NO. 575 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Can Government state how many persons were given community service as a sentence in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 576, 577 and 578 of 2005.

NO. 576 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Can Government state how many juveniles convicted were given community service as a sentence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 575, 577 and 578 of 2005.

NO. 577 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Can Government state what a community service sentence actually entails in practice in terms of the nature of the actual work involved both for adults and for juveniles?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 575, 576 and 578 of 2005.

NO. 578 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

How many convicted persons who were given community service as a sentence completed them in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

I hand the hon Member the answers to Question Nos. 575, 576 and 578 in written format.

Answer to Question No. 578

Answer to Question No. 575

04.10.2001	31.12.01	12
01.01.2002	31.12.02	34
01.01.2003	31.12.03	45
01.01.2004	31.12.04	61
01.01.2005	TO-DATE	22

Answer to Question 576

21 Juveniles convicted were given community service as a sentence.

Answer to Question No. 577 of 2005

There are two basic types of Community Service.

1. Individual Placement

This is when one or two offenders, of low to moderate risk, are placed within an organisation and supervised by a nominated person within that organisation. Offenders are also supervised indirectly by the Community Service Officer.

2. Group Placement

A group of high to very high risk offenders are supervised directly by the Community Service Officer.

Community Service work undertaken entails basic painting, cleaning and gardening.

Answer to Question 578

2001	1
2002	19
2003	24
2004	36
2005	40

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 575 TO 578 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister say whether any of these are re-offenders or do they involve different people? Re-offenders as in the list, are they re-offenders or is it that these figures are, for example, in 2002 – 34, are those 34 different people or are they people who have re-offended? Does the Minister have that information?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No, I do know for a fact that Community Service Orders are not restricted to one occasion, they can be re-issued if the person re-offends but I do not know the answer to his questions without notice.

HON S E LINARES:

Just on looking at the answer to Question No. 578 it states there are 21 juveniles convicted, do the juveniles also do the basic work or the same as adults like painting, cleaning, and are they also supervised by the Community Officer or are they supervised, for example, if a 14 year old who by law has to be in school and is an offender, are they supervised by the Community Officer or are the schools involved in any way?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No the Community Service Order is only given to offenders aged 16 and over and the same as if they are a student or a person who is in employment they are allowed to continue either in schooling or in education and employment and the work that they are required to undertake is done after hours or over the weekend and the supervisor is always a Community Service Officer, or as I have said previously, a person nominated within the organisation where they are placed.

NO. 579 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state what was the number of persons receiving social assistance for each month of the second quarter of 2005, giving a breakdown of age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 580 to 582 of 2005.

NO. 580 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state what was the number of persons receiving social assistance for each month of the third quarter of 2005, giving a breakdown of age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 579, 581 and 582 of 2005.

NO. 581 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state how many of the persons receiving social assistance in respect of each month of the second quarter of 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. 579, 580 and 582 of 2005.

NO. 582 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state how many of the persons receiving social assistance in respect of each month of the third quarter of 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

I hand the hon Member lists giving the information requested.

ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 582/2005

Answer to Question No. 579 and 580 of 2005

PERSONS RECEIVING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EACH MONTH OF THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 BY MONTH, SEX AND AGE.

2005	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
APRIL	184	292	476	70	151	119	136
MAY	192	289	481	75	149	120	137
JUNE	196	289	485	81	148	119	137

2005	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
JULY	189	292	481	75	144	124	138
AUGUST	195	297	492	80	150	127	135
SEPTEMBER	190	297	487	74	151	128	134

Cont'd...

Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 582/2005

Answer to Question No. 581 of 2005

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE SECOND QUARTER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
4. 5.	April-05	184	292	476	70	151	119	136
QTR 2	May-05	192	289	481	75	149	120	137
2005	June-05	196	289	485	81	148	119	137

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
	April-05	8	2	10	3	3	0	4
QTR 2	May-05	4	0	4	1	2	1	0
2005	June-05	3	3	6	0	3	1	2

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AS AT 7TH OCTOBER 2005

AS AT	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
07-Oct-05	187	300	487	73	153	125	136

Cont'd...

Contd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 582/2005

Answer to Question No. 582 of 2005

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
	July-05	189	292	481	75	144	124	138
QTR 3	Aug-05	195	297	492	80	150	127	135
2005	Sept-05	190	297	487	74	151	128	134

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING THE THIRD QUARTER 2005

QTR	MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
	July-05	3	5	8	3	5	0	0
QTR 3	Aug-05	2	1	3	0	1	2	0
2005	Sept-05	7	3	10	4	3	2	1

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AS AT 7TH OCTOBER 2005

AS AT	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60
07-Oct-05	187	300	487	73	153	125	136

NO. 583 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 each month of the second quarter of 2005, giving a breakdown of their age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 584 of 2005.

NO. 584 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 each month of the third quarter of 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. 584/2005

Answer to Question No. 583 and 584 of 2005

PERSONS RECEIVING DISABILITY ALLOWANCE FOR EACH MONTH OF THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 BY MONTH, SEX AND AGE

Months	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	Total	Male	Female
Apr-05	25	29	22	12	18	10	0	116	82	34
May-05	25	28	22	12	18	10	0	115	82	33
Jun-05	26	28	22	12	18	10	0	116	83	33

Months	0-10	0-10 11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	Total	Male	Female	
	25	28	23	12	18	10	0	116	83	33	
	25	28	23	12	18	6	0	115	82	33	
Sep-05	25	28	23	12	48	O	0	115	82	33	

NO. 585 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 each month of the second quarter of 2005 from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund, giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners showing the number of Gibraltarian/UK Nationals, Moroccans and other nationals for each month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 586 to 590 of 2005.

NO. 586 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 each month of the third quarter of 2005 from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund, giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners showing the number of Gibraltarian/UK Nationals, Moroccans and other Nationals for each month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 585 and 587 to 590 of 2005.

NO. 587 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 each month of the second quarter of 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. 585, 586 and 588 to 590 of 2005.

NO. 588 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 each month of the third quarter of 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. 585 to 587, 589 and 590 of 2005.

NO. 589 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 each month of the second quarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 585 to 588 and 590 of 2005.

NO. 590 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 each month of the third quarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

I hand the hon Member lists giving the information requested.

ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 590/2005

Answer to Question No. 585 & 586 of 2005

The following pensioners were in receipt of payments from the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund from Apr 2005 - Sep 2005.

