibility to purchase and does not imply anything more than that, just eligibility to purchase at this point.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

That does not tell him anything about what it will mean in the context of the co-ownership scheme. He should not assume from that question that the co-ownership scheme will be limited to registered Gibraltarians. He should not assume it, it may or it may not.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I cannot assume either one or the other, then presumably I will have to get told when the decision is taken whether it is one or the other.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I just did not want him going away with the wrong impression. That which he says just now is implicit in my earlier statement that the decision has not yet been made.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I have taken on board the fact that he has said that. All I am saying is that since this is in fact something published by the Government in a Government press release, then the position at the moment is that people who see themselves, or think they are or may perceive themselves as established residents, at the moment are being told that that potentially qualifies them to buy into these projects but not necessarily to be eligible for any further treatment. It may or may not but at the moment it is only in respect of being able to buy, is that correct?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, but that statement is true of established UK residents as indeed of established Gibraltarians. The Government have not yet made any statement about the nature of the home ownership scheme that will be available for this project for anybody, for the UK, for Gibraltarians or for anybody else. So he should not read into the co-ownership scheme aspects of our discussion, anything specific to UK or to British non-Gibraltarians. Government have said nothing about the co-ownership scheme attaching to this project in favour of anybody, Gibraltarians, Moroccans, British non-Gibraltarians or any other category of person. I am just being cautious to make sure that he does not read more than that into our exchanges. For example, what he has just said that in respect of purchase, established UK nationals are safe but that they are not safe in respect of home ownership. Nobody is safe in respect of home ownership because the Government have said nothing about home ownership for anybody yet in these schemes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I am not suggesting that Government have, I know that Government have not, I am saying that if the Government issue a press release and refer to a category of persons who are established residents of Gibraltar being able to do something, to buy, then the established residents of Gibraltar means that the seller can only sell to somebody that meets that definition. What we have heard from the Government really is that at this stage the definition is intended to be established UK nationals but may mean more than established UK nationals at some.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

In other words, it is not limited only to Gibraltarians.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

If we are talking about a private development which is being put on the market, are the Government in a position, other than by virtue of the agreement that is done with the developer, to stop an EU national that comes into Gibraltar from buying?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, the Government are neither in a position nor would wish to do so, these are all subjects of agreement with the developer. The developer, who I suppose will honour the agreement, much as happened in the time of his own affordable housing schemes in Westside when there were agreements as to eligibility of purchaser. The extent to which it is legally enforceable is nothing that has ever been tested, but I think the developer expects to comply with his agreement with the Government and we expect that too.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

That is why in one of my previous supplementaries I asked because in the past the eligibility test was that one was eligible to purchase if one was eligible to be rehoused

by the Government. That is not the case this time. The categories of people who would not be able to apply for Government housing, who would not be entitled to make an application, would still be entitled to buy.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes. Let me put it another way, the categories of people who are entitled to apply for Government housing is narrower than the category of persons who will be eligible to buy in these developments.

**NO. 1336 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**CHILTON COURT**

Can Government confirm when is the handover date for the flats at Chilton Court and whether the flats would be immediately available to the Housing Department for persons on the waiting list when they are handed over or would refurbishment work need to be carried out before they are ready?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The date specified in the lands agreement for handover of the flats at Chilton Court is March next year. This is not a firm date for two reasons. Firstly, the law Courts are considering cases of irregular MOD occupants, the verdict on which may have implications for this date. Secondly, the MOD is at present reviewing housing policy for serving members of the Royal Gibraltar Regiment. The outcome of this review could also impact on this date. The Government will wish to adopt the position which is most helpful to and supportive of the most favourable outcome of that review for the benefit of Royal Gibraltar Regiment soldiers.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1336 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the position then that on the basis of these factors there is a possibility that the March 2006 date will not be met?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think there is a very strong possibility of that, yes, of it not being met. In fact there are circumstances in which it may not happen at all.

**HON C A BRUZON:**

What the handover may not happen at all?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

There are circumstances in which it may not happen at all, and I am being as cryptically informative as I can in the original answer to the question.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, we have noticed a certain crypticness in the answer, but the second part seems to suggest that there may be a possibility of Chilton Court then being used to a greater extent to house Gibraltar Regiment people, and that is something which the Government are supportive of and I think we would be supportive of that as well. Is that the indication?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

All that he has said is true but not exactly, I think the MOD is reviewing its housing policy and if, for example, that review were to conclude, as I think we would both hope that it did, that the Royal Gibraltar Regiment has the same housing rights as any other soldiers in the British Army, I think that would be something that we would all support on both sides of this House and I think would be a right and fair decision. But if that was the conclusion, then it might alter some of the dynamics which enable the MOD to make this particular block available.



**NO. 1337 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – PRE-WAR FLATS**

Can Government now say if they are in a position to state to whom and at what price were each of the thirteen pre-war dwellings offered for tender in the upper town area sold?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The completion date was set as 2<sup>nd</sup> December and by this date eight out of the twelve have completed the purchase of their property. Government will shortly be publishing the usual notice in the Gazette setting out the details of these awards. In the meantime, I am quite happy to have the hon Member have a copy in confidence for his information but I would prefer not to make the information available public, it rather makes a waste of time of the notice in the Gazette. So I will hand him in a while, but not in answer to the question for the purposes of Hansard, the information. It will be published in the Gazette.

The four properties where the purchase was not completed will now be offered to the next preferred bidder for each of the individual properties concerned. I cannot give him a date of when that is likely to complete. I am quite happy to send it to him now provided it is not for inclusion in Hansard. The paper I am handing him also has the names of the people that did not compete and withdrew that information is confidential even after the other has been published.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1337 OF 2005**

**HON C A BRUZON:**

The Chief Minister is referring now to 12 properties because we started off with 14 in October according to the March press release. Apparently the explanation was a simple one that in fact two addresses had been put in as one, so that brought the number from 14 to 13. Now I think he is talking about 12 properties.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, I am straining my memory now but I think there was a possibility that one property might have been bid for as two separate dwellings and in fact it was bid for as one large one. Therefore it is one rather than two. He can compare those

addresses with the pictures in the advertisement in the Chronicle and he will be able to see how those were all allocated.

ORAL

NO. 1338 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government confirm what was the original target date set for the completion of the sale of the properties at Rosia Court?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1339 to 1344 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1339 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government say how many prospective purchasers of Rosia Court have completed their purchase as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1338 and 1340 to 1344 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1340 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government state whether there is any delay in completing the sale of the properties at Rosia Court and if so explain why?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1338, 1339 and 1341 to 1344 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1341 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government confirm whether asbestos has been found in any of the properties at Rosia Court?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1338 to 1340 and 1342 to 1344 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1342 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government confirm whether there have been problems reported with the water heaters at Rosia Court?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1338 to 1341, 1343 and 1344 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1343 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government say how many properties at Rosia Court were damaged as a result of works on the properties?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1338 to 1342 and 1344 of 2005.



**NO. 1344 OF 2005**

**THE HON C A BRUZON**

**HOUSING – ROSIA COURT**

Can Government say whether they will be subsidising the service charges for Rosia Court and if so in what amount and for what reason?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1338**

At the time of going to tender it was envisaged that allocation would take place on or about 6<sup>th</sup> May 2005 and completions were to take place six weeks after that. This was delayed, the hon Member will recall, for the reasons explained publicly on several occasions, so that bidders would know the selling prices at Waterport Terraces before committing themselves to Rosia Court. Some buyers, after allocation, then asked for Government to consider including the lofts in the sales. Those were not originally advertised for sale, the lofts, the void in between the pitched ceiling. Government agreed, but this required the Government to do some precautionary work on the roof which, like all such roofs, contain asbestos. The hon Member's use of the phrase 'asbestos being found' is unnecessarily dramatic, asbestos is to be found in almost all building materials in all buildings built within a certain period after the Second World War until about the 1970's. So it is not a question of asbestos being found, one can be almost certain that buildings of a certain age will contain asbestos. The question is where, is it tampered with, is it untampered with and are people likely to come into contact with it in a tampered form? As I say, because of the lofts the Government acceded to a request to include the lofts, which had not been originally envisaged, it has got asbestos sheeting basically, the roof consists of asbestos sheeting the Government in agreeing to include the lofts then thought it appropriate to do some health and safety work to make sure that these lofts, to which it was now to be envisaged that people might gain regular access, were safe. This further delayed completions. This work has now been completed and asbestos dust-free environment certificates have been issued by specialist contractors.

The Government are not aware of any problems with heaters. When Rosia Court was connected to the MOD water supply, the houses were fitted with gravity-fed boilers. When the estate was connected to the higher pressure AquaGib supply it was necessary to install new pressure fed boilers, which the Government did.

**Answer to Question No. 1343**

Any damages caused by the contractor will have been made good. The Government are not aware of how many properties required repairs as a result of contracted works being carried out.

**Answer to Question No. 1344**

As announced in the tender advert, GRP will provide a £33,000 start-up fund for the Management Company. This is intended to minimise the service charge due by the purchaser during the first years.

ORAL

NO. 1345 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – 50/50 SALES**

Can Government state if there has been any sale of the Government 50 per cent share of co-ownership homes during the months of October and November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1346 of 2005.

**NO. 1346 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**PROPERTY SALES - COMMISSION**

Can Government state whether the Treasury has charged a commission on property sales of the Government's share of co-ownership homes in the months of October 2005 and November 2005 and if so provide the dates, the amounts received and the estates where each of the relevant properties is located?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Two sales have taken place during October and November 2005. One flat was sold at Sir William Jackson Grove and another flat at Montagu Gardens. They attracted commissions of £3,783 and £3,725 respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1345 AND 1346 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

At what price in terms of the increase over the original price are these being sold now? The Government announced a number of reduced levels on a number of different occasions with cut-off dates, are these covered by any of those or are they now back to the original 9 per cent of the market value or whatever is appropriate? What is the position now?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know, it is certainly not the original concessionary rates because that was closed but whether it has gone back, I think different ones may be at 9 per cent because there was a period of years which may not yet have been expired. Most of them should be there or thereabouts by now but I cannot tell him the regime under which these have been sold I am afraid. If he is interested I will let him know.

ORAL

NO. 1347 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**HOUSING – ROSIA TANKS**

Can Government say how the sites at Rosia Tanks and Cumberland Road came to be included in a tender for North Gorge and Buena Vista?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I understand from my hon Colleague Mr Holliday that this question was extensively debated this morning. I think he already knows the answer to that and there is nothing more that I can add.

ORAL

NO. 1348 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**PROTECTED CELL COMPANIES**

Can Government state how many Protected Cell Companies were registered in Gibraltar in each of the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1349 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1349 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**PROTECTED CELL COMPANIES**

Have any applications to form a Protected Cell Company been submitted in the months of October 2005 to end November 2005 which remain pending consideration or which have been rejected?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No Protected Cell Companies were registered in Gibraltar in each of the months of October to November 2005 and no applications have been submitted in those months.

ORAL

NO. 1350 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES**

How many tax exempt companies have terminated their tax exemption certificates in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1351 and 1352 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1351 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES**

Can Government state how many tax exempt company certificates have been issued in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1350 and 1352 of 2005.

**NO. 1352 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES**

Can Government state how many companies have, since October 2005, applied to the office of the Finance Centre Director for the grant of exempt status and of these how many are presently awaiting the grant of said exempt status?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

A total of 103 companies terminated the tax exempt status, 50 in October and 53 in November. "Terminated their tax exemption" is interpreted by the Finance Centre Director as companies which have returned their certificates and no longer require exempt status.

A total of 168 tax exempt certificates were issued in October and November 2005. Since October 2005 a total of 12 applications have been received requesting tax exempt status of which 10 have been registered and two are awaiting further consideration.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1350 TO 1352 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Chief Minister break down the figure of 168 as between October and November?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am afraid I cannot.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Perhaps the Chief Minister can tell us whether he knows of the 10 that have been granted in the period since October 2005, 12 applied but 10 were granted in that period, can he tell us whether any of those are going to result in the economic benefit test being satisfied? Namely, are they going to result in employment in the local labour market et cetera, or are they straightforward brass plate operations?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I cannot tell him. The Government have now issued policy guidelines for the Finance Centre Director but we do not micro-manage, at least from my Ministerial level, I do not get detailed reports. I assume that the policy is being correctly applied, namely, that priority is given to the more economically relevant applicants.

ORAL

NO. 1353 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**COMPANIES REGISTER**

How many companies have been removed from the companies register in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1354 and 1355 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1354 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**COMPANIES REGISTER**

Can Government list the companies formed in Gibraltar in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1353 and 1355 of 2005.

**NO. 1355 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**COMPANIES REGISTER**

Can Government state how many companies have been re-domiciled out of Gibraltar in each month from October to November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

A total of 187 companies were removed from the register in October and 238 in November. During the same months, 124 and 154 respectively in each month were formed. A total of 32 companies were re-domiciled out in October and 54 in November.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1352 TO 1355 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Is the figure given for 'removed from the register' inclusive of the figure given for re-domiciliations?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have no note here that enables me to say with certainty but it must do because the reason for removal is neither here nor there. They have either been removed or they have not. They could be removed by being wound up, they could be domiciled, they could be struck off, they all result in removal it would not be logical for the answer to be no.

Perhaps I do have a note that might shed some light and the answer may in fact be different to the one that I have given, logical or not. I have here a note that says 'unless a company has requested that its registration in Gibraltar be cancelled, it must during the period that it maintains domicile abroad, maintain a registered office in Gibraltar, file an annual return, record share transfers, allotment, increase in share capital, change of Directors, mortgages and satisfaction of mortgages'. So I suppose the answer to his question depends on whether they asked or did not ask for the registration to be cancelled. If they did not ask for the registration to be cancelled then actually logic suggests that they should not be included in the removed figure.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Does the Chief Minister have in his note how many of those that re-domiciled asked for their registration to be cancelled or not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No I have not but probably, this is something that Companies Registry could give him, but presumably all of them because when they re-domicile they re-domicile usually for property tax reasons. I can find that out for him if he wants.

ORAL

NO. 1356 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**BANKING SECTOR**

Can Government state how many persons were employed in the banking sector in Gibraltar, giving a breakdown by bank and by nationality (showing how many are Gibraltarian) in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1357 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1357 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**INSURANCE INDUSTRY**

What is the total number of persons employed in the insurance industry in Gibraltar giving a breakdown by company and by nationality (showing how many are Gibraltarian) in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information the hon Member has requested is on the attached sheet which I hand to him, except the breakdown by bank or company which it is not appropriate to give him.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1357/2005**

**Answer to Question 1356 and 1357**

**Banking and Insurance**

<b>Month</b>	<b>No. of Employers</b>	<b>No. of Employees</b>	<b>Gib</b>	<b>Other British</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Moroccan</b>	<b>Other EEC</b>	<b>Other Non-EEC</b>
October-05	46	945	628	197	48	2	61	9
November-05	46	930	626	196	36	2	61	9

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1356 AND 1357 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I note the Chief Minister has said that he would not give me a breakdown by bank or institution, I have not asked for one nor have I been used to getting one in this House when I have been asking this question regularly. What I have been used to getting is a different figure in respect of banking and insurance, whilst now I am getting a composite figure both in respect of banking and insurance, at least if he has given me the right piece of paper. For October I know a total number of employers, banks and insurance companies, and I know a total number of employees, banks and insurance companies. Previously the answer that has been provided in this House was for banking employees and banking institutions, insurance companies et cetera. Has he got that information perhaps in the extra material?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do, I cannot imagine why anyone has wanted to be so beastly to him as to aggregate the information. In fact he does ask for the information he claims not to have sought. In one question he says 'giving a breakdown by bank' and in another question he says 'giving a breakdown by company'. In respect of October for the banking industry it is 15 employers and 704 employees. For November it is 15 employers and 707 employees. In respect of insurance, in both cases it is 31 employers but it is 241 employees in October and 223 in November. The breakdown by nationality is very similar to the ones he may have had in the past, I can see historical figures here, it does not differ by more than one or two in any of the figures.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I do not have the Hansard with me to see the earlier answers provided in this House.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I will give them to him quickly, take a note.