	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	30-Inf	Aug-05	Sep-05
Pre-1969 Spanish Pensioners	6264	6238	6217	6193	6174	6159
British Pensioners (Gib/UK Nat.)	4974	4980	4991	5004	5023	5038
Moroccan Pensioners	1625	1633	1637	1641	1644	1644
Other Nationalities	445	449	452	453	458	458
Total	13308	13300	13297	13291	13299	13299

Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 590/ 2005

Answer to Question No. 587 and 588 of 2005

The income, expenditure and balance of the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for each month of the second and third quarter of 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

	30-Apr-05	31-May-05	30-Jun-05	31-Jul-05	31-Aug-05	30-Sep-05
Fund Account -						
Opening Balance	£478,297	£623,928	£519,831	£612,241	£608,444	£476,244
"Local Account"						
Opening Balance	£19,958	£43,896	£37,255	£60,119	£39,030	£33,153
Add Transfers from the Open Long-Term						
Benefits Fund	£950,000	£900,000	£1,000,000	£900,000	£900,000	£900,000
Other Receipts	£3,160	£2,426	£5,710	£1,871	£1,924	£502
• *	£973,118	£946,322	£1,042,965	£961,990	£940,954	£933,655
<u>Less</u> Pension Payments	(£929,222)	(£909,067)	(£982,846)	(£922,960)	(£907,801)	(£932,866)
Closing Balance	£43,896	£37,255	£60,119	£39,030	£33,153	£789
"Spanish Account"						
Opening Balance Add	£458,339	£580,032	£482,576	£552,122	£569,414	£443,091
Receipts from DFID	£310,000	£130,000	£1,060,000	£180,000	£220,000	£1,040,000
	£768,339	£710,032	£1,542,576	£732,122	£789,414	£1,483,091
<u>Less</u> Pension Payments	(£188,307)	(£227,456)	(£990,454)	(£162,708)	(£346,323)	(£313,609)
Closing Balance	£580,032	£482,576	£552,122	£569,414	£443,091	£1,169,482
Fund Account Closing Balance	£623,928	£519,831	£612,241	£608,444	£476,244	£1,170,271

Cont'd...

Cont'd. ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 590/2005

Answer to Questions 589 and 590 of 2005

The transfers made from the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund to the Closed Long-Term Benefits Fund for each month in the second and third quarter of 2005, are as follows:

April 2005	£950,000
May 2005	£900,000
June 2005	£1,000,000
July 2005	£900,000
August 2005	£900,000
September 2005	£900,000
	£5,550,000

NO. 591 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 each month of the second quarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 592 of 2005.

NO. 592 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 each month of the third quarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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

Answer to Question 592 /2005

Answer to Question 591 and 592

The income expenditure and balance of the Open Long-Term Benefits Fund for each month of the second and third quarters of 2005 is as follows:

OPEN LONG-TERM BENEFITS FUND

	30-Apr-05	31-May-05	30-Jun-05	31-Jul-05	31-Aug-05	30-Sep-05
Fund Account - Opening Balance	£9,289,396	£9,117,288	£14,055,257	£13,788,774	£13,826,152	£13,677,509
<u>Add</u>						
Receipts	£878,325	£5,928,314	£826,835	£1,040,982	£843,203	£678,162
	£10,167,721	£15,045,602	£14,882,092	£14,829,756	£14,669,355	£14,355,671
Payments	(£1,050,433)	(£990,345)	(£1,093,318)	(£1,003,604)	(£991,846)	(£1,000,895)
Closing Balance	£9,117,288	£14,055,257	£13,788,774	£13,826,152	£13,677,509	£13,354,776

NO. 593 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 each month of the second quarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 594 of 2005.

NO. 594 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 each month of the third guarter of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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

ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 594/2005

Answer to Question No. 593 and 594

The income, expenditure and balance of the Short-Term Benefits Fund for each month of the second and third quarters of 2005 is as follows:

SOCIAL INSURANCE (SHORT-TERM BENEFITS) FUND

	30-Apr-05	31-May-05	30-Jun-05	31-Jul-05	31-Aug-05	30-Sep-05
Fund Account - Opening Balance	£6,075,862	£6,059,192	£1,068,028	£1,064,344	£1,085,761	£1,092,470
Add Receipts	£86,629	£91,587	£72,153	£83,691	£80,767	£50,139
, toosipto	£6,162,491	£6,150,779	£1,140,181		£1,166,528	
Payments	(£103,299)	(£5,082,751)	(£75,837)	(£62,274)	(£74,058)	(£84,345)
Closing Balance	£6,059,192	£1,068,028	£1,064,344	£1,085,761	£1,092,470	£1,058,264

NO. 595 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

SOCIAL SERVICES – CHILD WELFARE REPORTS

Can Government state how many child welfare reports have been prepared in the financial years 2003-4 and 2004-5 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. 596 and 597 of 2005.

NO. 596 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 years 2003-4 and 2004-5?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 595 and 597 of 2005.

NO. 597 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

SOCIAL SERVICES - CHILD WELFARE REPORTS

Could the Government give details of the extent of the delays experienced in the last 3 financial years in respect of child welfare reports in matrimonial matters before both the Magistrates' and Supreme Court and in particular can the Government tell the House what is the longest period that the courts have had to wait for the preparation of a welfare report from the date that the preparation of such a report has been ordered by a court?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Answer to Question 595

In 2003-2004 the total of court welfare reports completed was 28. In 2004-2005 the total of court welfare reports completed was 25.

Answer to Question 596

In the financial years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 one social worker has been involved in preparing court welfare reports. Government are in the process of recruiting two more social workers to form a Court Social Work Team in accordance with our manifesto commitment.

Answer to Question 597

During the financial year 2002-2003 there were very minimal delays in the production of child welfare reports for the courts, that is approximately six weeks.

During the financial year 2003-2004 there was a noted increase in child protection matters, as well as a marked increase in requests for reports which can be directly attributable to the very significant increase in divorce rates in the last three years. The number of social workers involved in writing these reports was reduced and there began to be a delay of reports of three to six months.

During the financial year 2004-2005 the delay reached a maximum of 12 months. However, when issues of child protection were involved, those reports take precedence over the others regardless of the dates they were requested.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 595 TO 597 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Does the Minister not agree with me that a delay of six months or twelve months is an inordinate delay and that we should never have allowed it to get to this level of delay?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I think I have already explained the reason why they have reached a maximum of twelve months and I have also given an explanation of what we intend to do to remedy the situation.

HON F R PICARDO:

Yes, but can the Minister tell us why it has taken so long to remedy the situation? If it is already at six months and that is too long and it gets to twelve months should something not have been done already?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

A delay of six months is not even considered a considerable delay by the family practitioners and the people involved, the judiciary in fact. Bearing in mind that a report takes six to eight weeks to complete because of the assessments that have to be done, the interviews, the visits to schools, to the home, six months is a delay but not to the extent that the hon Member is implying.

HON F R PICARDO:

Well I do not know what practitioners or what members of the judiciary the Minister has spoken to about this but the feedback that I am getting is that this is considered a very considerable delay. Will the Minister tell us whether she has spoken to any parents who have had to wait for up to six or twelve months to have access to their children because there is not a report and whether they have told her that it is not a considerable delay?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I think I have already answered my question and I have said that the situation is going to be remedied very shortly.

HON F R PICARDO:

No, the Minister has not answered the question, the question is whether she has spoken to any parents who have told her that six or twelve months is not an inordinate delay.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I have already given my view.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, I would ask you to ask the Minister to answer whether she has spoken to any parents.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

In view of the fact that I speak to people when they request to see me in my office what I can say is that nobody has requested to see me on this matter.

HON F R PICARDO:

I will take that as a no.

NO. 598 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 September 2005, giving a breakdown of 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 No. 598

69 Elderly citizens are awaiting a place in Mount Alvernia as at 30 September 2005.

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

Age Group

	60-65	66-70	71-75	76-80	81-85	86-90
Males					2	
Females				4	3	5

NO. 599 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

MOUNT ALVERNIA

Can Government state the number of non-Gibraltarian nurses in service with the Social Services Agency at Mount Alvernia on the 30 September 2004 and 30 September 2005, providing a breakdown by nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

The Social Services Agency does not employ nurses.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 599 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

I apologise for my mistake but could I still have an answer as regards to the nurses employed in Mount Alvernia?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Certainly, the number of non-Gibraltarian nurses in service with the Elderly Care Agency on 30th September 2004 was 39, 18 UK nationals, 21 Spanish nationals. On 30th September 2005 there were 93, 27 UK nationals, 65 Spanish nationals, one American national.

NO. 600 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

Answered together with Question No. 601 of 2005.

NO. 601 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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

ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 601/2005

Answer to Question Nos. 600 and 601

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

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES INSURANCE FUND

	30-Apr-05	31-May-05	30-Jun-05	<u>31-Jul-05</u>	31-Aug-05	30-Sep-05
Fund Account - Opening Balance	£4,967,003	£4,951,258	£4,953,319	£4,946,692	£4,607,251	£4,606,318
Add						
Receipts	£48,257	£70,404	£58,517	£29,842	£53,816	£8,203
•	£5,015,260	£5,021,662	£5,011,836	£4,976,534	£4,661,067	£4,614,521
Less						
Payments	(£64,002)	(£68,343)	(£65,144)	(£369,283)	(£54,749)	(£62,426)
Closing Balance	£4,951,258	£4,953,319	£4,946,692	£4,607,251	£4,606,318	£4,552,095

NO. 602 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

OESCO

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from OESCO during the period April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 603 of 2005.

NO. 603 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

MOD - PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from the MOD during the period April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule I hand to him.

Answer to Question 604/ 2005

Record of Power Cuts - 01 April 2005 to 30 September 2005

No.	Date	Duration	Districts Affected	Cause
1	Thu 19 May '05 09.05hrs	9 mins to 23 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.2 at WPS Lub oil trip elec fault.
2	Thu 19 May '05 09.51hrs	6 mins to 10 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.2 at WPS Lub oil trip elect fault.
3	Mon 23 May '05 19.03hrs	6 mins to 9 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	OESCO No.4 generator tripped on load, due to engine governor oil leak.
4	Mon 11 July '05	7 mins to 9 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,12,14,15,18	Generator set No.1 at WPS Lub faulty emergency stop valve.
5	Sat 17 August '05 12.05hrs	9 mins to 12 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	OESCO No.7 generator under test at 4MW, tripped on load, due to low lub oil pressure switch.
6	Sun 4 September '05 14.35hrs	9 mins to 13 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.1 at WPS Lub oil trip elect fault.
7	Tue 6 September '05 00.26hrs	8 mins to 9 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	OESCO No.3 generator shutdown instead of No.1 – operator error.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 602 AND 603 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is there a particular reason why the purchase from OESCO seems to have gone up by 50 per cent in August and September compared to the sort of average of the preceding three months?

HON F VINET:

I am not aware of any particular reason, these figures fluctuate from time to time from month to month but I need notice in order to find out what the particular reasons for that increase have been.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I note what the Minister has said but in fact the figures do not show the fluctuation from month to month. In fact if he looks at April, May, June and July it is nowhere like the 2 million units that there are in August and September. Would it be the case that the less electricity was produced for some reason by the Government's own generating plant in those two months?

HON F VINET:

I am not aware but I will certainly research the issue and get back to the hon Member.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does he know whether there was any plant breakdown or anything in August and September that might account for it? Is he aware for example of any breakdown in the generating station plant in those months?

HON F VINET:

No, I am not aware of any such breakdown I am aware of course that during the summer months there is a greater need for electricity, there is a greater demand because of the use of air-conditioning systems and so on. I recognise that does not directly reply to the question being asked and I will certainly attempt to have information for the hon Member as soon as possible.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the light of the possible explanation that the Minister gave me about the increase in August in the purchase from OESCO where in fact the amount paid to OESCO for example in August was £855,000 and in June it was £427,000, so there was over an 100 per cent increase between June and August, can I point out that the amount

billed to customers in June was £1.17 million and in August it was £1.25 million which in fact indicates that the electricity supplied to the customers in August was little more than was supplied in June, and nevertheless the amount that was purchased from OESCO was twice as much, so in fact it cannot have been increased consumption. If he looks at the amounts billed to all consumers under all tariffs he will see that the figures for August and September £1.25 million and £1.35 million are not very different from the figures for May, June and July which indicates that the actual output of electricity invoiced to customers was not in fact on the increase in the months of August and September, yet the amount purchased by the Government for re-sale doubled so that inevitably must mean that the Government had a dramatic drop in their own production, would he not agree? There is no other way of squaring the figures.

HON F VINET:

At this stage I have nothing further to comment other than as I have said I would research the issue and get back to the hon Member.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I appreciate he may not have the details but would he not agree with me that if the Government bought twice as much electricity from OESCO and sold the same amount of electricity as they were selling in previous months then what did they do with the electricity if they had that much? It is not a marginal amount we are talking about 100 per cent increase in the amount paid to OESCO in those two months which would indicate twice as much being bought. If we look at the amount supplied to the public there is no increase so would he not accept that on the basis of the information that he has provided in the House today the inevitable conclusion must be that for some reason, which I accept he does not know at the moment, the Government must have produced less electricity from their own generating capacity in those two months.

HON F VINET:

I hear the assessment being made and I certainly think there is logic in that assessment but I would not like to comment any further until I have the full facts before me.

NO. 604 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - POWER FAILURES

Can Government state the number of power cuts that affected whole districts in the semester ended 30 September 2005, 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 written schedule that I hand to him.