**Banking – October**

<b>Gibraltarians</b>	<b>Other British</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Moroccan</b>	<b>Other EEC</b>	<b>Other Non-EEC</b>
488	117	34	2	58	5

**November**

<b>Gibraltarians</b>	<b>Other British</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Moroccan</b>	<b>Other EEC</b>	<b>Other Non-EEC</b>
489	119	34	2	58	5

**Insurance – October**

<b>Gibraltarians</b>	<b>Other British</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Moroccan</b>	<b>Other EEC</b>	<b>Other Non-EEC</b>
140	80	14	0	3	4

**November**

<b>Gibraltarians</b>	<b>Other British</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Moroccan</b>	<b>Other EEC</b>	<b>Other Non-EEC</b>
137	77	2	0	3	4

ORAL

NO. 1358 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**BANKING LICENCES**

Can Government state whether any new banking licences have been issued in the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1359 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1359 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**ELECTRONIC MONEY INSTITUTIONS**

Can Government state how many applications or licences to operate an electronic money institution have been received or granted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No new banking licences have been issued in the months of October and November 2005.

No applications to operate an electronic money institution has been received and therefore no licences have been granted.

ORAL

**NO. 1360 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**CATEGORY 3 STATUS**

Can Government state whether there are persons in Government Service, including Agencies and Authorities, as at 30 November 2005 who held a certificate under the Qualifying (Category 3) Individuals Rules and Qualifying (Category 4) Individual Rules, and if so, provide a breakdown by nationality, post occupied and department worked in?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1361, 1362 and 1363 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1361 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**CATEGORY 2 STATUS**

Can Government state how many individuals joined the register of people with Category 2 status in Gibraltar as at the end of each of the months of October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1360, 1362 and 1363 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1362 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**CATEGORY 3 STATUS**

Can Government state how many individuals joined the register of people with Category 3 status in Gibraltar in each month from October to November 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1360, 1361 and 1363 of 2005.

**NO. 1363 OF 2005****THE HON F R PICARDO****CATEGORY 4 STATUS**

Can Government state how many individuals joined the register of people with Category 4 status in Gibraltar in each month from October to November 2005?

**ANSWER****THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER****Answer to Question No. 1360**

As at the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2005, the following persons in Government service including Agencies and Authorities held a certificate under the Qualifying (Category 3) Individuals Rules. (There are no such persons holding a certificate in respect of the Qualifying (Category 4) Individuals Rules).

<b>NAME</b>	<b>NATIONALITY</b>	<b>POST</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>
Mr D McCutcheon	Irish / Canadian	CEO	GHA *
Ms K Parsley	British (UK)	Director of Nursing Services	GHA *
Mr C Wilson	British (UK)	Director of Human Resources	GHA *
Mr J Tipping	British (GIB)	Finance Centre Director	Finance Centre Department *
Mr M Killick	British (UK)	Commissioner	FSC
Mr C Collins	British (UK)	Head of Insurance	FSC

For the purposes of the answer, the phrase 'held a certificate' is interpreted as either (i) a certificate has been issued; or (ii) a commitment exists on the part of Government to issue a certificate to cover the date in question – issue of the certificate is in progress – these commitments are marked with an asterisk.

**Answer to Question Nos. 1361, 1362 and 1363**

The following persons joined the register:

In October,	1 category 2	5 category 3	0 category 4
In November,	3 category 2	5 category 3	0 category 4

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1360 TO 1363 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Are any of the individuals in respect of whom we have been provided details of Category 3, individuals who joined in any of the months in respect of which the answers have been given for October and November or were they there previously?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, I think they have all been in post for some time. I think they have all enjoyed that status for more than two months.

**NO. 1364 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**SAVINGS DIRECTIVE**

Have Government now entered into any agreement with the Government of the United Kingdom in relation to the Savings Directive in particular and exchange of information generally?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No agreement has yet been signed or entered into, but we are at an advanced stage of negotiations.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1364 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Chief Minister give us an indication of what that agreement will entail in respect of exchange of information and the Savings Directive issue, given that it is already fairly advanced?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think it would be inappropriate to do so at this stage. I do not think it would be appropriate to speculate. We have consulted closely with the Gibraltar Bankers Association and I am sure that one of them will at least privately, and on condition he makes no public use of it, tell him. I do not mind telling him myself privately but I would not like to say on the record until the deal has been done.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The deal is in fact to treat each other as separate Member States, is that correct? That is the nature of the deal, I am not asking for the details.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not the nature of the deal but the directive does not apply as a matter of law and obligation because we are not separate Member States. So this is a bilateral agreement, it is not an extension of the directive.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Like all the other bilateral agreements where we grant each other EU rights, going back to 1973. It does not follow the pattern of the rest, that is the question that I am asking, is it something different or is it like all the others where the United Kingdom and Gibraltar agree to treat each other as if they were two separate Member States?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The answer is not that simple and nor, although he does not appreciate it, is the question. Implicit in the fact that these arrangements will be in place is that we are treating each other as separate jurisdictions and administrations, but the arrangements that will apply between Gibraltar and the United Kingdom for example, will not be the same as the arrangements that apply between France and the United Kingdom. Therefore the choice of the words 'as if they were Member States' does not apply to the content.

ORAL

**NO. 1365 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government give a breakdown of the amounts paid to each law firm (or Barrister) in respect of civil legal assistance and criminal legal aid in each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-1, 2001-2 and 2002-3?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1366 to 1368 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1366 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**LEGAL DRAFTING - FEES**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £50,000 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 Private Sector Fees for Legal Drafting shown in Head 8-A, Sub-Head 8(d) showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1365, 1367 and 1368 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1367 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**LEGAL ADVICE - FEES**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £862,000 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 Private Sector Fees for Legal Advice shown in Head 8-A, Sub-Head 15, showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1365, 1366 and 1368 of 2005.



**NO. 1368 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government give a breakdown of the amounts paid so far in this financial year to each law firm (or Barrister) in respect of civil legal assistance and criminal legal aid, giving a breakdown by firm?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I hand the hon Member a table with the information requested. However, on reflection and in relation to Question No. 1367, the Government do not consider it appropriate to put in the public domain details of the issues upon which they take legal advice. This could, in certain cases, operate to the detriment of the interests of Gibraltar. I am, however, willing to provide those details to the hon Member privately and confidentially. If I just give a list of all the subject matters in respect of which we have taken legal advice, others will know that we have taken legal advice about those subjects and in the vast majority of cases there will be some items on the list which is useful information to others. In answer to Question No. 1367 it is the law firm, the date of payment of the amount but not the matter.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368**  
**Answer to Question 1365**

The breakdown of amounts paid to each law firm (or barrister) in respect of civil legal assistance and criminal legal aid is as follows:

Firm	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003	
	Legal Assistance	Legal Aid	Legal Assistance	Legal Aid	Legal Assistance	Legal Aid	Legal Assistance	Legal Aid
A Haynes	0.00	147.00	0.00	147.00	0.00	1960.00	0.00	4,037.50
Artias & Levy	23,982.88	163.80	42,483.63	1,622.65	25,314.08	2,997.50	25,069.22	
B Vaughan	13,235.20	374.00	2,518.60	1,077.00	5,762.00	2,372.50	0.00	4,611.00
Budhrani & Co	0.00		0.00		0.00	465.00	1,601.80	5,820.80
C A Gomez & Co	17,705.64	557.20	14,367.07	512.00	6,074.61		11,801.35	
Cruz & Co	1,058.10		1,019.80			182.50		
D Hughes	7,940.44		0.00	101.00	0.00	280.00	0.00	
E C Ellul & Co	45,150.24	160.00	0.00		1,385.98		3,545.70	
Gold Law Firm	0.00		0.00	67.50	6,592.73	2,772.00	6,291.12	3,946.00
Hassans	21,716.66	102.00	8,022.00	703.00	31,349.56	4,553.00	4,304.00	18,745.95
Hayward Associates	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1,815.45
HLB Perez Rodriguez				321.00		75.00		
Janis Evans	90,587.85		81,920.75		83,180.03		37,361.05	
Isola & Isola	0.00	75.00	0.00	2,968.00	0.00		0.00	3,537.50
Marrache & Co	0.00	257.00	0.00		1,375.28	618.00	4,407.74	6,447.00
M Isola	1,897.97		0.00		0.00		0.00	
N Caetano	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	320.00
N J Bushnell	0.00		0.00		0.00		3,321.50	
Nunez & Co	0.00		0.00		0.00		80.00	
P Nunez	676.50		0.00		0.00		0.00	
P M Triay	0.00		0.00	275.00	0.00		0.00	
Phillips & Co	47,423.56	627.18	85,195.58	5,433.30	128,161.51	326.40	131,193.75	2,289.00
R Pilley	8,117.57	2,224.20	4,306.00	2,331.20	53,417.82		100,002.26	5,781.00
S R Bossino	2,474.15	426.00	0.00	2,432.00	11,761.66	1,917.00	10,020.46	14,458.45
S J Bullock	11,948.11	767.50	1,222.55	544.00	0.00	3,070.80	0.00	
S ifrench Davies	0.00		2,633.33	382.50	0.00	269.50	0.00	
Stagnetto & Co	4,838.47		5,063.71	910.00	2,880.74	540.00	0.00	
Triay & Triay	8,961.98	186.00	4,184.39		10,654.39		17,791.86	865.00
Triay Stagnetto Neist	0.00	604.63	0.00	3,457.70	5,942.82	4,730.00	8,356.11	9,918.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>306,657.22</b>	<b>7,582.61</b>	<b>251,917.61</b>	<b>24,304.65</b>	<b>373,853.21</b>	<b>27,129.20</b>	<b>365,147.92</b>	<b>82,592.85</b>

Cont...

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368/2005**

**Answer to Question 1366**

The following is a breakdown of Private Sector Fees for Legal Drafting expenditure for 2004/2005.

<u>FIRM</u>	<u>DATE OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Michael Llamas	28-Jun-04	Implementation of Savings Directive	£8,160.00
Dennis Figueras	28-Sep-04	The Animal By-Productions Regulations 2004	£1,160.00
Dennis Figueras	30-Nov-04	The Animal By-Productions Regulations 2004; Financial Services Regulations; Fiduciary Services Rules; Banking Bill	£2,700.00
Dennis Figueras	28-Jan-05	Medical & Health Ordinance (Amendment) Bill 2005	£3,820.00
Michael Llamas	28-Jan-05	Implementation of EC Regulation 1/2003; Implementation of the Electronics Communications Package	£30,790.00
Dennis Figueras	25-Feb-05	Transposition of Council Directive 2001/19/EC; Draft Medical & Health Ordinance (Amendment) Bill 2005	£840.00
Hassans	01-Mar-05	Luxembourg SICAR Legislation	£1,950.00
Dennis Figueras	30-Mar-05	Transposition of Council Directive 2001/19/EC; Veterinary Surgeons Bill 2005; Architects Bill 2005	£980.00
			<b><u>£50,400.00</u></b>

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368/2005**

**Answer to Question 1367**

The following is a breakdown of expenditure in respect of Private Sector Fees for Legal Advice for 2004/2005.

<u>LAW FIRM</u>	<u>DATE OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	29-Apr-04	£19,856.00
Conor Quigley QC	29-Apr-04	£4,935.00
Hassans	10-May-04	£2,880.00
Triay & Triay	17-May-04	£15,968.10
KPMG	17-May-04	£1,500.00
White & Case	18-May-04	£1,921.13
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	20-May-04	£1,651.50
White & Case	01-Jun-04	£6,792.33
J Dingemans QC	25-Jun-04	£3,000.00
White & Case	30-Jun-04	£2,952.05
Charles Russell	01-Jul-04	£11,435.75
Michael Beloff QC	12-Jul-04	£17,275.00
Adam Lewis	12-Jul-04	£3,100.00
Clearly Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	14-Jul-04	£33,577.87

cont.....

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368/2005**

**Cont Answer to Question 1367**

White & Case	30-Jul-04	£664.48
Ipat Ltd.	12-Aug-04	£8,442.40
White & Case	24-Aug-04	£1,158.43
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	28-Aug-04	£3,250.00
Triay & Triay	01-Sep-04	£4,375.00
Triay & Triay	01-Sep-04	£19,200.00
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	01-Sep-04	£2,475.00
White & Case	17-Sep-04	£1,309.39
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	23-Sep-04	£27,200.00
Cruz & Co.	29-Sep-04	£13,369.00
White & Case	04-Nov-04	£11,319.27
White & Case	24-Dec-04	£1,116.77
Hon Michael Belloff QC & Adam Lewis	23-Dec-04	£7,025.00
Penningtons Solicitors	23-Dec-04	£9,586.00
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	23-Dec-04	£3,500.00

cont.....

CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368/2005

Cont Answer to Question 1367

De Pfyffer & Associates	31-Dec-04	£48,901.67
Professor Jeffrey Jowell QC	14-Jan-05	£74,107.00
Michael Llamas	14-Jan-05	£24,480.00
Michael Llamas	19-Jan-05	£64,464.00
Triay & Triay	19-Jan-05	£8,400.00
White & Case	21-Jan-05	£1,129.29
Clearly Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	27-Jan-05	£185,485.83
Hassans	27-Jan-05	£6,783.90
Clearly Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	31-Jan-05	£44,287.96
Triay, Stagnetto, Neish	10-Feb-05	£840.00
Michael Llamas	11-Feb-05	£60,010.00
Professor Alain Pellet	17-Feb-05	£8,360.54
Clearly Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	17-Feb-05	£93,569.33
White & Case	18-Feb-05	£698.56
Charles Russell	17-Mar-05	£3,740.80

£866,094.35

Cont....