Answer to Question 604/ 2005

Record of Power Cuts - 01 April 2005 to 30 September 2005

No.	Date	Duration	Districts Affected	Cause
1	Thu 19 May '05 09.05hrs	9 mins to 23 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.2 at WPS Lub oil trip elec fault.
2	Thu 19 May '05 09.51hrs	6 mins to 10 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.2 at WPS Lub oil trip elect fault.
3	Mon 23 May '05 19.03hrs	6 mins to 9 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	OESCO No.4 generator tripped on load, due to engine governor oil leak.
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6	Sun 4 September '05 14.35hrs	9 mins to 13 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	Generator set No.1 at WPS Lub oil trip elect fault.
7	Tue 6 September '05 00.26hrs	8 mins to 9 mins	Five districts supplied from WPS. 10,13,14,15,18	OESCO No.3 generator shutdown instead of No.1 – operator error.

NO. 605 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC UNITS

Can Government state the number of customers invoiced in respect of Domestic Units of electricity during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 606 to 611 of 2005.

NO. 606 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC UNITS

Can Government state the number of customers invoiced in respect of Domestic Units of electricity during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 605 and 607 to 611 of 2005.

NO. 607 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC UNITS

Can Government state the total value invoiced in respect of Domestic Units of electricity during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 605, 606 and 608 to 611 of 2005.

NO. 608 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - STANDING CHARGES

Can Government state the values in respect of Electricity Standing Charges invoiced to Domestic Customers during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 605 to 607 and 609 to 611 of 2005.

NO. 609 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT

Can Government state the values in respect of Fuel Cost Adjustment (F.C.A.) that were invoiced to Domestic Customers during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 605 to 608, 610 and 611 of 2005.

NO. 610 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT

Can Government state the values in respect of Fuel Cost Adjustment (F.C.A.) that were invoiced to Domestic Customers during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 605 to 609 and 611 of 2005.

NO. 611 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - AMOUNTS BILLED

Can Government state what was the amount collected and the amount billed in respect of electricity in the periods April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I now hand over.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 611

Answer to Question 606/2005

Number of Consumers billed (invoiced) under T3 Domestic Tariff

	April	May	June	July	August	September
2004	12,576	12,614	12,617	12,624	12,619	12,611
2005	12,595	12,589	12,584	12,577	12,582	12,576

Answer to Question 607/2005

Tariff T3 Domestic

Amounts Billed (Invoiced) to Consumers

	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL
2004	£466,544	£389,547	£369,419	£360,568	£363,470	£360,757	£2,310,332
2005	£523,658	£466,698	£435,811	£426,952	£425,426	£464,964	£2,743,509

Answer to Question 608/2005

Standing Charges billed to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers

	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL
2004	£25,208	£25,170	£25,878	£25,534	£25,118	£25,342	£152,250
2005	£49,222	£50,514	£50,248	£50,034	£50,072	£50,046	£300,138

Answer to Question 609 and 610/2005

FCA billed to Tariff 3 Domestic Consumers

	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL
2004	£133,271	£110,030	£103,721	£101,153	£102,207	£101,229	£651,611
2005	£145,092	£127,273	£117,913	£115,273	£114,791	£126,890	£747,232

Answer to Question 611/2005

Amounts Billed to all consumers under all tariffs

	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL
2004	£1,024,234	£894,007	£964,234	£989,739	£1,018,172	£3,349,812	£8,240,197
2005	£1,314,634	£1,236,782	£1,175,059	£1,245,571	£1,255,303	£1,354,884	£7,582,234

Amounts Collected from all consumers under all tariffs

	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL
2004	£888,930	£1,001,096	£976,365	£822,568	£836,974	£1,015,301	£5,541,235
2005	£1,095,686	£1,318,490	£1,177,373	£1,257,935	£1,238,161	£1,170,966	£7,258,612

NO. 612 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC PRIMARY UNITS

Can Government state the volume of units of Domestic Primary Units of water invoiced during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 613 to 618 of 2005.

NO. 613 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC PRIMARY UNITS

Can Government state the value of Domestic Primary Units of water invoiced during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 612 and 614 to 618 of 2005.

NO. 614 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS

Can Government state the volume of units of Domestic Secondary Units of water invoiced during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 612, 613 and 615 to 618 of 2005.

NO. 615 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS

Can Government state the value of Domestic Secondary Units of water invoiced during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 612 to 614 and 616 to 618 of 2005.

NO. 616 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

ELECTRICITY - DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS

Can Government state the number of customers that were invoiced for Domestic Secondary Units of water during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 612 to 615, 617 and 618 of 2005.

NO. 617 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

WATER STANDING CHARGES

Can Government state the values in respect of Water Standing Charges invoiced to Domestic Customers during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 612 to 616 and 618 of 2005.

NO. 618 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

WATER - CHARGES

Can Government state what was the amount collected and the amount billed in respect of water in the periods April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I hand to him.

Answer to Question 618

Answer to Question 612

Potable Water Billed by Units Domestic (Primary)

	April '04	May '04	June '04	July '04	Aug '04	Sept '04	Total
Potable Water Billed by Units Domestic (Primary)	378900	384280	377750	386020	380090	391670	2298710

Potable Water '05

	April '05	May '05	June '05	July '05	Aug '05	Sept '05	Total
Potable Water	388900	378020	373910	380250	390240	384260	2295580
Billed by			1				
Units							
Domestic							
(Primary)							

Contd...

Answer to Question 613

Potable Water Billed by Value Domestic (Primary)

April '04 to Sept '04

	April '04	May '04	June '04	July '04	Aug '04	Sept '04	Total
Potable Water billed by Value Domestic (Primary) (Inc. S.C.)	£88,016	£85,938	£85,131	£89,970	£88,142	£86,943	£524,140
Less Standing Charges	£17,837	£17,772	£17,618	£17,586	£17,777	£17,559	£106,149
Primary Units Value	£70,179	£68,166	£67,513	£72,384	£70,365	£69,384	£417,991

April '05 to Sept '05

	April '05	May '05	June '05	July '05	Aug '05	Sept '05	Total
Potable Water billed by Value Domestic (Primary) (Inc. S.C.)	£114,579	£116,073	£115,075	£116,412	£115,304	£117,535	£694,977
Less Standing Charges	£34,811	£35,031	£35,001	£35,090	£35,019	£35,018	£209,970
Primary Units Value	£79,768	£81,042	£80,074	£81,322	£80,285	£82,517	£485,007

Contd...

Answer to Question 614

Potable Water billed by Units Domestic (Secondary)

April '04 to September '04

	April '04	May '04	Jun '04	July '04	Aug '04	Sept '04	Total
Potable	253670	203570	217650	240740	255760	240260	1411650
Water billed							
by Units							
Domestic							
(Secondary)							

April '05 to September '05

	April '05	May '05	Jun '05	July '05	Aug '05	Sept '05	Total
Potable	226210	231800	214560	231340	228750	261680	1394340
Water billed							
by Units							
Domestic		İ		İ			
(Secondary)							

Answer to Question 615

Potable Water billed by Value Domestic (Secondary)

April '04 to September '04

	April '04	May '04	June '04	July '04	Aug '04	Sept '04	Total
Potable Water billed by Value Domestic (Secondary)	£114,152	£91,608	£97,945	£108,331	£115,091	£108,116	£635,243

April '05 to September '05

	April '05	May '05	June '05	July '05	Aug '05	Sept '05	Total
Potable	£117,629	£120,535	£111,572	£120,298	£118,949	£136,071	£725,055
Water billed							
by Value							Ì
Domestic							
(Secondary)							

contd...