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368/2005**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1368**

The breakdown of amounts paid to each law firm paid in respect of civil legal assistance and criminal legal aid for the current financial year is as follows:

	Legal Assistance	Legal Aid
A MacDonald	6,933.90	0.00
Attias & Levy	1,533.60	12,235.00
C A Gomez & Co	97,004.44	2,670.00
Central Clinic	0.00	210.00
G Wilson	300.00	0.00
Gold Law	7,687.48	820.00
Hassans	56,530.20	10,321.20
Howard Cohen	200.00	0.00
Ian Watts	0.00	4,037.00
Isola & Isola	31,844.28	6,517.63
J Leighton Williams QC	43,000.00	0.00
J Lucas	650.00	0.00
Janis Evans	32,520.75	0.00
M Bishop	4,441.60	0.00
Marrache & Co	3,697.74	4,239.10
M Callaghan	1,600.00	0.00
Phillips & Co	236,002.09	777.00
Quest Services	250.00	0.00
Radcliffes LeBrasseur	2,766.65	0.00
Ray Pilley	19,583.50	400.00
S J Bullock & Co	31,180.34	1,540.00
S R Bossino	19,535.60	11,880.00
Simon Levene	500.00	0.00
Triay & Triay	29,884.20	1,151.30
Triay Stagnetto Neish	1,455.37	795.00
Verrals	0.00	1,482.00
A Haynes	0.00	150.00
	-----	-----
	£629,101.74	£59,225.23
	=====	=====

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1365 TO 1368 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Would the Chief Minister agree with me that it appears that we are well on the way again to exceeding the Estimate in respect of legal assistance and legal aid if the first six months of the year are replicated in the next six months of the year?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes indeed, and it does emphasise the Government's determination to deal with not so much the legal aid, because I think that legal aid expenditure is actually remarkably low, but the legal assistance, including as it does such a disproportionate element of uncontested matrimonial proceedings in respect of which there is a long and often unnecessarily extended public expense haggle over access and alimony, or sharing of assets and that there are cheaper ways of doing that than stretching out legal aid claims or actions.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

In fact, one of the issues that he will have heard me mention in my budget speeches before is the fact that one of the points I take with the hon Lady in respect of social services that it plays into the hands of those who would rather see matters not settled if a report into a respective child welfare takes longer than is necessary. Let me assure him that he is right to assume that my concern is not so much in relation to legal aid where we are dealing with criminal matters and the liberty of the individual, but certainly in relation to what appears to be the abusive element of legal assistance being paid.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Of course, it is not that the Government are unsympathetic to the plight of usually the financially weaker partner which is the woman in the breakdown of a relationship, it is not as if the Government resent having to fund but we resent having to fund it in a way which is unnecessarily lengthy and expensive when there are other ways in which the same degree of justice can be achieved at much cheaper cost. The Chief Justice is working and is at an advanced stage of drafting new Matrimonial Causes Rules which will impact on the context of reconciliation, or arbitration, or mediation procedures on these questions of access and financial settlement. The Government will then judge what he does, if what he does does the trick then so be it, if not we may have to go further as the UK have done and impose some of these things in a more statutory way. I think it is right that people who are the victims of matrimonial breakdown should have affordable access to judicial resolution of their differences, usually not the breakdown of the marriage itself which is usually uncontentious, what is at stake is not that but the process and the procedure and the length of time that it takes, and the apparent interest that some people may have in dragging it out rather than settling it as quickly as possible. That is the aspect.



**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can I associate myself with those remarks, in particular those that relate to the need for those who require assistance when going through these difficult times to have that usually legal assistance with them, and despite our common profession it would certainly appear that the culprits in relation to these potential abuses are not the people who need the help.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No indeed, and as this is a rare occasion on which we appear to agree entirely on an issue, perhaps he should milk it for a while longer. I think very often there are two victims of these practices, one is the taxpayer that foots the bill but very often the people who are in the matrimonial breakdown situation are not done any favours by having the period of hostility between them dragged out, and it certainly does their children no good whatsoever.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I am surprised only simply to add these words, that sometimes these matters are not just dragged out but actually exacerbated entirely by those who then become the beneficiaries of these payments.

**NO. 1369 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**ARREARS PAYMENT AGREEMENT**

Can Government state how many Arrears Payment Agreements were in existence as at 31 March 2005 in respect of social insurance and employment injuries contributions or the aggregate value of such outstanding arrears?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

A total of 114 agreements for the repayment of £4,251,045.29 in respect of Social Insurance were in place as at 31 March 2005; the amount outstanding at this date stood at £3,590,127.01.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1369 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Chief Minister tell us by when the £3.5 million outstanding will be repaid, in other words, what is the long stop date of the longest agreement that he has referred us to?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I cannot I am afraid.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does he have the level at which these payments are coming in, because then it would be possible to get an estimate of how long it will take?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well he can almost work out the rate from the answer that he has had. If agreements were in place as at 31<sup>st</sup> March for £4,251,045 and by now it is down.....

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Was it 30<sup>th</sup> November that the £3.5 million figure was correct, so that we can do that exercise?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I do not know the date. The value at this date, I think the £3.59 million is 31<sup>st</sup> March not now, because of course these things were in place but did not start at 31<sup>st</sup> March so by 31<sup>st</sup> March they had already been paid off in part. So he cannot deduce anything from the figures.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Does the Chief Minister have in the information that he is usually provided with in respect of supplementaries, the breakdown of these 114 between individuals and corporate debtors?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, but I would expect the vast majority to be corporate.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Chief Minister confirm that these agreements are all done by the Central Arrears Unit or are some of them done by the individual departments themselves?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, they are all done by the Arrears Unit.

ORAL

**NO. 1370 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS**

Can Government give a breakdown of the cost of all travel by the Chief Minister on Government business since the last answer in this House to date stating:

- (a) what the purpose of travel was;
- (b) who travelled with the Chief Minister;
- (c) who the Chief Minister met on each of the journeys undertaken; and
- (d) a breakdown of the travel expenses incurred?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1371 and 1372 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1371 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS**

Given that at the time of the last Question and Answer session the information was not available, what was the cost of the attendance by the Chief Minister at the Labour Party Conference 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1370 and 1372 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1372 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS**

Given that at the time of the last Question and Answer session the information was not available, what was the cost of the attendance by the Chief Minister at the Conservative Party Conference 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

With the usual caveat that I cannot give him details of everybody that I have met, perhaps he would like to modify his questions to refer to the purpose of the visit. I hand the hon Member a schedule with the information requested.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1372/2005**  
**Answer to Q1370**

**Chief Minister's travel on official business from October 2005 to date**

Date	Purpose	Persons travelling	Met with	Chief Minister's Travel Costs	
				Air fares & travel £	Accommodation £
10-Oct-2005	3rd meeting of Trilateral Forum	Chief Minister/ Chief Secretary/ Assistant Chief Secretary/ Media Director/ Bodyguards x 2	UK and Spanish delegations	526	0
16-Oct-2005	Gibraltar Day in London/ Overseas Territories Chief Ministers' Conference/ Oxford University Law Society	CM/ CS/ MD/ Private Secretary (Legal)/ Private Secretary (Projects)	Various at Gibraltar Day events/ Foreign & Commonwealth Office staff/ Oxford University Law Society members	978	389
21-Nov-2005	Commonwealth Business Forum 2005 - Malta	CM/ Principal Private Secretary	Forum delegates/ Prime Minister of Malta	1,004	479

**Answer to Q1371/2005**

Cost of attendance by the Chief Minister at the Labour Party Conference 2005: **£1,392**

**Answer to Q1372/2005**

Cost of attendance by the Chief Minister at the Conservative Party Conference 2005: **£1,206**

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1370 TO 1372 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can I just ask the Chief Minister to confirm that this is the cost of his travel and not the cost of the whole delegation travelling? It would be quite uncharacteristic for him to have travelled with others for £526 in October, this is just his travel is it not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can the Chief Minister tell us why it is that there is no accommodation cost in respect of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2005? Was that a day trip so to speak?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, because so friendly are these trilateral forum meetings now that the host pays for the hotel accommodation of the visiting delegation. So just as we were the host and funded the Faro hotels, so too the Spanish Government paid for the costs of the Mallorca accommodation.



ORAL

NO. 1373 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**BUILDINGS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT**

How many tradesmen have left Buildings and Works in the past five years and of those how many have been replaced?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

A total of 26 tradesmen have left Buildings and Works in the past five years. None of the posts have yet been replaced.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1373 OF 2005

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Do the Government intend to replace 26 within a short period of time?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Some of them.

**NO. 1374 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**AUDIT OFFICE**

Can Government state for how long the Contract Officer in the Audit Office had been employed when his contract was terminated on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2005 and what grade he held and what salary he was employed at and for how long the term of the original contract was?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

No contract officers employed by the Gibraltar Audit Office have had their contracts terminated.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1374 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I believe it was in the previous House that he told me that the explanation for a supplementary payment, that was in one of the supplementary funding things, was an ex-gratia gratuity paid to a contract officer when his contract was terminated. That is why the question is here.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, but the question relates to an officer whose contract was terminating, that suggests that it was terminated by the employer, it was not. He resigned and although he was not entitled to a gratuity the Government nevertheless decided to give him one, gratuity in lieu of pension, these payments that contract officers get. I am not willing to mention the name, but there is an officer who had been on contract as an auditor with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> February 2001 for three years, in September 2001 he was appointed Audit Manager on a three year contract as from 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2001, at the end of the three years in September 2004 his contract was extended until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004, on 9<sup>th</sup> December he notified the Principal Auditor of his decision to leave the Audit Office at the end of his contract extension date which was December 2004. Therefore, the officer left at the end of his extension and did not seek a further extension. So he had been employed on contract in the Audit Office for just over three years and ten months. He was then on the maximum point of the Audit Manager pay scale at 2004 rates, which is £41,170 per annum, and on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 an ex-gratia payment amounting to £13,898.38 was made to him in

recognition of his years of service and the fact that he had not been the beneficiary of any pension.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can I just point out that the only reason why I put 'terminated' here is because that was the word used in the answer the last time.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The contract terminated and it was terminated, I cannot remember the exact phrase used last time. It was not, it just expired.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So 'terminated' was the wrong answer then. The answer should have been 'when the contract expired'. The original contract for three years, did that have the clause that frequently exists for non-pensionable officers of a 25 per cent gratuity?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I believe unjustifiable practice appears to exist, we are in the process of putting an end to, whereby if one is an ex-patriate contract officer it is thought necessary to compensate one for lack and absence of a pension, but somehow if one is contracted locally it is thought not to be appropriate. I think there is absolutely no justification for that so the Government will either offer this or alternatively, offer to include them in the Provident No. 2 or the Provident No. 3 Scheme.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I see, so the answer is that there was no contractual right to a gratuity because he was locally recruited.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Correct.

**NO. 1375 OF 2005**

**THE HON L A RANDALL**

**GIBTELECOM**

Can Government provide an update on the status of the sale of Gibtelecom shares?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I met last month with Verizon's Group President for International affairs in Gibraltar. He confirmed that Verizon are now looking to quickly complete their exit from Europe and other international retail markets, and are therefore looking to proceed with the sale of their equity in Gibtelecom. To this end prospective purchasers of Verizon's shareholding will make a presentation to the Government in January.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1375 OF 2005**

**HON L A RANDALL:**

Will Slovenia Telecom be one of these prospective buyers making a presentation?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, through their mobile subsidiary Mobitel.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the actual sale require the agreement of the Government?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No it does not. The terms of the joint venture agreement between Verizon and the Government does not require, technically, the Government's consent but of course for practical purposes it might as well because nobody is going to buy a 50/50 investment to buy a gridlock from day one, especially when the other partner is the government of a territory, so no one would buy unless the Government signalled that they were content but that does not mean it is a contractual requirement, which it is not.

ORAL

NO. 1376 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**SENIOR FIRE OFFICERS**

Can Government state whether they have now looked at and/or come to a policy decision in respect of the claim from retired Senior Fire Officers regarding backdated pay and conditions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No policy decision has been taken yet.

ORAL

NO. 1377 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

**LAND PROPERTY SERVICES**

Can Government provide an update on the status of the new contract with Land Property Services?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The main Heads of Terms have been agreed and the contract with Land Property Services Ltd is in the process of being finalised. This is expected shortly.

**NO. 1378 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION**

Why has the Chief Minister not agreed to meet the Committee of the Pensioners Association?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The Gibraltar Pensioners Association have met with officials in my office and with the Minister responsible for the issues that they are concerned about. They have also set out their detailed views on all the issues in writing to No. 6 and to other Ministers. The Government also meet with the Gibraltar Senior Citizens Association and with the Pensioners Committee of the Union GGCA Prospect. The Government in general, and I, are fully aware of their views and aspirations many of which coincide with the Government's policy commitments set out in our election manifesto. I believe that the vast majority of senior citizens and pensioners in Gibraltar recognise and acknowledge this Government's splendid record of progress for the elderly on many fronts both economic and social.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1378 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

The question is a very simple one, the Chief Minister meets so many people, he travels far and wide, it costs him a bomb to go as far as he sometimes goes and yet why, he has not yet told us why, he has refused to meet the committee of the Pensioners Association. Has he not got time for them?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member is responsible for his statements in this House, he assumes that I have refused to meet them, I do not know on what evidence he says that.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I am responsible for my statements in this House and as the hon Gentleman knows, he has been requested a meeting and instead, as he told us, they have met with his officials. Why has he not met the committee of the Pensioners Association?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, the hon Member will surely recognise that there is a difference between refusing to meet with somebody and not having met with someone yet. It is not the same thing.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Why has the Chief Minister not met the committee of the Pensioners Association? Why is he running away from the question? It is easy, it is straightforward, he has got a privileged brain, he knows what I am asking him, why does he not tell us?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I take that as a compliment from the hon Gentleman, I would never say of myself that I have a privileged brain but I will certainly accept the compliment from him. Well, he has had the answer that he is going to get.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

It is not good enough for the Chief Minister simply to say that they have met with officials in his office, that he meets other committees or that his Government meets other committees and that his manifesto is as splendid as he says it is. Let him not avoid the question any further, let him not hide behind language and let him tell this House why he has not met with the committee of the Pensioners Association. Does he not have time for them?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I believe that the vast majority of senior citizens and pensioners in Gibraltar recognise and acknowledge the huge amount of time that I and the Government have for them, as is evident from our splendid record of progress for the elderly on many fronts, both economic and social.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I am loathe to give him another opportunity to try and douse himself with his own praise as to how well he does for pensioners. If he is doing so well for them, why will he not meet the gentlemen who make up this committee of pensioners and why will he not tell us why he will not meet them?



**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I have not told him that I will not meet with them, I have told him that we know exactly what it is that they want, that they have met with my officials and explained what they want, their views, they have met with Ministers, the Government are fully aware of what their views are to the extent that some of the things that they want are copied straight out of our manifesto, there is no need for me to meet with them. For the rest of it he has had the answer that he has had and it is the only one that he is getting, and if he gets up again he will get it again.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Will the Chief Minister agree to meet the committee of the Pensioners Association?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The Chief Minister does not make appointments for the good offices of the Member of the Opposition.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I have not purported to fix the appointment for that, all I have asked is will the Chief Minister meet with them, yes or no? He has refused to tell me why he has not met with them. I am not asking him to give me a date and a time so that I can put it to them. His people can talk to their people, as they say, but will he agree to meet them?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member has had the answer and he is not getting a different one.

ORAL

NO. 1379 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

**EASTSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

Will Government state whether as previously stated as part of the Eastside development a new power generating facility will be built?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There has been no change in this regard and the position therefore remains as previously stated.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1380 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

What, if any, further progress has been made in the legal proceedings (Court of First Instance register number 240836 and allocated case number T-211/04) against the EU Commission?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No. 1381 of 2005.

**NO. 1381 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Will Government now agree to provide the Opposition with copies of the formal pleadings either openly or in confidence in respect of the legal proceedings (Court of First Instance register number 240836 and allocated case number T-211/04) against the EU Commission, given that the hearings are expected to commence during the course of the coming year and the pleadings will then become publicly accessible?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The written stage of the proceedings is closed. The Government are now waiting for the Court to set a date for the oral hearing.

The premise of the hon Member's question is, I am advised, not correct since the pleadings do not become publicly accessible documents when the hearings commence.

However, having sought advice from the Government's Lawyers in Brussels, and reflecting that advice, the Government do not consider it appropriate to hand copies of the pleadings in this case to the hon Members, either openly or in confidence.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1380 AND 1381 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

At the end of the day when the matter is dealt with in the Court, there will be reference to the pleadings which will be referred to orally and openly in those proceedings which are public. I cannot imagine why it is that it would not be possible for the Opposition to have sight of the pleadings at least in confidence. Perhaps the Chief Minister might care to give us a bit more of the detail behind that cryptic advice which has persuaded him not to provide us with any access to them.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No the advice is not cryptic, it is perfectly clear and unambiguous and it is to the effect that the Government should not do that because it is most unusual, it will refer necessarily our pleadings to the pleadings of the other side, which we are certainly bound not to disclose, and that they would require a huge amount of editing of the

document, even if we were willing to give our pleadings they told us not to do it. Therefore we will take advice. I have to say that those who have advised us, who by the way is not a Gibraltar lawyer in Brussels, have expressed surprise that the request should even have been put.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

I really do not give two hoots whether or not surprise has been expressed at my requests. Let me tell the Chief Minister that given that it appears that the advice is that it would put us in default of obligations to others, I am not going to press him in respect of certainly the defence which may have been filed or are required which would necessarily make cross-reference to the defence. Can I ask him whether that particular reason for not disclosing the pleadings extends to our claim, which will not cross-refer to any other document as it is an originating document?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The hon Member may give two hoots for the advice of our very expensive lawyers in Brussels but we do not give two hoots, we give many more than two. Therefore we do not intend to ignore the advice, so my answer stands. The Government, reflecting the advice that they have received, do not consider it appropriate to hand copies of the pleadings in this case to any of them to the hon Member.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

But the advice that he has told us that he has received relates to the cross-referencing with other documents. Those pleadings can only be the defence filed by the Commission and others or the statements by others who are interested parties in this case. The originating document, the statement of claim or its European equivalent, will not contain any cross-reference and is not the subject of that part of the advice which the Chief Minister has revealed he obtained. So will he at least agree to release that originating document?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The advice refers to all the pleadings, including the Government's originating claim.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1382 OF 2005**

**THE HON F R PICARDO**

**GOVERNMENT ATTENDANCES AT CONFERENCES**

Can Government give the cost, with a breakdown, of their attendance at all and any conferences which related or were considered to relate to financial services in the months of October to the end of November 2005, giving the name of the conference, the offices of those who might have attended as part of the Government delegation?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The information the hon Member has requested is on the attached sheet.

**Answer to Question 1382**

A Finance Centre Lunch was hosted by the Chief Minister at the Royal Automobile Club, London on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2005 as part of the events of Gibraltar Day in London 2005.

Attended by: Mr James Tipping – Finance Centre Director  
Mr Joseph Macano – Director Licensing Unit  
Mrs Sabrina Ramagge – Executive Officer  
Miss Mireille Alsina – Administrative Officer

Flights and Accommodation	£1,802.00
Expenses	£ 901.63
Lunch at the RAC	£8,259.06
TOTAL:	<hr/> £10,962.69

A total of 106 persons attended the Finance Centre Lunch.

OECD Global Forum Conference in Melbourne, Australia held on 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

Attended by: Mr James Tipping – Finance Centre Director

Flights and Accommodation	£5,496.67
Expenses	£ 310.89
TOTAL:	<hr/> £5,807.56

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1382 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Can I safely assume that the answer provided in respect of the first part of the schedule provided does not include the Chief Minister's travel, only the travel and accommodation of those four individuals mentioned in the answer?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

On this occasion he has got to be a bit circumspect because many of the players were there anyway. For example, I was in London anyway for Gibraltar Day so there is no cost of travel for me or accommodation for the Finance Centre, but the ones who are there only for the Finance Centre thing have been included there.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Does he have a breakdown, in respect of the OECD Conference in Melbourne, where flights and accommodation have cost £5,496 between flights and accommodation?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No I do not, I am afraid.

**HON F R PICARDO:**

Going back to the first one, do the expenses of £901 relate to that lunch or were those expenses related to other aspects of that trip? I see that there is a figure of £8,259 which I assume is the cost of the lunch, are the expenses related to that directly or not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I would expect that the £901 are the other travelling expenses of the four individuals therein mentioned, subsistence, taxis, whatever the means of travel they use. I would not expect the £901 to relate to the costs of the lunch itself.



**NO. 1383 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**BETTING INDUSTRY**

Can Government provide the latest available figures for the number of persons employed in the betting industry in Gibraltar, giving a breakdown by company and by nationality, showing how many are Gibraltarian and the date when the figures apply?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I am advised that there has been no further compilation of these figures since the information provided in answer to Question No. 977 of 2005 at the last meeting of this House. This stated that as at 30 September 2005 a total of 1,349 persons were employed by 15 gaming companies. That is the latest we have.

ORAL

NO. 1384 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

Can Government list the persons from Gibraltar who were present at the Finance Centre lunch which took place as part of Gibraltar Day in London?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1385 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1385 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

How many persons were invited to the Royal Automobile Club for the Finance Centre lunch at the start of Gibraltar Day in London, how many attended and how many were from Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

A total of 115 persons were invited of which 105 persons attended, 47 were from Gibraltar.

Also in attendance at the lunch in a working capacity were nine journalists/media personnel of which eight were from Gibraltar. These are not included in the figure given.

I hand the hon Member a list of the persons from Gibraltar who attended.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1385/2005**

<b>LIST OF PERSONS ATTENDING</b>	
James	Tipping
Joe	Macano
Mireille	Alsina
Sabrina	Ramagge
John	Reyes
Francis	Cantos
Marcus	Killick
Albert D	Langston
Marina	Dominguez Steglich
Edgar	Lavarello
Sebastian	Moerman
Ian	Le Breton
Roy	Clinton
Emilio	Gomez
Jose Julio	Pisharello
Philip	Canessa
Darren A	McComb
Wifred C	Perez
Javier	De Mendieta
Peter	Isola
Bruno	Callaghan
Charles	Gomez
Elliot	Federico
Hans	Diederer
Tony	Millan
Angu	Shivdasani
Bernard	Hazell
Cindy	Glasby
Penny	Hudson
Thomas P	Rickli
Urs	Heuni
Isaac	Marrache
Abraham	Marrache
Steve	Quinn
Chris	Wawn
Malcolm	Ruffell
Ed	Ware
David	Dumas
Joseph	Caruana
Marvin	Cartwright
Richard	De la Rosa
Tim	Streatfeild-James
Andrew	Cardona
Tom	Phillips
Trevor	Nichols
Robert	Vasquez
Charles	Simpson
Christine	Podesta
Darren	Durante
Alice	Mascarenhas
John	Bugeja
Stephen	Ignacio
Charles	Bossano
Susana	Perez Custodio
Paul	Cosquieri

**NO. 1386 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HERITAGE – VICTUALLING YARD**

What plans do Government have for the Victualling Yard once this is surrendered to Government by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Assuming that the hon Member does not consider the tank to be part of the Victualling Yard, the Government's intention is to relocate public services and facilities into these buildings and site, provided that they are compatible with the building's historical and heritage value and importance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1386 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Has any payment been made by the Government to the Trust in compensation for the years in the lease that remain?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well as he knows, the Trust has been in possession of these buildings for some time and in fact has been using them as a warehouse, on commercial rental terms, which has been their source of income. Leaving to one side the question of whether that is compatible with the terms of the lease that they received, the fact of the matter is that the Government acknowledge that they have now become accustomed to the lifestyle that that level of income gives them and therefore we have agreed to maintain that level of income when they hand the lease back to the Government. I think it is true to say that in all the years that that site has been out of the Government's hands it has never been used for anything more heritage-relevant than a warehouse or private stores.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

What is the level of income that we are talking about?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is £30,000 a year.

ORAL

NO. 1387 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**FREIGHT FORWARDING SERVICES**

Can Government say when the tender for the provision of freight forwarding services to the Government closed and explain the reason for the time it is taking to award this tender?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The closing date for receipt of tenders was 22 April 2005. The position remains as given in answer to Question No. 952 of 2005 and that is that it remains under consideration. As to explaining the reasons as to the time that it has taken to award, the Government are reconsidering whether it is actually sensible to proceed with a tender of this sort.

NO. 1388 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**DATA PROTECTION ORDINANCE**

When do Government expect to bring the Data Protection Ordinance into effect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government will be organising a number of public seminars and publishing user-friendly guidelines explaining the legislation and the rights and obligations that it imposes in the new year. The Irish Data Protection Commissioner has been invited to Gibraltar to lead the seminar and he has accepted. The reason why it is the Irish Commissioner is because we have modelled our legislation on the Irish legislation rather than the much more complex UK legislation transposing this directive. Once all these events have happened, the Government will commence the Ordinance shortly thereafter. The target date for that is certainly during the first half of next year.



ORAL

NO. 1389 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the Gibraltar Day events in London which took place in October this year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1390 to 1392 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1390 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

Can Government list the persons from Gibraltar who were invited to and attended the Gibraltar Day events in London?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1389, 1391 and 1392 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1391 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

Can Government list the UK Parliamentarians who were invited to and attended the Gibraltar Day events in London in October?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1389, 1390 and 1392 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1392 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON**

How many Gibraltar Government or GDC employees attended the Gibraltar Day events in London in October of this year and what posts do they hold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule with the information requested.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1392**

**Answer to Question 1389**

The cost of the Gibraltar Day was as follows:

Hire of Guildhall and Events Management	£13,763.25
Catering	£33,108.33
Printing, photography and postage	£10,647.17
Miscellaneous	£11,601.97
	<u>£69,120.72</u>

**Answer to Question 1390**

The following is a list of the persons from Gibraltar who were invited and attended:

H.E. The	Governor
Monsignor Charles	Caruana
James	Tipping
Joe	Macano
Mireille	Alsina
Sabrina	Ramagge
Peter	Caruana
John	Reyes
Francis	Cantos
Marcus	Killick
Albert D	Langston
Marina	Dominguez Steglich
Edgar	Lavarello
Sebastian	Moerman
Ian	Le Breton
Roy	Clinton
Emilio	Gomez
Jose Julio	Pisharello
Philip	Canessa
Darren A	McComb
Wilfred C	Perez
Javier	De Mendieta
Peter	Isola
Bruno	Callaghan
Charles	Gomez
Elliot	Federico
Hans	Diedereren
Tony	Millan

Contd...

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1392****Cont Answer to Question 1390**

Angu	Shivdasani	
Bernard	Hazell	
Cindy	Glasby	
Penny	Hudson	
Thomas P	Rickli	
Urs	Heuni	
Isaac	Marrache	
Abraham	Marrache	
Steve	Quinn	
Chris	Wawn	
Malcolm	Ruffell	
Ed	Ware	
David	Dumas	
Joseph	Caruana	
Marvin	Cartwright	
Richard	De la Rosa	
Tim	Streatfeild-James	
Andrew	Cardona	
Tom	Phillips	
Trevor	Nichols	
Robert	Vasquez	
Charles	Simpson	
Commodore	Adair	
Col. John	Porral	
Col. Eddie	Guerrero	
Lt. Col. Mark	Randall	
W.O.	Bensadon	
Capt. Ivor	Lopez	
Major Colin	Risso	
Major Danny	Freyone	
Major Mark	Hurado	
2nd Lt.	Pozzo	
Sgt. Major	Davies	
Michael	Tampin	
Luis	Montel	X
John	Cabezutto	
Darren	Durante	
Alice	Mascarenhas	
Johnny	Budeja	
Stephen	Ignacio	
Charles	Bossano	
Susana	Custodio	
Paul	Cosquieri	
Stephen	Cumming	
Christine	Podesta	

Contd..

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1392****Answer to Question 1391**

The following is a list of UK Parliamentarians who were invited and attended.

<b>Title</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	
Mr	Douglas	Alexander	Unable to attend
Mr	John	Austin	
Mr	Tony	Baldry	
Mr	Graham	Brady	
Mr	David	Cameron	
Sir	Patrick	Cormack	
Ms	Claire	Curtis-Thomas	
Mr	Ian	Davidson	
The Rt Hon	David	Davis	Unable to attend
Mr and Mrs	Jim	Dobbin	
The Rt Hon	Iain	Duncan Smith	
Mr	Mark	Francois	
Mrs	Cheryl	Gillan	
Mr	Mike	Hancock	
Mr	Jimmy	Hood	
The Rt Hon Sir	Gerald	Kaufman	Unable to attend
Mr	Fraser	Kemp	
Mr	Robert	Key	
Dr	Ashok	Kumar	
The Rt Hon	Francis	Maude	Unable to attend
The Hon	William Alexander	Scott	
Miss	Geraldine	Smith	
Mrs	Angela	Watkinson	
Mr	Bill	Wiggin	
Sir	Nicholas	Winterton	
Lady	Ann	Winterton	
Mr and Mrs	Danny	Alexander	
The Rt Hon	Michael	Ancram	
Mr	Joe	Benton	Unable to attend
Mr	Colin	Breed	
Mr and Mrs	David	Clelland	
Mr	David	Crausby	
Mr	James	Dudridge	
Mrs	Louise	Ellman	
Mr	Tobias	Ellwood	
Mr	Nigel	Evans	
Dr	Liam	Fox	Unable to attend
Mr	Edward	Garnier	
Mr	David	Hamilton	
Mr	Fabian	Hamilton	
The Rt Hon	Geoff	Hoon	Unable to attend
The Rt Hon	Michael	Howard	
The Hon	Lindsay	Hoyle	
The Rt Hon	Adam	Ingram	
Mr	Paul	Keetch	
Ms	Julie	Kirkbride	
Mrs	Eleanor	Laing	
Mr	Bob	Laxton	
Mr	Tim	Loughton	
Mr	Eddie	O'Hara	Cont...

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1392****Cont Answer to Question 1391**

Mr	Mike	Penning	
Mr	Andrew	Rosindell	
Mr	Mark	Simmonds	
Dr	Bob	Spink	
The Rt Hon	Jack	Straw	Unable to attend
Mr	John	Bercow	
The Rt Hon	Bruce	George	
Mr	Simon	Hughes	
Mr	Brian	Jenkins	
Mr	Andrew	Mackinlay	
Mr	Ken	Purchase	
The Rt Hon Dr	John	Reid	Unable to attend
The Rt Hon Sir	John	Stanley	
The Lord	David	Chidgey	
The Lord and Lady	Iain Alexander Douglas	Dundonald	Unable to attend
The Lord	Norman	Foster of Thames Bank	Unable to attend
The Rt Hon the Lord	Tristan	Garel-Jones	
The Rt Hon the Lord	Richard Edward	Howe of Aberavon	Unable to attend
The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman	Michael	Savory	
The Rt Hon the Lord and Lady	Donald	Anderson	
The Lord	Tony	Banks of Stratford	
The Lord	Nicholas William	Bethell	Unable to attend
The Lord	Dennis Turner	Bilston	
The Lord	William Henry	Brett	
The Lord	Keith	Brookman	
The Lord	David Garfield	Davies of Coity	
The Lord	Ambrose Charles	Greenway	
The Lord	Doug	Hoyle	
The Lord	Greville	Janner of Braunstone	
The Rt Hon the Lord & Lady	Richard Napier	Luce of Adur	
The Lord	Jack	Merrivale	
The Lord	John	Astor	Unable to attend
The Lord	John	Astor of Hever	Unable to attend
The Rt Hon the Lord	John Taylor	Kilclooney	
Lord		Mereworth	Unable to attend
The Lord and Lady	John	Monson	
The Rt Hon the Lord	Tom	Pendry	

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1392**

There were 11 Gibraltar Government and GDC employees who attended the Gibraltar Day event in London as follows:

Mr James Tipping	Finance Centre Director
Dr David McCutcheon	Chief Executive, Gibraltar Health Authority
Mr Richard Garcia	Chief Executive, Ministry of Trade, Industry, Employment and Communication
Mr Francis Cantos	Press Officer
Mr Joseph Macano	Senior Officer, Finance Centre
Mr John Reyes	Private Secretary to the Chief Minister (Legal)
Mr Ernest Lima	Director of Finance, Gibraltar Health Authority
Mr Peter Canessa	Chief Executive Officer, Gibraltar Tourist Board
Mr Nicholas Guerrero	Sales Manager, Gibraltar Tourist Board
Mrs Sabrina Ramagge	Executive Officer, Finance Centre
Ms Mireille Alsina	Administrative Officer, Finance Centre



**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1389 TO 1392 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Can the Chief Minister say, the figure given here in answer to Question No. 1389 is £69,120.72, does that include the cost of the Finance Centre lunch as well or does this reference to catering does not include that?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, the Gibraltar Day event refers to the Guildhall, so all this information is Guildhall stuff I think. I must say I had assumed that it did not include but he has put me in some doubt now with his supplementary. When I read out the answer I had assumed that it would not have included the Finance Centre lunch at the RAC Club.