Answer to Question 616

Months	April '04	May '04	June '04	July '04	August '04	Sept '04
No. of	5852	5386	5484	5712	5761	5510
Consumers						
Secondary Units						

Months	April '05	May '05	June '05	July '05	August '05	Sept '05
No. of	5559	5588	5361	5573	5521	5949
Consumers						
of						
Secondary						
Units						

Answer to Question 617

Potable Water Standing Charges Domestic

April '04 to September '04

	April '04	May '04	June '04	July '04	Aug '04	Sept '04	Total
Standing Charges	£17,837	£17,772	£17,618	£17,586	£17,777	£17,559	£106,148
Domestic							

April '05 to September '05

	April '05	May '05	June '05	July '05	Aug '05	Sept '05	Total
Standing Charges Domestic	£34,811	£35,031	£35,001	£35,090	£35,019	£35,018	£209,969

contd...

Answer to Question 618

Billing and Collections Potable Water 2004/2005

<u>2004</u>

Period	Amount Billed	Total Collections
B/F		
April '04	£340,139.76	£279,851.89
May .04	£316,465.08	£304,436.63
June '04	£345,408.77	£370,071.21
July '04	£345,321.58	£245,304.56
August '04	£366,295.44	£326,482.20
September '04	£382,391.41	£373,838.49
TOTAL	£2,095,022.04	£1,899,984.98

<u>2005</u>

Period	Amount Billed	Total Collections
B/F		
April '05	£405,630.64	£362,248.03
May '05	£428,961.81	£369,886.26
June '05	£438,315.24	£404,099.85
July '05	£417,878.43	£493,061.74
August '05	£414,171.27	£410,174.59
September '05	£452,875.88	£398,766.51
TOTAL	£2,557,833.27	£2,438,236.98

NO. 619 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

YOUTH SERVICE

Can Government state what youth programmes are currently being conducted by the Youth Service?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 620 of 2005.

NO. 620 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

YOUTH SERVICE

Can Government state how many young people are currently enrolled in youth programmes run by the Youth Service giving a breakdown by programme?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in the schedule that I hand over to him.

Answer to Question 620

Answer to Questions 619 and 620

GIBRALTAR YOUTH SERVICE LED PROGRAMMES - AS AT OCTOBER 2005

Youth Service	Part of clean the world programme continues in all four clubs	30 boys and girls
Trip to Isla Magica – Sat 8 th Oct		13 to 17 yrs
Cooking – Diet & Hygiene	Plater Youth Club	20 boys and girls
Football five-a-side		12 to 17 yrs
Club Physical and Recreation Programme	Laguna Youth Club	20 boys and girls 12 to 17 yrs
Discos (Organisation)	Youth Centre	35 boys and girls 13 to 17 yrs
Cooking - Diet & Hygiene	Dolphins Youth Club	10 boys and girls
Arts and Crafts, Social Skills		11 to 15 yrs
Young People's Peer Led Conference	Organised by Active Citizenship Group & Students Associations with the Participation of Youth Clubs, Scouts, Guides, Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the support of the Youth Service.	40+boys and girls 16 to 25 yrs
Twinning Project With Ballymena	Developed and staffed by the Gibraltar Youth Service	10 boys & girls 15 to 18 yrs
Luce Foundation Funded Projects	Developed and staffed by the Gibraltar Youth Service	20+boys & girls

Consideration is currently being given to other programmes including leader training, and twinning with other regions following requests received through His Worship the Mayor.

Apart from the above all Youth Clubs organise session programmes on a daily/weekly basis to continue providing regular youth club visitors enjoyable yet educational and worthwhile experiences at their required levels.

NO. 621 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

YOUTH SERVICE - MONIES STOLEN

Will the Minister for Culture state whether the investigation conducted by the RGP on the monies stolen from the Youth Services offices has now concluded?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The Royal Gibraltar Police have recently confirmed that their investigation into this incident is still open.

NO. 622 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

LEISURE CENTRE - KINGS BASTION

Will Government state whether the Leisure Centre at Kings Bastion will be run commercially or whether it will become part of the Sports and Leisure Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

This decision has not yet been taken, both remain possibilities for consideration.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 622 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Does the Minister envisage that part of it might be the Sports and Leisure Authority and other parts might be commercially run by a management company or whatever?

HON F VINET:

That is precisely the decision that has not been reached. All the options are available on the table and they are being presently considered.

HON S E LINARES:

Who will be the owners of the Leisure Centre since the Government will have a decision to take whether to run it by the Sports and Leisure Authority or commercially?

HON F VINET:

That has been the subject in fact of a supplementary question some months ago, I recall it was the Chief Minister who explained that the property itself belongs to the Government whether it is a private entity that runs it, whether it is the Sports and Leisure Authority that does so regardless of either of those two options they will run it on behalf of the Government and for the Government.

HON F R PICARDO:

Can the Government tell us when they expect the decision to be made on all of these issues given that we have seen highlighted in the press that building works have commenced?

HON F VINET:

No, building works as such have not commenced, the internal structures have now been demolished, the demolition of the generating station building as such commenced last Monday, they are expected to be completed by 2nd December I believe and the building work proper is expected to commence very early in the new year. I think it would be premature at this stage to actually consider in more detail what will be the final outcome as regards to the questions. I think there will be ample time to consider those possibilities.

HON F R PICARDO:

Actually would the Minister not agree with me that instead of being premature it might actually be considered good planning to know who is going to run the place before actually starting the process of demolishing and building it?

HON F VINET:

The hon Member is very much entitled to that opinion, it is one that I do not particularly share.

HON S E LINARES:

When does the Minister envisage that the leisure centre will be complete?

HON F VINET:

As was explained in the press release that was issued a couple of weeks ago, design work is presently on-going we are reaching the final stages of the design work, until we know what the design itself will deliver it is not possible to give a specific time frame for that. Certainly, as has been said before in this House, this is a manifesto commitment with which we fully expect to deliver before the next elections.

HON S E LINARES:

If one is still at the design work how then can the Government state that they are going to have different facilities if they are still designing the facilities and still trying to ascertain what they are going to put there?

HON F VINET:

It is perfectly possible to be aware and to have ascertained and to be completely certain of what facilities the leisure centre will include, we have mentioned that it will include a bowling complex for example, a multi-screen cinema, restaurants, an ice-skating rink, disco and so on. Those are the things that will be forming the leisure centre, now the actual building itself, the actual design work to the building is at its final stages and that does not affect in any way what will be included in that building.

NO. 623 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

CULTURE - GRANTS

Can Government state how much money has been given to cultural groups in the present year giving a breakdown by group and amount given to each?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The sum of £20,879 has been given to date in the current financial year. The breakdown requested by the hon Member is set out in the written schedule that I hand to him.

Answer to Question 623/2005

	£
Gibraltar Bird Breeders Association	2500.00
Gibraltar National Dance Organisation	4000.00
Nathan Payas	1500.00
Tarik Modern Theatre Dance Academy	2000.00
Anouih Players	1016.00
Rock on the Rock Club	500.00
Allegro Music Productions	1500.00
Gibraltar Horticultural Society	500.00
Gibraltar Photographic Society	900.00
Revelations Dance Academy	270.00
Danza Academy	500.00
Gibraltar Academy of Dance	500.00
JM Memorial Foundation	565.00
Fine Arts Association	1328.00
MO Productions	1300.00
M Finlayson/J Dalmedo/A Avellano	2000.00
Total	20879.00

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 623 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister explain why there has been a decrease this year in the amount handed over?

HON F VINET:

No, there is a Cultural Grant Committee which meets on an annual basis to consider the applications received by Government by that committee and it is a matter for that committee to decide how to distribute the funds available. It does not necessarily follow that the funds being asked for are the same as have been applied for in previous years. I ought to perhaps also add that the approved funds were £25,000 so therefore the hon Member will notice there are still some funds available and those will in all certainty be used before the end of the year.

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister then state that most of the groups and associations that have applied usually get the amount that they ask for?

HON F VINET:

No, we have to bear in mind the fact that we have £25,000 available, some associations may request funds of up to, without mentioning names, in this particular year there was one particular application for £15,000. We have to be realistic we know what funds available are and we will distribute them as fairly as possible but no, it does not necessarily follow that all the groups get all or most of the funding available and others do. It is a question to be determined on the merits of each particular case.

HON S E LINARES:

So therefore there has been a slight shift in policy from Government in the sense that last year the money that was allocated in the budget for the groups were given out outright because they were, if I remember correctly off the top of my head, it was approximately £26,000 and therefore it was all given out because the budget was £25,000 odd it just went over a little bit and therefore the money was given outright that means if one had budgeted £25,000 one gives the £25,000 for the groups when this committee meets and gives them out. This year it seems as if one is retaining some money for other events later on during the year, that is all that I am asking.

HON F VINET:

There has been no shift in Government policy or in the policy of the Cultural Advance Committee. I also should explain as well that there are presently three further applications which are being considered because we have requested further information from those parties, so we do fully expect all those funds to have been distributed before the end of the present financial year.

NO. 624 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CULTURE - BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

What events are being planned by the Government in or outside Gibraltar for the celebration of the bicentenary of the Battle of Trafalgar and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The information requested by the hon Member, together with details of events that have currently been held and other already held this year, is contained in the schedule that I hand over to him.

Answer to Question 624/2005

1. Events planned by Government for the remainder of the year are as follows:

16th October 2005 - Sailing - Royal Gibraltar Yacht Club - Trafalgar Bicentenary Regatta

 $17^{\text{th}} - 21^{\text{st}}$ October 2005 – Royal Cruising Club – The Trafalgar Rally – Gibraltar to Cape Trafalgar

28th October 2005 - Unveiling of Statue of Admiral Lord Nelson

28th - 30th October 2005 - Calpe Conference - 'Sentinel of the Mediterranean, Gibraltar the Navy and the Strait'

3rd November 2005 - Talk - 'Gibraltar, the City and the Sea'

24th November 2005 – Talk – 'Gibraltar's Hidden Heritage: Underwater Archaeology Reveals'

5th – 10th December 2005 – Gibraltar Model Soldier Society – 'The Battle of Trafalgar'

2. Event currently taking place from 6th September up to 5th November 2005 at Casemates Exhibition Galleries – Maritime Exhibition.

3. Events that have already been held:

June 2005	11 th 30 th 30 th	Open Air Concert – Rooke Volunteer Band Swimming Gala – Oxford University and GASA Talk – 'The History of HMS Calpe – Personal Reflections'
July 2005	2 nd 2 nd 3 rd 14 th 16 th 24 th	Swimming – Round Rock Relay – Oxford Univ. and GASA Open Air Concert – Rooke Volunteer Band Rowing – Nelson Regattas Gibraltar Amateur Rowing Association Talk – 'History and Collections of the Gibraltar Museum' Big Game Fishing Rowing – Trafalgar Bicentenary Regattas
August 2005	6 th 13 th 24 th	Open Air Concert – Rooke Volunteer Band Sailing – Admiral Lord Nelson Regatta Boat Fishing Competition – Gib Federation of Sea Anglers
September 2005	4 th 8 th	Pier Fishing Competition Talk – 'The Marine Diversity of the Strait of Gibraltar'
October 2005	6 th	Talk – 'The Battle of Trafalgar – Prelude and Aftermath'

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 624 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are any of these, events which would have taken place anyway and which have had the word 'Trafalgar' added onto the title or are they planned specifically because of the bicentenary?

HON F VINET:

It is a combination really, one will see for example that from 28th to 30th October the Calpe Conference takes place, that is an annual event but of course this year we have chosen a particular theme that suits the bicentenary. So it is a combination.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Looking through the list that the Minister has supplied is it true to say that all the events on this list are taking place in Gibraltar then, there are none taking place in the United Kingdom is that correct?

HON F VINET:

Just having a cursory glance on those events I can confirm that is the case.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can I ask the Minister where the statue of Lord Nelson is going to be located?

HON F VINET:

Yes, the statue of Lord Nelson which is being unveiled on the 28th November will be situated opposite the Trafalgar Cemetery. If the hon Member cares to walk around that area he will see that some preparatory works are taking place.

NO. 625 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

THEATRE ROYAL

Can Government state how much money has been allocated to GJBS for monitoring, supervising and conducting other works carried out at the Old Theatre Royal site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question No. 626 of 2005.

NO. 626 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

THEATRE ROYAL

How much has been spent on the Old Theatre Royal site in the years 2001, 2002, 2003 2004 and 2005 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Government have appointed the structural engineering section of the Technical Services Department to regularly monitor the condition of the site. Any works deemed necessary are then instructed through No. 6 Convent Place and carried out by GJBS which maintain the site in a clean order. No fixed sum is allocated in this regard.

The amount spent on the Old Theatre Royal site is as follows:-

Financial Year Amount

£ 221,467
£1,221,467
£ 699,917
£ 912,450
£ 135,182
£ 13,122

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 625 AND 626 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

In relation to this year's expenditure, £13,122 I think he said, can the Minister state what that expenditure was for?