ORAL

**NO. 1393 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CAPE TOWN CONVENTION**

Can Government say whether the EU has now been able to agree the Council Decision authorising Member States to proceed with ratification of the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Equipment Protocol following the dispute between the United Kingdom and Spain over the way that it would apply to Gibraltar if extended to us?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No. 1394 of 2005.

**NO. 1394 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**CAPE TOWN CONVENTION**

Are Government aware whether the United Kingdom intends as a matter of policy to extend the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Equipment Protocol to its Overseas Territories and Dependencies including Gibraltar?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The EU has not been able to pass the Council Resolution to which the hon Member refers in his question. I am advised in relation to his second question, Question No. 1394, that the United Kingdom have not yet taken a decision whether to extend the Cape Town Convention and its Protocols to the Overseas Territories and Dependencies. I hope he understands the difference of Gibraltar's situation compared to the others, and that is that if the European Union ratifies it as an EU, that ratification includes Gibraltar because we are part of the EU. Hence the position. Insofar as the normal international treaty territorial extension, I am advised that the UK have not yet made a policy decision of whether to apply it generally to its Crown Dependencies or Overseas Territories.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1393 AND 1394 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Does the Chief Minister know what it is specifically about its application in Gibraltar that Spain is objecting to? Do they want the same exclusion clause?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, at the root of this dispute, and others by the way, lies the fact that when we agreed the postboxing system it was limited to certain types of instruments, namely, EU instruments and we specifically ensured that it did not include international agreements when they are collectively ratified by the EU, because there is an increasing tendency by the EU to do that and had we left that particular door open, it would have eventually extended to all international agreements that pass the postboxing because the EU has an ambition that it should ratify these things collectively as a block. Therefore we were careful to ensure that it did not apply precisely to situations of this sort. Namely, where one has an international convention

that is not an EU measure but which the EU subscribes as a block, and therefore Spain wants the postboxing arrangements extended to it and we are saying, with the UK support, that the postbox arrangements specifically exclude this and therefore postboxing does not and cannot apply to it.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Given that apparently they decided to proceed without waiting for the EU to ratify this collectively, if the UK were to follow that route then presumably they would include us or is that not the case?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The answer to that supplementary is in the specific answer that I for that very reason gave to the hon Member sitting next to him, and that is that the distinction that I drew between an EU ratification and a Member State ratification, if the EU ratify it as a block that includes Gibraltar because Gibraltar is part of the EU block. If on the other hand individual countries ratify it nationally and unilaterally, then each country decides to which part of its territory it applies, which is the question that the Hon Dr Garcia asked me in relation to the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, although the UK have not made a policy decision about that.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But in the event.....

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

The UK has not decided whether if it extends nationally and unilaterally, as Ireland has done, whether in those circumstances the UK would include the Overseas Territories or not, it has not yet decided.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

My question is, in the event if it went down that road where we would not automatically be included as we would if it were an EU decision, have the Government had any indication where the UK would then treat us as all the other territories or not? That is the point.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I am not sure it is a point but the answer is yes, to the extent that it is a point. Either we are dealt with as part of the EU if they sign as a block or we are just another Overseas Territory if it comes to the UK as a nation subscribing to an international convention, which as the hon Member knows the usual way is that the UK normally asks the Overseas Territories whether they want to be. It is not usual for the UK to proceed without asking the Territories whether they wish to be excluded. In other words, it is actually not very usual for the UK to make the unilateral decision not to offer the Territories extension.

ORAL

NO. 1395 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**AVIATION MEASURES**

On what date and by whom was the Government made aware of Gibraltar's exclusion from the EU regulation on the blacklisting of unsafe airlines?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No formal notification has been made to the Gibraltar Government of Gibraltar's exclusion. This may be because exclusion of Gibraltar from aviation measures is standard systematic, or rather standard systemic misbehaviour on the part of the EU to the point where it is no longer regarded as noteworthy enough to mention.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1396 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**LORD MAYOR'S SHOW IN LONDON**

How and by whom were the Gibraltar students who participated in the Lord Mayor's Show in London chosen?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No. 1397 of 2005.

**NO. 1397 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**LORD MAYOR'S SHOW IN LONDON**

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of Gibraltar's participation in the Lord Mayor's Show in London in November?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Students were selected at random by the Director of the London Office. They were mainly chosen from the London Universities and the outskirts of London, as well as students that had friends/accommodation in the London area.

The cost of the Lord Mayor's Show was as follows:-

	£
Participation charge	406.25
Cost of float and design	3,071.87
Event management	1,750.00
Photography	321.36
Miscellaneous	3,399.57
	<u>22,949.05</u>

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1396 AND 1397 OF 2005**

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

The Chief Minister referred to accommodation, selecting mainly students from London to allow for the fact that they already had accommodation in London, can the Chief Minister say whether in fact students were also selected who were not from London and whether these had to be accommodated somewhere?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I cannot say that because this is something done at the London end by the Director but I do not recall. My understanding is that the Government did not fund any accommodation for participating students. My understanding is that they stayed with friends.

**HON DR J J GARCIA:**

Would the 'miscellaneous' then account for travelling expenses and do we know what else?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I know certainly the cost of their travel to London was paid.



ORAL

NO. 1398 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**IMPORT DUTY – LAND FRONTIER**

How much import duty has been collected from persons entering Gibraltar through the non-commercial gate at the land frontier on a monthly basis from October 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1399 of 2005.

NO. 1399 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**IMPORT DUTY – BUILDING MATERIALS**

What was the amount of import duty paid on building materials on a monthly basis since October 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

In respect of import duty generally at the land frontier:

Oct 05	£15,698.85
Nov 05	£18,412.71

In relation to building materials:

Oct 05	£82,580.35
Nov 05	£55,867.20

ORAL

**NO. 1400 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8 – A, SUB-HEAD 21**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £50,000 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 Research, Development Studies and Professional Fees shown in Head 8-A, Sub-Head 21, showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1401 and 1402 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1401 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8 – A, SUB-HEAD 22**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £130,000 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 National Day shown in Head 8-A, Sub-Head 22, showing who the money was paid to, on what date and for what purpose?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1400 and 1402 of 2005.

**NO. 1402 OF 2005**

**THE HON DR J J GARCIA**

**HEAD 8 – A, SUB-HEAD 16**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £540,000 Forecast Outturn for 2004/2005 that Head 8-A, Sub-Head 16 Government Lobbying, Hospitality and Travel is sub-divided into giving the number of sub-divisions, and showing the amount spent in each sub-division and its name?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1400**

The information requested by the hon Member in relation to sub-head 21 is set out in the schedule that I hand him.

**Answer to Question No. 1401**

As I have already informed the hon Member in answer to a previous question in relation to sub-head 22, the information requested is too detailed and voluminous and he is in effect asking the Government to publish a Nominal Ledger of all items charged to the sub-head. As I have said to him in the past, if he wants subtotals in respect of any particular item of expenditure I will endeavour to obtain the information for him, otherwise it just breaks down into too many different heads.

**Answer to Question No. 1402**

In relation to sub-head 16:-

	£
Official Travel	147,088.03
Invited Guests	6,268.91
Political	281,808.23
Tercentenary	109,209.88
	<u>544,375.05</u>

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1402/2005**

**Answer to Question 1400**

Mr L Edmonds	April 04 – March 05	Civil Contingency Advisor	£9157.50
Mr D Figueras	22/4/04	Professional Services icw Electoral Reform/ Public Service Code	£2838.00
	22/3/04	Professional Service icw Pension Legislation	£440.00
	12/5/04	Professional Services icw Electoral Reform	£1023.00
	5/7/04	Professional Services icw Public Service Code	£924.00
Mouchel Parkman	15/8/04	Professional Services icw Montagu Crescent	£1350.00
Sterling Travel	23/8/04	Travel Costs/ Telecommunication Consultancy	£485.20

contd.....

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1402/2005**

**Contd Answer to Question 1400**

Joseph Zammit	22/10/04	Consultancy Fees/ Statistics Database	£3000.00
	7/3/05	Consultancy Fees/ Statistics Database	£3000.00
Nunez & Co	14/12/04	Professional Fees icw Montagu Crescent	£17,283.78
Sterling Travel	24/1/05	Travel Costs icw Telecommunications Consultancy	£234.20
Mr JR Pendle	24/1/05	Professional Fees icw Telecommunication Consultancy	£3723.68
			-----
			£43,459.36

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1400 TO 1402 OF 2005**

**HON F R PICARDO:**

In the answer just given and in the schedule of legal fees paid in respect of drafting matters, I see a reference to a 'D Figueras', is that gentleman the previous Principal Private Secretary of the Chief Minister, previous Clerk of the House or not?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, it is not usual for the Government to comment on individuals by name but the answer is yes.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is the position then that this former Civil Servant is now retired and is acting as a contractor to the Government for drafting purposes?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, he has certain drafting skills in certain areas of subject matter and he represents good financial value, much cheaper than the legal profession we find.



**NO. 1403 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**COMPUTER AUDIT PROGRAMME**

Can Government confirm whether the original fee paid on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2005 to Pricewaterhouse Coopers for the computer audit programme is payable every year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

This is not an annual payment. I should perhaps add that there is eventually another annual payment but it is not that.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1403 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, because I think the last time the Chief Minister was not sure whether this meant a renewable licence and he said he would let me know the next time.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well I will just give him a little bit more information, the original payment of \$22,000 which is £11,457.73, was the initial licence fee and this fee included perpetual use of the licence and two years support and product upgrade. Thereafter, 20 per cent of the then current initial licence fee is payable annually. So after the two years are up it is 20 per cent of \$22,000.

ORAL

NO. 1404 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT**

Can Government state how many questionnaires have been issued to employers in respect of this year's October Employment Survey?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1405 and 1406 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1405 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT**

Can Government provide the figure for part-time employment in respect of Table 12 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality for the group of employers consisting of public entities and government-owned and joint venture companies listed in answer to question 804 of 2005 and including the relevant information in respect of Aqua-Gib and Gibtelecom?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1404 and 1406 of 2005.

**NO. 1406 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT**

Can Government provide the figure for full time employment in respect of Table 12 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality for the group of employers consisting of public entities and government-owned and joint venture companies listed in answer to Question 804 of 2005 and including the relevant information in respect of Aqua-Gib and Gibtelecom?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1404**

A total of 1,426 October 2005 Employment Survey questionnaires were sent on 5 October 2005.

**Answer to Question Nos. 1405 and 1406**

I hand the hon Member two schedules showing the information requested.

Answer to Question 1406

Answer to Question 1405 of 2005: Table 12: Part - Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, Public Entities & Government Owned JVC's, October 2004

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>ALL</u>		<u>GIBALTARIAN</u>		<u>UK BRITISH</u>		<u>MOROCCAN</u>		<u>SPANISH</u>		<u>OTHER EU</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Shipbuilding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Manuf.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elec/Wtr Supply	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	6	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Whsle/Retail Tr.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotels/Restrnths.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trans/Comm.	2	5	2	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fin. Intermed.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Est./Bus.Ac.	240	0	239	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Admin.	1	11	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health/Social Wk.	3	41	3	34	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Other Services	7	4	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

cont...

Contd Answer to Question 1406

Answer to Question 1406 of 2005: Table 12: Full-Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, Public Entities & Government Owned JVC's, October 2004

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>ALL</u>		<u>GIBALTARIAN</u>		<u>UK BRITISH</u>		<u>MOROCCAN</u>		<u>SPANISH</u>		<u>OTHER EU</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Shipbuilding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Manuf.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elec/Wtr Supply	87	14	79	14	1	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Construction	236	17	219	16	1	0	7	1	6	0	2	0	1	0
Whsle/Retail Tr.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotels/Restrnsts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trans/Comm.	152	22	132	20	5	2	8	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Fin. Intermed.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Est./Bus.Ac.	4	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Admin.	85	58	82	58	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health/Social Wk.	42	221	36	156	2	28	0	2	4	34	0	1	0	0
Other Services	66	14	57	14	2	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

ORAL

**NO. 1407 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GDP FIGURE**

Can Government state when they expect to be able to provide the estimated GDP figure for 2003/2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Under our masterful stewardship, the GDP for 2003/2004 stood at £560.06 million, representing an increase of 10.4 per cent in money terms and of 8.0 per cent in real terms over the previous year.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1407 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Can Government say when they will be providing or publishing the breakdown of the figure showing the different components?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, I have them here under the income method, the expenditure method are still being finalised.

ORAL

NO. 1408 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CIVIL SERVANTS**

Can Government provide the dates on which each of the posts listed in answer to Question 998 of 2005 became vacant?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1409 and 1410 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1409 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CIVIL SERVANTS**

Can Government state whether any of the posts listed in answer to Question 998 of 2005 have since been filled and if so identify which and indicate whether the post has been filled from within the service or by external recruitment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1408 and 1410 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1410 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CIVIL SERVANTS**

Can Government state whether any additional posts in Government Departments have become vacant since the answer to Question 998 of 2005 and if so show the grade and department?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

## ANSWER TO QUESTION 1410

### Answer to Questions 1408 and 1409

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NO. OF VACANT POSTS</u>	<u>VACANT SINCE</u>	<u>DATE FILLED</u>	<u>RECRUITMENT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
EDUCATION	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER - BAYSIDE	1	01-Oct-05	24-Oct-05	INTERNAL	
	TECHNICIAN - DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	1	01-Sep-05		INTERNAL	RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS
	CLASSROOM AIDE	2	01-Sep-04	30-Nov-05		
	EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER	1	28-Oct-04			
	CLEANER	6	11-Jun-05			
				14-Jun-05 (x2)		
CULTURE	SEO (DESIGNATE)	1	08-Aug-05	01-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
HOUSING	HPTO	1	01-Apr-02			
BUILDINGS & WORKS	HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER	1	07-Apr-05		EXTERNAL	RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS
	LABOURER	2	06-Nov-03	20-Mar-04		
TECHNICAL SERVICES	SPTO	1	01-May-05	28-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
	HPTO	1	30-Jun-04			
	SEWERMAN	1	14-Apr-03			
	DEPOT WRITER	1	12-Jul-02			
	M/T FITTER (ELEC)	1	13-Mar-00	24-Oct-05	EXTERNAL	
FABRICATION WELDER	1	06-Jan-03	24-Oct-05	EXTERNAL		
TRANSPORT - TRAFFIC	AO	1	09-May-05	14-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
SOCIAL AFFAIRS	MESSENGER	1	20-Mar-05			
	SOCIAL WORKER	1	18-May-04			TO BE FILLED BY TRAINEE ON SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF STUDIES
	ASSISTANT MANAGERESS - ST BERNADETTE'S	1	01-Sep-05		INTERNAL	RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS
	CLASSROOM AIDE - SPECIAL NEEDS -	2	24-Oct-02	28-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
	ST BERNADETTE'S CLEANER	2	15-Apr-05	28-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
				09-Apr-00		
				01-May-00		
SCHOOL ATTENDANT	1	10-Apr-02				
TRADE & INDUSTRY	SEO	1	21-Mar-05			
	SPTO	1	01-Sep-05		EXTERNAL	RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS
	EO	1	01-Sep-05		INTERNAL	POST TO BE FILLED ON 12-12-05
POSTAL SERVICES	S.O.G. (EX-SORTER)	1	30-Aug-05	17-Oct-05	INTERNAL	
POLICE	CHIEF INSPECTOR	1	03-Sep-05	24-Oct-05	INTERNAL	
	POLICE CONSTABLE	2	02-Sep-05			
			05-Sep-05			
	MARINE MECHANIC	1	19-Nov-04			
SECRETARIAT	HEO	1	01-Aug-00			
	AO	1	05-Sep-05		INTERNAL	POST TO BE FILLED ON 3-1-06
STATISTICS	AO	1	03-Oct-05	12-Oct-05	INTERNAL	

Cont...