HON F VINET:

No, I recall there was a question in a previous meeting of the House asking for a detailed breakdown of expenditure for the last year, I am afraid I would need notice of that degree of detail required but I will certainly provide the hon Member with the information requested, but as I stand on my feet I have not got those details with me.

HON S E LINARES:

I asked this question because £13,000 is much less obviously than what is paid, does this include the 2004/2005 backwards does it include the rent to the owners or are these expenditures, for example for the demolition works, the excavation work and all that.

HON F VINET:

As has been explained in detail in previous questions I have had the opportunity of looking at this does not include the rent.

HON S E LINARES:

All these figures have to be totally readjusted because the question asks how much has been spent on the site, the rent to the owners is an expenditure on the site.

HON F VINET:

I would argue that is a matter of opinion on which I do not share with the hon Member. The question asked how much is being spent on the Theatre site, I think it is perfectly arguable that it is works that have occurred on the site as opposed to the rental of the site itself.

NO. 627 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

PEOPLING BY HOMINIDS QUATERNARY MEETING

Can Government state how much money was spent on the Iberian Peninsular and its Peopling By Hominids Quaternary Meeting, which the Minister for Culture inaugurated on the 26th September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The answer is £1,754.40.

NO. 628 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

MUSIC CENTRE

Will Government state how much has been given as a grant to the trustees of the Music Centre in the years 2004, 2005 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

The sum of £13,000 in the financial year 2004/2005 and nothing to date in this financial year.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 628 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

I remember asking a similar question about a year or a year and a half ago and I remember the previous Minister stating that £52,000 was allocated for the old BFBS building in order for it to be refurbished, is it that the Government gave those £52,000 already to the Music Centre to do the refurbishment and that these £13,000 are now extra over and above those £52,000?

HON F VINET:

Yes, if I remember correctly those £52,000 related to the refurbishment of shutters and the like and the £13,000 I have referred to are made up of the following: a cultural grants vote which is for the purchase of three clarinovas, one drum kit and musical software, all of these are for the use of the students and £10,000 from the I&DF vote for the purpose of repairing and replacing the shutters at the premises. I would not be able to say what the £2,000 were used for.

HON S E LINARES:

It would be interesting to note because if one takes time and goes to see the place it seems as if from the outside because I have not had the privilege of going inside, from the outside nothing has been done. In fact the building seems to be deteriorating by the day and therefore I would ask the Minister if he could give a breakdown of those £52,000 which were given to the trustees because I am sure that when the Government give the trustees £52,000 for a specific job which is for the

refurbishment of the building that the Government get accounts back as in how they spend the money. The trustees could not get the £52,000 saying 'I am going to do the building' and now then start buying instruments for example. There is a specific duty on the trustees to spend that money on the building and it seems as if the building does not have new shutters, it seems as if the building is slowly crumbling and it would be interesting to know where the £52,000, obviously he has given an explanation as to where the £13,000 in instruments goes but I would be interested to know.

HON C BELTRAN:

If I may because the question of the £52,000 precedes my colleague, yes I think if the Opposition Member went inside he would realise that a lot of work has been done on what is a big and old building. Precisely part of those £13,000 were earmarked towards the end of my time in heritage for the shutters precisely because they give the wrong impression. If one approaches the building and shutters are not in good condition one may think that the whole of the building is not, structurally it is sound, I think that they have been looking at the question of the balcony which we were not happy about as well but a lot of work has occurred inside which is obviously the main thrust given by the trust when they obtained the building from Government, who of course are very interested in continuing to support the arts. So it is used by young people for music but still works need to be done by the trust, after all it is a trust and it is their responsibility but the Government of course are supporting financially.

HON S E LINARES:

Has there been a change in management in the Music Centre since the last time, I believe that the lady who was running it before is no longer running it and now there is somebody else? Can the Minister confirm this.

HON F VINET:

I am not aware but certainly, as has been explained previously, the Gibraltar Music Centre is a charitable trust and the trustees are not appointed by Government and it is they, the trustees, who run the Music Centre. It is entirely up to them how to manage their business and who manages it but I am not aware of any changes.

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister state who appoints the trustees? He has just stated that the Government do not appoint the trustees, who then appoints the trustees?

HON F VINET:

The information before me is that Government do not appoint the trustees.

NO. 629 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

CULTURE - ANNUAL FAIR

Can Government state how much was collected from associations, charities, groups and others for mounting stalls and/or bar/cafeteria facilities at the fair and National day respectively?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Nothing is being collected from charities. I will let the hon Member know how much is collected once all the monies are received.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 629 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

So the Minister can confirm that monies are collected from associations and groups and others but not charities?

HON F VINET:

Yes as has always been the case.

NO. 630 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

CULTURE - NATIONAL DAY

Can Government state what was the cost of the National Day celebrations 2005 including expenses for visiting MP's and others, fireworks and other functions giving a breakdown by event?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

I will let the hon Member know once all invoices are received and accounts settled.

NO. 631 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

HERITAGE ORDINANCE

Can Government say whether the new Heritage Ordinance, or amendments to the existing one, have now been drafted and been considered by Ministers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

A draft does exist but this is still being reviewed. Ministers have not yet approved a Bill.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 631 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is this the same draft which was circulating for a number of years which was prepared by the previous Minister for Heritage who is now no long in this House, Mr Azopardi? Is that the same draft or is it a new one?

HON F VINET:

I would not be able to say whether it is the same draft that has been doing the rounds for a number of years. It has certainly been ready for some time and I hope the hon Member will appreciate that I am presently familiarising myself with its contents. The proposed amendments are extensive both in number and in their actual effects and I am therefore in the process of looking at those amendments and comparing it to the present Ordinance and that does take some time.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In what timescale does the Minister envisage that this process will be completed? My understanding is that this is now with his Department before it goes on to Council of Ministers for discussion between his Ministerial colleagues.

HON F VINET:

Yes, as I have said the effects of the proposed amendments are wide-ranging and that is why the Council of Ministers will be having a detailed look at those proposed amendments. I would not be able to give a time frame but certainly my intention is to deal with the matter as soon as possible.

NO. 632 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CULTURE - WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Have Government now taken a policy decision to ask the United Kingdom to put forward a bid to include all or part of Gibraltar as a World Heritage Site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

No.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 632 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is this a matter which is being pursued or which the Government had not taken a policy decision the last time this question was raised in the House, is it a matter which is being discussed and no policy decision has been taken after the discussion or has no discussion taken place?