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1410**

**Contd Answer to Question 1408 and 1409**

CIVIL STATUS & REGISTRATION	AO	1	31-Aug-05			
TREASURY	AO	2	07-Jun-05 13-Sep-05	12-Oct-05	INTERNAL	
	MESSENGER	1	01-Sep-05			
CUSTOMS	CLEANER	1	01-Oct-05		EXTERNAL	TENDER Cont...
INCOME TAX	AO	1	27-Jul-05	07-Nov-05	INTERNAL	
MAGISTRATES	CLEANER	1	25-Aug-05		EXTERNAL	TENDER AWARD
AUDIT	AUDITOR	2	01-Jul-05 01-Jul-05	14-Nov-05	EXTERNAL	
	AO	1	27-Jul-05			
GIBRALTAR HEALTH AUTHORITY	HOSPITAL ATTENDANT	1	01-Oct-05		INTERNAL	RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS

**Answer to Question 1410**

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NO. OF VACANT POSTS</u>
EDUCATION	CLASSROOM AIDE - SPECIAL NEEDS (P/T)	2
CULTURE	HEO	1
ENVIRONMENT	P&GS'E' GRAVEDIGGER	1 1
BUILDINGS & WORKS	CRAFTSMAN MT DRIVER	1 2
TECHNICAL SERVICES	HPTO TG 1	1 1
TRANSPORT - TRAFFIC	SENIOR DRIVING AND VEHICLE EXAMINER	1
SOCIAL AFFAIRS	AO CLASSROOM AIDE - SPECIAL NEEDS (P/T)	1 2
STATISTICS	AA	1
INCOME TAX	AA	1
PROCUREMENT	EO	1
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS	I.T. OFFICER LEVEL 1	1
PRISON	PRISON OFFICER	1
POLICE	POLICE CONSTABLE	1

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1408 TO 1410 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In the case of those posts that have been vacant for a very long time, for example I notice there are one or two that go back to the year 2000 and some go back to 2003 and 2004. I can understand the one in 2005 being in the process of being filled but if there are jobs that have not been done since the year 2000, is it still intended to fill them?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

One of the exercises that I have asked to be done is for the current establishment level to be fixed so that we know how many of these are sort of historical that are no longer needed and will not be replaced and how many fall into the different category that will be replaced. Obviously the Public Service changes size and shape and new jobs are created in one part and lost in another, so certainly not all of these will be filled but I think it is important that we know, particular at budget time when we are debating the budget, which can be and in a sense this year's budget document is an accurate guide because there I made sure that departments only sought funding, or rather were only given funding for posts..... Let me put it another way, that departments did not put in funding for posts that may have historically existed but for which there was no serious intention of recruiting. That is probably now quite close to the establishment levels in this year's budget. The rule is that those posts can be refilled if they become vacant. So in a sense what we are doing is eliminating the historical, it is not as if they are driven down every year.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1411 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CIVIL SERVICE – SENIOR OFFICERS**

Can Government explain why the grade of Senior officer prior to 1 August 2003 were on a salary scale with pay points of £53,128, £54,558 and £55,980 and those entering the grade in or after this date have a maximum on their salary scale of £50,647?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No. 1412 of 2005.

**NO. 1412 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CIVIL SERVICE – SENIOR OFFICERS**

Can Government state how many of the Senior Officers currently in post were employed in this grade prior to 1 August 2003 and how many entered after this date?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1411**

On implementing the Pay Review for 1 August 2003, all pay scales including the Senior Officer pay scale, whose scale maximum already surpassed the corresponding UK Pay Band analogue maxima were maintained on a personal-to-holder basis. New entrants post 1 August 2003 are placed on a new scale the maxima of which corresponds to the maximum of the UK scale to which Senior Officers are analogued for parity purposes. In other words, the Gibraltar scale had passed the UK maxima and these people are now on a personal-to-holder basis and new recruits into that scale and to that grade only rise to the parity relevant scale maxima.

**Answer to Question No. 1412**

A total of 21 Senior Officers are currently in post, 19 were appointed prior to 1 August 2003 and two after this date.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1411 AND 1412 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In the Estimates I believe there are two Senior Officer posts that have got a footnote saying they are personal-to-holder. In fact from the answer the Chief Minister has given me it should be the other way round, there should be 19 that say personal-to-holder and two that do not.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, then the note must refer to something else.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I think there was one case in the Treasury and one case under Head 8, there is an (a) note next to the Senior Officers and No. 6 Convent Place there are two Senior Officers and there is a footnote that says 'one post held on a personal-to-holder basis'.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Oh, personal-to-holder basis, it is not an established post. For example, it is not a post that established a Senior Officer. For example, my Principal Private Secretary is currently a Senior Officer but not because the post is necessarily established at that grade but simply because that is the grade of the person doing the post. When he retires he may not be replaced by a Senior Officer. So that is one that I can think of at No. 6. Are they both at No. 6?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

No, the other one is in the Treasury. So the personal-to-holder footnote does not in fact refer to the personal-to-holder scale, it refers to the fact that the post is not a post at that grade.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is not established at that grade. I could have a Principal Private Secretary of any grade.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Well, I suppose the Chief Minister could, presumably that is why he is a Senior Officer because he can have him at any grade and he chose to put him in the grade.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, in fact I think he was not of that grade when he took the job, I think he was then an SEO and he was upgraded in post.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Yes, but I do not understand that because I seem to remember that when the upgrading took place the explanation of the Chief Minister was the opposite of the one he has given now, which is to say he was upgraded because that was the level of work he was already doing in the post. So it follows that the post is at that grade.



**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, the post is not at that grade, I remember that answer. The post is not at that grade but people who have done that job in the past have risen to that grade and I think there was an aspiration to do the same. These things are not dealt with by me.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

It is an unusual use of the personal-to-holder because normally personal-to-holder means the person is promoted to a grade and then even if he is doing a job which is not of that grade, he still carries the preserved right.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It is a job the role and responsibility and nature of which could change, he knows what it is like. The office can be restructured and it may not require a Senior Officer, and indeed it remains to be seen whether he will be replaced by a Senior Officer or not when he reaches retirement age. Anyway, theoretically any post that is not established at a particular grade, if done by somebody of that grade is on a personal-to-holder basis otherwise one is committed to replacing it with somebody of that grade upon his retirement. So I suppose it is just a way of flagging up to others that this is not such a post.

ORAL

**NO. 1413 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**RESIDENCE PERMITS**

Can Government confirm that they have taken a policy decision, not yet implemented, to issue five year residence permits to non-EU pensioners wishing to remain in Gibraltar on reaching retirement age?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1414, 1415 and 1416 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1414 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**NON-EU PENSIONERS**

Are non-EU pensioners who come to collect their pensions on a regular basis eligible for the issue of residence permits if they wish to remain in Gibraltar and register as seeking employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1413, 1415 and 1416 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1415 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**NON-EU PENSIONERS**

Was the number of non-EU pensioners with residence permits 78 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 as stated in answer to Question 565 of 2005 or 60 as stated in answer to Question 1052 of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1413, 1414 and 1416 of 2005.

**NO. 1416 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**NON-EU PENSIONERS**

When was the first permit issued to a non-EU pensioner to enable the person to remain in Gibraltar and register as seeking employment granted?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Government have indeed made the in principle policy decision that legally resident non-EU nationals who reach pensionable age and who on reaching such age have resided in Gibraltar for at least 10 years within the previous 15, should continue to reside on the basis of renewable five year residence permits after they have ceased to work and without having to register as unemployed.

The Immigration Control Ordinance restricts the issue of residence permits with a validity of more than six months and not exceeding five years (the maximum period of validity) to persons who hold valid employment permits (and to the spouses and children of such persons). The Ordinance is to be amended so that Government's decision can be given effect to.

Those non-EU pensioners who have already left Gibraltar on termination of employment and, in the case of Moroccan nationals, have been issued with two year multiple visit visas to enable them to collect their pensions in person are not able to register as unemployed and take up residence again.

As I said in my answer to Question No. 565 of 2005, there was a total of 78 non-EU pensioners who were in possession of annual residence permits as at 31 March 2005. In answer to Question No. 1052 of 2005, I said that the number of unemployed non-EU pensioners on six monthly permits, which on 31 March 2005 had stood at 60 had risen to 64. Non-EU pensioners who register as unemployed and remain in Gibraltar are currently issued with six monthly residence permits. Those who continue in employment are issued with annual permits in line with their work permits.

I am told that in answer to his final question, It is not possible to identify from immigration and employment records, the first instance when a non-EU pensioner was able to register as unemployed in order to be issued with a renewable short-term residence permit and remain in Gibraltar after termination of employment. However, I can confirm to him that the arrangements came into effect gradually with the first registration taking place in 1999.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1413 TO 1416 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact, in respect of Question No. 1415 the difference between the 78 and the 60 is that 18 were actually working.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Exactly. Well actually working, not registered as unemployed.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

But if they have permits as being employed then presumably they had contracts of employment.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Subject only to a non-notification of a termination but yes, in principle he is right.

**NO. 1417 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT (NO. 3) PENSION SCHEME**

Have any private sector employers applied to join the Government (No. 3) Pension Scheme since it was announced and if so which employers and in respect of how many employees?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

To date no applications have been received to join the Government administered Provident (No. 3) Pension Scheme. It is not strictly accurate to call it a Government scheme, it is Government administered but it has its own trustees and its own trust deed. However, 31 companies have shown an interest in the scheme since it was announced.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1417 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Do the Government have any indication whether these would be companies that until now have not been providing pensions or companies that have got other arrangements and may be interested in this Government administered scheme because it might be a better option?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well it is certainly cheaper, it is bound to be cheaper than any self-administered scheme or package scheme because after all the advantage of these Provident Schemes is that the administration overheads are as low as they can possibly be. I do not have the information, I would guess it is companies without a pension scheme which is who the scheme is primarily aimed at but of course it may well be that there are people interested who fall into the category that he identifies. In other words, who seek to transfer current schemes into this one.

ORAL

NO. 1418 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

Are any of the 159 employees in the Social Services Agency employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms and if so on what grades?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1419 to 1422 of 2005.



ORAL

**NO. 1419 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**ELDERLY CARE AGENCY**

Are any of the 233 employees in the Elderly Care Agency employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms and if so on what grades?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1418 and 1420 to 1422 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1420 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY**

Are any of the 23 employees in the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms and if so on what grades?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1418, 1419 and 1421 to 1422 of 2005.

**ORAL**

**NO. 1421 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

Are any of the 149 employees in the Gibraltar Electricity Authority employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms and if so on what grades?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1418 to 1420 and 1422 of 2005.

**NO. 1422 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA – CONTRACT OFFICERS**

Can Government provide the list of the officers in post in the GHA as at 30 November 2005, who were at the time contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms with the commencement dates of their contracts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1418**

There are three officers employed in the Social Services Agency on contract on temporary and non-pensionable terms. One Social Worker/Probation Officer, one part-time Social Worker/Family Court Welfare Officer and one Social Worker/Children and Families team.

**Answer to Question No. 1419**

There are 33 employees in the Elderly Care Agency employed on contract on temporary and non-pensionable terms as follows:

1	Nursing Co-ordinator
13	Staff Nurses
3	Enrolled Nurses
7	Domestics (Catering/Laundry Departments)
1	Assistant Cook
3	Administrative Officers
<u>5</u>	Maintenance
<u>33</u>	

**Answer to Question No. 1420**

None of the 23 employees at the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority are employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms.

**Answer to Question No. 1421**

None of the 149 employees in the Gibraltar Electricity Authority are employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms.

**Answer to Question No. 1422**

In relation to the GHA I hand the hon Member a schedule setting out the information requested except the names of the individuals concerned. This is the answer in which there are people that will shortly be considered for inclusion in the Provident Scheme.

**ANSWER TO QUESTION 1422/2005**

**ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT GRADES 30-09-05**

<b><u>GRADE</u></b>	<b><u>Date of Entry</u></b>
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	19-Oct-04
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES	01-Dec-04
GHA CLERK	20-Sep-04
GHA CLERK	03-Dec-01
GHA CLERK	13-Sep-04
GHA CLERK	01-Aug-05
GHA CLERK	08-Aug-05
GHA CLERK	22-Oct-03
GHA CLERK	29-Aug-05
GHA CLERK	15-Dec-03
GHA CLERK	18-Jul-05
GHA CLERK	11-Jul-05
GHA CLERK	27-Jun-05
GHA CLERK	20-Jun-05
GHA CLERK	23-Sep-02
GHA CLERK	18-Jun-02
GHA CLERK	03-Mar-03
IT ASSISTANT	17-Jan-05
PATIENT COMPLAINTS CO-ORDINATOR	22-Nov-04
TYPIST	13-Sep-05
TYPIST	09-Jun-05
TYPIST (pt)	09-Jun-05
RECEPTIONIST	07-Feb-05
RECEPTIONIST	01-Mar-05
RECEPTIONIST	09-Feb-05
RECEPTIONIST (pt)	09-Feb-05
RECEPTIONIST (pt)	30-Aug-05
RECEPTIONIST (pt)	07-Feb-05
RECEPTIONIST (pt)	07-Feb-05
WARD CLERK	10-Feb-03
WARD CLERK	06-Jan-03
WARD CLERK	01-Sep-03
WARD CLERK	06-Jan-03
WARD CLERK (Mat)	18-Jul-05
CATERING DIRECTOR	20-Jan-05

Cont.....

**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1422/2005**

**INDUSTRIAL GRADES 30-09-05**

STORES ASSISTANT	09-Jun-03
COOK (SZ-3)	29-Mar-05

**MEDICAL & PAM GRADES 30-09-05**

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH	02-Feb-98
CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRIST	19-Apr-04
CONSULTANT PATHOLOGIST	01-Mar-01
CONSULTANT GYNAECOLOGIST	02-Jul-01
CONSULTANT PAEDIATRICIAN	05-Sep-05
CONSULTANT GENERAL SURGEON	10-May-05
CONSULTANT OPHTHALMOLOGIST	08-Jun-95
CONSULTANT PAEDIATRICIAN	01-Feb-03
CONSULTANT GERIATRICIAN	01-Feb-05
CONSULTANT ANAESTHETIST	01-Apr-05
CONSULTANT ANAESTHETIST	27-May-03
CONSULTANT ANAESTHETIST	04-Jan-05
CONSULTANT GYNAECOLOGIST	02-Feb-04
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	01-Feb-05
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	06-Aug-03
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	18-Feb-05
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	21-Mar-01
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	05-Feb-03
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	02-Mar-05
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	06-Aug-03
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	05-Feb-01
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	05-Feb-03
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	13-Aug-04
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	28-Jan-02
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	28-Mar-05
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	27-Sep-04
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	04-Feb-04
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	04-Aug-04
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	05-Feb-97
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	25-Feb-97
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	01-Jul-03
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	09-Jun-03
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	26-Jan-04
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	04-Mar-02
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	19-May-03
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	23-Apr-03
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	01-Dec-88
PHYSIOTHERAPIST SENIOR II	01-Sep-04
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST SENIOR I	11-Oct-04

Cont.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST SENIOR I	07-Feb-05
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST SENIOR II	11-Oct-04
MLSO	01-Sep-03
MLSO	18-Apr-05
MLSO	03-May-05
JMLSO A	28-Feb-05
JMLSO A	01-Aug-05
RADIOGRAPHER/MAMMOGRAPHER SENIOR I	09-May-05
RADIOGRAPHER/SONOGRAPHER SENIOR I	17-May-05
RADIOGRAPHER SENIOR II	06-Jun-05
RADIOGRAPHER SENIOR II	01-Apr-05
RADIOGRAPHER HELPER	20-Jun-05
SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPIST	16-Feb-05
ORTHOPTIST SENIOR 1	01-Aug-05

**NURSING GRADES 30-09-05**

DIRECTOR OF NURSING & PATIENT SERVICES	01-Dec-04
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	01-Mar-99
NURSE LECTURER	04-Jul-05
NURSE PRACTITIONER	01-Feb-05
NURSE PRACTITIONER	13-Dec-04
CHARGE NURSE	09-May-04
CHARGE NURSE	10-Feb-02
STAFF NURSE	14-Jul-02
STAFF NURSE	13-Jan-02
STAFF NURSE	16-Mar-03
STAFF NURSE	08-May-05
STAFF NURSE	06-Oct-02
STAFF NURSE	29-May-05
STAFF NURSE	12-Jun-05
STAFF NURSE	12-Jun-05
STAFF NURSE	15-Oct-00
STAFF NURSE	14-Jul-02
STAFF NURSE	30-Apr-00
STAFF NURSE	23-May-04
STAFF NURSE	03-Jul-05
STAFF NURSE	12-Jun-05
STAFF NURSE	03-Jul-05
STAFF NURSE	15-May-05
STAFF NURSE	15-May-05
STAFF NURSE	01-Sep-04

Cont...



**CONT ANSWER TO QUESTION 1422/2005**

STAFF NURSE	20-Jan-02
STAFF NURSE	16-Mar-03
STAFF NURSE	13-Jan-02
STAFF NURSE	10-Sep-00
STAFF NURSE	01-May-05
STAFF NURSE (R.M.N.)	26-Nov-00
STAFF NURSE (R.M.N.)	22-May-05
STAFF NURSE (R.M.N.)	09-May-04
STAFF NURSE (R.M.N.)	26-Apr-04
STAFF NURSE (R.S.C.N.)	14-Nov-04
STAFF NURSE (R.S.C.N.)	17-Oct-04
STAFF NURSE (R.S.C.N.)	28-Nov-04
STAFF NURSE (R.S.C.N.)	01-Jun-03
STAFF NURSE (THEATRE NURSE)	18-May-03
STAFF NURSE (THEATRE NURSE)	15-Jul-01
STAFF NURSE P/T	14-Aug-05
STAFF MIDWIFE	02-Aug-04
STAFF MIDWIFE	01-Jun-04
STAFF MIDWIFE	28-Mar-99
STAFF MIDWIFE	20-Jun-04
STAFF MIDWIFE	24-Jul-05
STAFF MIDWIFE	19-Jan-03
STAFF MIDWIFE P/T	06-Apr-05
STAFF MIDWIFE P/T	28-Mar-99
ODP	05-Dec-04
ODP	12-Jun-05
ODP	26-Jun-05
ODP	23-Aug-04
ODP	06-Jun-05
ODP	31-Oct-04
ENROLLED NURSE	08-Aug-04
ENROLLED NURSE	25-Jan-04

**CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 1422 OF 2005**

**Answer to Question No. 1420**

None of the 23 employees at the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority are employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms.

**Answer to Question No. 1421**

None of the 149 employees in the Gibraltar Electricity Authority are employed as contract officers on temporary and non-pensionable terms.

**Answer to Question No. 1422**

In relation to the GHA I hand the hon Member a schedule setting out the information requested except the names of the individuals concerned.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1418 TO 1422 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Is there a particular reason why on this occasion the Government have chosen to leave the names out?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Well, I know that in the past we have done but only that on reconsideration it is thought not to be appropriate to hand over the situation of individuals identifiable and I did not think that it would be of any interest to the hon Member. What he wants to know is the systematics position not the names of the persons involved.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Well, the Chief Minister may remember that in the last House we were trying to find out what had happened to the people on the previous list and the answer was that it was all in boxes in the basement, so the next option was to ask who is there now so that we can compare one list of names with the other and see who is still left and who has gone.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Let see if we can find a way of using perhaps numbers or something because he just wants to know when people have fallen out of the system or entered it.

ORAL

NO. 1423 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CONSOLIDATED FUND - EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide the total estimated Consolidated Fund expenditure for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown by Head of expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1424 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1424 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CONSOLIDATED FUND - REVENUE**

Can Government provide the total estimated Consolidated Fund revenue for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown by Head of revenue?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 and 1425 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1425 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**I & D FUND - EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide the total estimated Improvement and Development Fund expenditure for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown by Head of expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423, 1424 and 1426 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1426 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**I & D FUND - REVENUE**

Can Government provide the total estimated Improvement and Development Fund revenue for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown by Head of revenue?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1425 and 1427 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1427 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GDC - REVENUE**

Can Government provide the estimated total Gibraltar Development Corporation revenue for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown as follows:

- (a) Training Levy;
- (b) ESF;
- (c) Consolidated Fund Head 1B;
- (d) Miscellaneous;
- (e) Other Receipts?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1426 and 1428 to 1438 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1428 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GDC - EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide the total estimated Gibraltar Development Corporation expenditure for the current financial year to 30 September 2005 giving a breakdown as between Employment and Training and other divisions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1427 and 1429 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1429 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

Can Government state what has been the operating expenditure of the Gibraltar Electricity Authority for the current financial year to 30 September giving a breakdown of personal emoluments, employment costs and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1428 and 1430 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1430 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

Can Government state what has been the operating revenue of the Gibraltar Electricity Authority for the current financial year to 30 September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1429 and 1431 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1431 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY**

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Sports and Leisure Authority for the current financial year to 30 September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1430 and 1432 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1432 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY**

Can Government state what has been the recurrent expenditure of the Sports and Leisure Authority for the current financial year to 30 September giving a breakdown of personal emoluments and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1431 and 1433 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1433 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Social Services Agency for the current financial year to 30 September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1432 and 1434 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1434 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

Can Government state what have been the payments made by the Social Services Agency for the current financial year to 30 September with a breakdown for personal emoluments, industrial wages, other personnel and employer contributions and other recurrent expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1433 and 1435 to 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1435 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**ELDERLY CARE AGENCY**

Can Government state what have been the payments made by the Elderly Care Agency for the current financial year to 30 September giving a breakdown for personal emoluments, industrial wages, other personnel and employer contributions and other recurrent expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1434 and 1436 to 1438 of 2005.



ORAL

NO. 1436 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**ELDERLY CARE AGENCY**

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Elderly Care Agency for the current financial year to 30 September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1435, 1437 and 1438 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1437 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GHA - RECEIPTS**

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Gibraltar Health Authority for the current financial year to 30 September with a breakdown by Social Assistance Fund, GPMS, consolidated fund and other receipts?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1423 to 1436 and 1438 of 2005.

**NO. 1438 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GHA - PAYMENTS**

Can Government state what have been the payments made by the Gibraltar Health Authority for the current financial year to 30 September with breakdown by personal emoluments, industrial wages, other personnel and other recurrent expenditure?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I hand the hon Member statements giving the information that he has requested based on Treasury records as they currently stand. However, figures do not include Treasury adjustments, for example, contributions from the Consolidated Fund and Social Assistance Fund to the Agencies, Authorities and Corporation, which are normally effected by the Treasury at the end of the financial year.

**Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1423/2005**

**CONSOLIDATED FUND EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>HEAD</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>
1A Education	£9,823,121.46
1B Employment	£245,245.91
1C Training	£257,693.26
2A Heritage and Culture	£584,307.31
2B Youth and Sport	£308,842.27
2C Broadcasting	£700,000.00
3A Housing - Administration	£1,293,873.96
3B Housing - Buildings and Works	£3,160,994.71
4A Environment	£5,124,344.75
4B Technical Services	£2,607,895.65
4C Transport - Roads and Traffic	£576,867.75
4D Utilities	£4,189,519.39
5A Social and Civic Affairs	£2,572,917.58
5B Prison	£521,583.25
6A Trade, Industry and Communications	£694,598.25
6B Tourism	£1,416,961.11
6C Port	£1,162,248.80
6D Department of Shipping	£270,430.67
6E Airport	£564,346.49
6F Postal Services	£1,225,212.24
7A Health and Civil Contingency	£9,864.28
7B Fire Service	£1,594,930.32
7C Police	£4,482,397.47
8A No. 6 Convent Place	£3,402,151.39
8B Human Resources	£297,788.32
8C Civil Status and Registration Office	£246,337.82
8D Financial and Development Secretary	£92,187.90
8E Treasury	£2,422,636.28
8F Customs	£1,902,305.65
8G Income Tax	£625,156.87
8H Finance Centre	£486,920.39
9A Law Officers	£282,521.76
9B Supreme Court	£295,940.84
9C Magistrates and Coroners Court	£178,703.50
10 House of Assembly	£470,361.45
11 Audit Office	£222,018.89
12 Supplementary Provision	£0.00
13 Contributions from Consolidated Fund - Reserve	£434,027.71
	<u>£54,747,255.65</u>

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**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

**Contd Answer to Question 1423/2005**

**CONSOLIDATED FUND CHARGES**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>HEAD</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>
01 Statutory Offices	£316,705.62
02 Judicature	£502,223.35
03 Pensions	£9,691,367.36
04 Employer's Contributions	£1,376,650.67
05 Public Debt Charges	£5,557,997.63
06 Public Services Ombudsman	£79,798.25
07 Revenue Repayment	£5,791.50
08 Public Debt Repayment	£1,076,460.00
	<b><u>£18,606,994.38</u></b>

**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1424/2005

**CONSOLIDATED FUND REVENUE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>HEAD</u></b>	<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>
1 Income Taxes	£47,307,957.55
2 Duties, Taxes and Other Receipts	£17,732,305.51
3 Gambling Fees	£2,997,118.72
4 Rates and Rents	£7,160,191.89
5 Departmental Fees and Receipts	£7,172,827.83
6 Government Earnings	<u>£1,838,386.58</u>
	<u>£84,208,788.08</u>

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**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1425/2005

**IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>HEAD</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>
101 Housing, Health and Social Affairs	£1,201,255.79
102 Education, Sports, Leisure, Youth, Culture and Heritage	£1,650,078.22
103 Environment, Roads and Utilities	£304,061.47
104 Economic Development, Tourism, Port and Airport	£1,419,815.70
105 Public Administration and Essential Services	£363,749.84
	<u>£4,938,961.02</u>

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**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1426/2005**

**IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND REVENUE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>HEAD</u></b>	<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>
101 Contributions and Loans	£0.00
102 Sale of Government Properties	£4,150,346.99
103 Grants	£629,480.07
104 Reimbursements	£100,535.95
	<u>£4,880,363.01</u>

contd...



**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1427/2005

**GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REVENUE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**

**Revenue**

Training Levy	£1,191,091.69
Contribution by European Social Fund ESF (I)	£1,364,805.00
Contribution from Consolidated Fund - Head 1B	£0.00
Miscellaneous	<u>£50,495.00</u>
	<u>£2,606,391.69</u>

**OTHER DIVISIONS**

**Revenue**

Other Receipts	<u>£1,689,566.27</u>
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Answer to Question 1428/2005

**GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**

**Expenditure**

Employment	£287,222.33
Training	<u>£1,014,063.60</u>
	<u>£1,301,285.93</u>

**OTHER DIVISIONS**

**Expenditure**

Other Divisions	<u>£1,689,566.27</u>
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**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1429/2005

**GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY – OPERATING EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**EXPENDITURE**

Personal Emoluments	£2,657,138.90
Employer's Contribution	£131,437.66
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£7,124,615.07</u>
	<u>£9,913,191.63</u>

Answer to Question 1430/2005

**GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY – OPERATING REVENUE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**REVENUE**

£6,869,545.22

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1431/2005

**SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – RECEIPTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>	<u>NIL</u>
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Answer to Question 1432/2005

**SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**EXPENDITURE**

Personal Emoluments	£245,830.41
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£81,272.97</u>
	<u>£327,103.38</u>

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1433/2005

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY – RECEIPTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>	<b><u>NIL</u></b>
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Answer to Question 1434/2005

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY – EXPENDITURE**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**EXPENDITURE**

Personal Emoluments	£1,169,689.41
Industrial Wages	£194,244.63
Other Personnel	£179,074.81
Employer's Contribution	£162,148.24
Other Recurrent Expenditure	£197,840.45
	<b><u>£1,902,997.54</u></b>

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

Answer to Question 1435/2005

**ELDERLY CARE AGENCY – PAYMENTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**PAYMENTS**

Personal Emoluments	£1,648,207.60
Industrial Wages	£417,848.56
Other Personnel	£8,688.86
Employer's Contribution	£213,776.34
Other Recurrent Expenditure	£489,999.74
	<u>£2,778,521.10</u>

Answer to Question 1436/2005

**ELDERLY CARE AGENCY – RECEIPTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**RECEIPTS**

£271,730.53

contd...

**Contd Answer to Question 1438 of 2005**

**Answer to Question 1437/2005**

**GIBRALTAR HEALTH AUTHORITY – RECEIPTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**RECEIPTS**

Social Assistance Fund	£0.00
GPMS	£11,584,776.78
Consolidated Fund	£0.00
Other Receipts	<u>£361,267.01</u>
	<u>£11,946,043.79</u>

**Answer to Question 1438/2005**

**GIBRALTAR HEALTH AUTHORITY – PAYMENTS**

**1 APRIL 2005 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT  
3 DECEMBER 2005**

**PAYMENTS**

Personal Emoluments	£9,735,979.90
Industrial Wages	£1,022,793.89
Other Personnel	£1,704,931.40
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£11,847,625.60</u>
	<u>£24,311,330.79</u>

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1423 TO 1438 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I notice that there is a sum of £1,076,000 in respect of public debt repayment. I am sure the Chief Minister will remember that we had an exchange in the last meeting of the House as to whether the repayment of the maturing debt, which was then refinanced by issuing new debt, was something that would appear in the Consolidated Fund charges in the course of this year. So can he say what this particular repayment is in respect of?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, I cannot tell him that, I have not analysed this information and he asks for half yearly financial information and I give it to him but I am not in a position to analyse it with him. I have got an answer to the exchange we had at the last Question Time which is that as he knows, under the Constitution all repayments are paid out of the Consolidated Fund and all proceeds of borrowing can go either to the Consolidated Fund or to the Improvement and Development Fund. The answer is that they are netted in Consolidated Fund only and therefore the new debt goes into the Improvement and Development Fund and the whole of the repayment is shown in the Consolidated Fund. In other words, the figure appearing here, I think this is where the discussion began in relation to Head 8 Public Debt Repayments, the £8,000 figure, that figure is net. In other words, to answer his original specific query if in the Consolidated Fund money is paid out in repayment of debt but money is also paid in being the proceeds of new debt, paid into the Consolidated Fund being the proceeds of new debt then the figure that would appear here is the net figure representing the net outflow. So it is not the whole amount on the basis that legally the whole amount has had to come out of the Consolidated Fund, that is what I am told by the Treasury.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So that might be the explanation for the £1 million. In effect it means that up to September there was a net outflow of £1 million which of course might be reversed by the end of the year.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes, exactly. Particularly given the use of revolving bank facilities. But then of course it is shown both in and out of the Estimates book.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

In terms of the receipts of the different Authorities and Agencies, the new figure is because it is technically being done with advances from the Consolidated Fund and then the figure is finalised when the final figures are available?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Exactly so. Remember that the Government do not account on a six monthly or quarterly basis, they close their books at the end of the year and everything else is advance accounts and one clearing account.



**NO. 1439 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

Can Government confirm whether or not the £10 million company tax collected in March 2005 in respect of company tax included an amount in respect of the tax liabilities for tax years up to 2003/2004 and if so state what was the amount of the tax paid in respect of such liabilities giving the breakdown by the respective relevant tax years up to 2003/2004?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

A total of £10.7 million was collected in Corporation Tax in March 2005 and not £10 million as stated in the Question formulated by the hon Member. The breakdown is as follows:

Year of Assessment	Amount £,000
2001/2002 and earlier	31
2002/2003	249
2003/2004	400
2004/2005	10,020
	<u>£10,700</u>

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1439 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So in fact, contrary to the impression that was given in earlier answers, the bulk of the money is in respect of the tax year ending in June 2005, is that correct?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

Yes. Is this not an issue that we discussed last time too about whether it included or did not include a settlement?

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

We did discuss it the last time but I do not think it was left frankly at a position where the explanation was a clear one.

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

This is what I am told is the position in relation to the composition of that amount. I asked the Commissioner to analyse the figure of collections in March 2005 and he says two separate questions arise, (a) why was such a high amount, that is £10.7 million collected in March 2005?; and (b) why was the take for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 £10.8 million higher than estimated? That is, £27.8 million collected against an estimate of £17 million. Dealing first then with the question of the extent for March 2005 collection, apparently for some years now the Corporation Tax collected in March of each financial year has been rather high compared to that collected in other months. The March receipts for each of the last three financial years as a percentage of the total collected throughout the whole year, have been 38.4 per cent in March 2005, 39.2 per cent in March 2004 and 30 per cent in March 2003, as a percentage of the whole year's yield collection. Apparently this can be taken as a measure of the department's success in promptly assessing and collecting corporation tax, or at least the improvement in it. Apparently it is an indication that the department is fairly up to date in this area of assessment and collection. Many companies are now assessed for the current year of assessment in the current financial year, hence assessments are payable on 31<sup>st</sup> March and not within two months from the date of issue of the assessment as in the case for years other than the current year. So in other words, because they are assessing more quickly and these things are paid, are due by 31<sup>st</sup> March under the new provisions in the Ordinance, they are being paid within the financial year because companies are assessed on a preceding year basis. Another contributing factor was the Commissioner of Income Tax's decision to reduce the period of time allowed to companies whose accounting year end is other than 30<sup>th</sup> June to lodge their accounts with the Income Tax Office. This resulted in a number of big players being assessed for two years of assessment in one financial year, that is, 2004/2005 this obviously had an impact on 2005, March 2005 takings.

Now we also discussed, the hon Member will recall, whether the settlement of a particular corporation was included or not. The Commissioner can confirm that that particular settlement did not affect the March 2005 collection but did contribute to the increased take for the year, as the company paid £2.6 million in December 2004. So it affected the yield for the whole year up to March 2005 but did not contribute to the £10.7 million collected in March itself, and we are still hoping to collect about £20 million this year. I think that answers the questions that were left in the air last time. I think I may have inadvertently misled him last time by suggesting that the settlement was part of the explanation for the high March take and the answer is that it is not, it contributes to the year's take but not to the March take.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

So that in fact March is not strictly speaking a one off high?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

It has been so for the last three years for the reasons that the Commissioner has explained in his briefing note. Indeed, we are expecting the same thing to happen this year.

ORAL

**NO. 1440 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**INCOME TAX - PAYE**

Based on the 2004/2005 Employers Annual Statement, Declaration and Certificate submitted to 30 November 2005 what was the PAYE payable by area of employment and number of employees as follows:

- (a) MOD;
- (b) Gibraltar Government;
- (c) Government owned/Joint Venture Companies;
- (d) Private Sector Employment?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

**Answer to Question 1440 of 2005**

Based on the 2004/2005 Employers' Annual Statement, declaration and Certificate submitted up to 5 December 2005 the information sought is as follows:

	£M	Approximate No of Employee/Deduction Cards
(a) MOD	5.0	2,650
(b) Gibraltar Government	23.2	6,500
(c) Government owned and Joint Venture Companies	3.1	600
(d) Private Sector Employment	<u>37.0</u>	<u>17,700</u>
	<u>68.3</u> =====	<u>27,450</u> =====

ORAL

NO. 1441 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

What was the amount of company tax collected in each month since August 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1442 and 1443 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1442 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**INCOME TAX - PAYE**

How much was collected in PAYE each month since August 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1441 and 1443 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1443 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX**

As at the end of November 2005 how many companies, in each tax year 1995/96 to 2004/05 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

I hand the hon Member a schedule giving the information.



**Answer to Question 1443**

**Answer to Question No 1441 of 2005**

The Corporation Tax collected (net of refunds) in months of September 2005 and October 2005 is:

	£M
September 2005	0.2
October 2005	0.3

**Answer to Question No 1442 of 2005**

The PAYE tax (net of refunds) collected in the months of September 2005 and October 2005 is detailed hereunder:

	£M
September 2005	5.5
October 2005	6.7

**Answer to Question 1443 of 2005**

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Assessed	15.8	15.6	19.8	25.8	89.0	27.6	30.8	35.7	35.0	29.3
Discharged	<u>5.8</u>	<u>5.1</u>	<u>9.2</u>	<u>11.1</u>	<u>75.2</u>	<u>14.2</u>	<u>15.9</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>12.2</u>	<u>7.4</u>
	10.0	10.5	10.6	14.7	13.8	13.4	14.9	16.7	22.8	21.9
Paid	<u>9.5</u>	<u>10.3</u>	<u>10.3</u>	<u>14.4</u>	<u>13.5</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>14.1</u>	<u>15.6</u>	<u>21.0</u>	<u>18.3</u>
Outstanding	<u>0.5</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>3.6</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
No of Companies	1446	1418	1467	1459	1544	1578	1529	1496	1461	1306

ORAL

**NO. 1444 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS - RATES**

Can Government confirm whether the estimated receipts of £ 12.7 million in respect of rates reflects the reduction in payments by MOD as a result of property transfers to the Government and if so can it further state what that reduction has amounted to in the current financial year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question No. 1445 of 2005.

**NO. 1445 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS – GAMING TAX**

Can Government confirm whether the estimated receipts of gaming tax of £4.8 million in the current financial year takes into account the increase in the level at which such payments are capped, recently legislated?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The answer to his first question is yes.

The estimated rates receipts of £12.7 million for 2005/2006 included the UK Government's Contribution-in-lieu-of-Rates (CILOR) of £2,057,573. This was an increase over the previous year when £1,966,423 of CILOR was paid.

There are various adjustments made each year to the Net Annual Value of HMG's estate in Gibraltar, which includes increases in respect of additional and refurbished properties and decreases for properties to be transferred to the Government. For the 2005/2006 CILOR premises due to be transferred in the previous year, but that had not taken place, were added back into the computation.

**Answer to Question No. 1445**

Gaming Tax Cap increases however are not included in the estimate of £4.8 million.

ORAL

NO. 1446 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CURRENCY NOTE INCOME ACCOUNT**

Can Government explain what has produced the reduction in the management expenses of the currency note income account from £86,000 in 2003/2004 to an estimated £66,000 for the current financial year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1447 to 1449 of 2005.

ORAL

**NO. 1447 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**CURRENCY NOTE INCOME ACCOUNT**

Can Government explain the increase in the interest earned on investments by the currency note income account from an estimated £280,000 to a forecast outturn of £424,000 in the financial year 2004/2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Answered together with Question Nos. 1446, 1448 and 1449 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 1448 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**CONSOLIDATED FUND – INTEREST RECEIPTS**

Can Government explain the higher interest receipts of the Consolidated Fund forecast at £745,000 outturn as compared to £400,000 estimated originally for the financial year 2004/2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1446, 1447 and 1449 of 2005.

**NO. 1449 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**REDEMPTION OF COINS - COST**

Can Government explain the cost of redemption of coins of £529,000 in 2004/2005 given that there was no such cost provided for in the estimated expenditure for that year?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1446 of 2005**

The estimate for management expenses of the Currency Note Income Account is based on the proportion of time attributable to Currency Note Income Account work carried out by Treasury staff, which is reviewed annually.

The reduction reflects more efficient use of resources by the Treasury and a corresponding adjustment in the apportionment of labour costs.

**Answer to Question No. 1447 of 2005**

The original estimate of £280,000 for interest earned on investment credited to the Currency Note Income Account was based on a Note Security Fund balance of £16 million and an interest rate of 1.75 per cent (that is, 2 per cent below Base Rate).

Base rate increased in 2004/2005 on three occasions with an increase from 3.75 per cent to 4.75 per cent in August 2004. Therefore, the interest rate applicable to investments received by the Currency Note Income Account increased from 1.75 per cent to 2.75 per cent (that is, an increase of 57 per cent). However, the effect of this increase was spread throughout the year and the actual increase in the forecast estimate was 51 per cent, that is, an increase in interest earned from £280,000 to £424,000.

**Answer to Question No. 1448 of 2005**

Interest credited to the Consolidated Fund reflects the general level of interest rates which have increased by 1 per cent during the year, and also reflects the average level of cash held by the Consolidated Fund which in itself is dependent on the timing of cash inflows and cash outflows. That explains the higher interest there.

**Answer to Question No. 1449 of 2005**

No cost of redemption of coins was provided for in the estimates for the financial year 2004/2005 because it was not possible at the time of preparation of those estimates to establish the level of sterling as opposed to local coins which had been returned by the Banks. This was due to a backlog in the Post Office of unsegregated coins returned by the Banks.

The Treasury took over responsibility for this from the Post Office in April 2004. Coins to a value of £602,000 were segregated, in other words Gibraltar coins separated from UK coins, during the course of the financial year, of which £529,000 were local coins returned to stock. The hon Member will see that there is an estimate again in this year where we hope to segregate the remaining amount. So basically coins were just being taken in and not dealt with as redemptions because they were mixed up with UK and Gib coins so no one knew how much was retrievable by sending off coins to the UK et cetera. That situation has now been taken a grip of by the Treasury and that is the cost in one year and there is a substantial cost again this year.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1446 TO 1449 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

Why should it cost us to send coins back to the UK?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, it does not cost us to send coins to the UK, that is money that we receive because when we send coins to the UK we collect notes or the value equivalent. What costs us is establishing the local coins because then that is a redemption. Arguably the redemption took place before but as everything was mixed in a bag no one knew how much was redemption and how much was actually an asset. In other words, a coin that we could redeem in the UK. So that is the situation.

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I have heard the explanation it is just that it does not make a lot of sense. Are we saying that when we did not look in the bag we did not have to pay anything and now that we have started looking in the bag it is costing £500,000 a year?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

No, it is not costing £500,000 a year, it is costing £500,000 this year and last year because of a year's worth of unsegregated coins. Now, what are unsegregated coins? That is coins which Banks usually have returned to the Government. Well not the Government, the Treasury on behalf of the Coinage Fund. At that point, theoretically, when the bank sends in Gibraltar coins and we give them other value, at that point theoretically I believe, we are redeeming the local ones. We do not know how many there are in there, we are paying for the lot, some of it will be recoverable from the UK when we in turn redeem whatever is subsequently



established to be UK coinage and the rest in effect we have redeemed local coinage. But because no one was doing the segregating no one knew how much was redemption and how much was not redemption of local coinage. That situation is now being put right and in two years it will be eliminated. It is not that it is continuously £500,000 per year, that is the cost of the backlog, there will be some annual cost now that the Treasury is doing this on a constant basis.

ORAL

NO. 1450 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GIBRALTAR SAVINGS BANK**

Can Government provide the level of Government deposits in the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1451 of 2005.

**NO. 1451 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**GIBRALTAR SAVINGS BANK**

Can Government provide the level of non-Government deposits in the Gibraltar Savings Bank giving a breakdown of on-call accounts, debentures, bonds and ordinary accounts as at 30 September?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

**Answer to Question No. 1450 of 2005**

Government deposits held with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 September 2005 is £65.21 million.

**Answer to Question No. 1451 of 2005**

Non-Government deposits held with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 September 2005 is £140.69 million, the breakdown being as follows:

	£'M
On-Call Investment Accounts	16.10
Debentures	97.13
Bonds	7.40
Ordinary Accounts	20.06
	<u>140.69</u>

ORAL

NO. 1452 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

**GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES**

As at the end of November 2005, 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 issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 November 2005 is as follows:

Monthly Income Debentures	£29,707,400
Pensioners' Monthly Income Debentures	£66,170,500

ORAL

**NO. 1453 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**REVOLVING LOAN FACILITIES**

Can Government state what has been the amount of outstanding Government debt in respect of the revolving loan from local banks in October 2005 and November 2005?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The amount of outstanding Government debt in respect of the revolving loan from local banks in October 2005 and November 2005 is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Barclays</b>	<b>NatWest</b>	<b>Total</b>
October 2005	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£20,000,000
November 2005	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£20,000,000

ORAL

**NO. 1454 OF 2005**

**THE HON J J BOSSANO**

**STAMP DUTY – PROPERTY SALES**

Can Government state how much has been collected as stamp duty on property sales in the months of October and November?

**ANSWER**

**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

I am advised that Government's agent, Land Property Services Limited, do not maintain analysed records of transactions in respect of stamp duty paid. The following figures are comprised of all stamp duty paid and not just that pertaining to property sales:

October 2005	£218,983.96
November 2005	£149,763.66

I would expect the vast bulk of that relates to real estate.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1454 OF 2005**

**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I assume therefore then that this also applies to the answer given to Question No. 1051 when the Chief Minister thought that the answer he had given me was all property sales, it is not the case then?

**HON CHIEF MINISTER:**

I think so, yes, it must be.