HON F VINET:

This is a matter that is currently being pursued and actively so. I recall having been interviewed by the Gibraltar Chronicle shortly after the Ministerial re-shuffle and I gave a reply which I am happy to refer to in this House. That is that the Government are carefully studying the scope and the detail of Gibraltar's future bid for World Heritage Status. The Heritage Division is currently embarked on a detailed research and study exercise of the heritage aspects that will be included in such a bid and this information will be used to clearly delimit the properties to be included with a view to ensuring a bid that is well prepared and one that has the maximum chances of success. I said in that interview and I repeat today that I think it is important for this work to be carried out in a measured, unhurried and responsible way and it will take as much time as it needs to take.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I understand that when we are dealing with heritage, whether it is the Heritage Ordinance or the application for World Heritage Status we are dealing with history and perhaps these things take time, but I think part of the objective is surely to

preserve some of that history and some of that heritage for future generations, particularly in the current climate of developments. Can I ask the Minister because the question is a two part question it mentions either to include part or all of Gibraltar as a World Heritage Site, have the Government taken a policy decision in that respect? That is to say, whether they will include if they do go ahead with this all of Gibraltar or simply parts of Gibraltar in their application?

HON F VINET:

This is one particular issue that is being looked at. I am aware that the Chief Minister mentioned in the House some time ago that there were some concerns that arose as a result of the possibility of the whole of Gibraltar being considered concerned with regard to future development plans and so on, so that is one of the issues that is being looked at but certainly what Government and in particular the Heritage Division are doing is trying to ensure that whichever plan is presented by the UK for World Heritage Status stands the best possible chance of success.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Minister has pre-empted my next question but if he could just confirm that this is how I have understood it. The supposition is at present that we make a bid to the United Kingdom and the United Kingdom includes that bid as part of its own application for World Heritage Status in terms of Gibraltar/UK and then it has to be approved, it is not automatic, once the UK puts the application forward it then has to be considered and then approved or not by the pertinent authorities, is that the case?

HON F VINET:

That is correct, there is an in principle agreement with the UK or rather UK agrees to nominate Gibraltar as one of its list of sites and therefore, as the word implies, it is an application and that has to be either accepted or not.

NO. 633 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

How often and on what dates, in 2004 and 2005 to date, has there been consultation between the Heritage Division of the Government and the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and over what issues has this consultation taken place?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Contact between the Heritage Division and the Gibraltar Heritage Trust is regular and wide ranging. There is additionally a formal forum that is separate to the contact that happens on an ad-hoc basis, that formal forum is known as the Heritage Action Committee (HAC), which I chair and includes representatives of the Division, the Trust and other Government agencies. HAC meets on a regular basis. Meetings in 2004 and 2005 were as follows:-

22nd January, 2004 4th March, 2004 6th May, 2004 26th October, 2004 30th November, 2004 8th February, 2005 13th April, 2005 20th July, 2005 21st September, 2005

The next meeting is scheduled for the 23rd November, 2005.

In addition, since taking over the Ministry, I have initiated a series of visits to heritage sites to familiarise myself with specific issues. These have been approximately on a monthly basis. They have involved the Division and, where relevant, the Trust. So far I have visited the Gibraltar Museum, Gorham's Cave and the recently opened World War II and 18th Century tunnels.

NO. 634 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GIBRALTAR SPORTS AUTHORITY

Can the Minister for Sport now confirm whether or not the Government have advertised vacancies for personnel to be employed by the Gibraltar Sports Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 635 to 640 of 2005.

NO. 635 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

VICTORIA STADIUM

How many additional posts do Government consider will be required to run the new and the present facilities at the Victoria Stadium site, and can they give a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 634 and 636 to 640 of 2005.

NO. 636 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

VICTORIA STADIUM

Can the Minister for Sport now confirm how many personnel have been recruited to date to run the new facilities by the Gibraltar Sports Authority at the Victoria Stadium site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 634, 635 and 637 to 640 of 2005.

NO. 637 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GIBRALTAR SPORTS AUTHORITY

Can Government state how many persons have been recruited to date by the Gibraltar Sports Authority and can they give a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 634 to 636 and 638 to 640 of 2005.

NO. 638 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GIBRALTAR SPORTS AUTHORITY

Can Government state of the persons employed by the Gibraltar Sports Authority how many are employees of the Crown and how many are employees of the Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 634 to 637, 639 and 640 of 2005.

NO. 639 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

VICTORIA STADIUM

Can the Government state when the new sporting facilities they promised to provide at the Victoria Stadium site, which are still not fully operational, will be ready for use by the public?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 634 to 638 and 640 of 2005.

NO. 640 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

VICTORIA STADIUM

Will the Government provide parking facilities for the users and spectators of the sporting facilities at the Victoria Stadium site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Vacancies for personnel to be employed by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority were advertised in June and September 2005.

In addition to staff who transferred from the Sports Department, nine new employees have to date been recruited by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority to run the facilities. They are:-

- 1 Facilities and Resources Manager
- 1 Assistant Sports Development Officer
- 6 Sports Assistants
- 1 Administration and Clerical Officer

Of course, as more facilities become available the situation regarding staff requirements will be monitored according to the Authority's needs.

In answer to Question No. 638, all persons employed by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority are employees of the Authority.

In answer to Question No. 639, it is programmed that the whole project be completed by the end of this financial year.

In answer to Question No. 640, Government will not be providing more parking facilities at the new Bayside Sports Centre.

NO. 641 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

DUDLEY WARD TUNNEL

Can Government provide an estimate of the cost of re-opening Dudley Ward Tunnel for vehicular traffic?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The cost is not known but Government estimate that the project under consideration might cost about £4.6 million. No decision has been taken whether or when to proceed with this project.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 641 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister say or give a date by which time this decision will be taken since it seems to have been on the table for a very long time and seeing that there is an estimate of cost now?

HON J J NETTO:

No I am not in a position to actually tell the hon Member a specific date for commencement of the work. All I can tell him over and above this is that there are still some investigations actually being taken on the actual ground in the area but I am not in a position to tell him when the actual work will start as the hon Member would wish to know.

NO. 642 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

CEMETERY

Can Government state when they expect to complete the works on the project to enhance the state of the cemetery and the estimated cost of the project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The project for the refurbishment and beautification of the North Front Cemetery will shortly go out to tender, it is therefore not possible to give an accurate indication of when the works will start on site until an award is made. The project has a programmed duration of nine months. It is not considered appropriate to provide estimated costs for the project until the tender process has been completed.

NO. 643 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

A consultant has now been appointed to assist Government with the delivery of this project and work has already started in undertaking a preliminary study and assessment that precedes the procurement of the project. It is envisaged that this study will be concluded within the next few months.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 643 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister state who is responsible for conducting the studies, whether they have engaged an outside firm et cetera?

HON J J NETTO:

Following the interest expressed by Multiplex in relation to this project Government have decided to undertake a public sector comparative exercise the results of which will enable them to be better placed to consider Multiplex's proposal or indeed any other proposal received, and assess whether they offer good value for money. Included as part of this assessment is an overview of the available technology as it is a high risk element due to the uniqueness of our situation vis a vis seawater borne sewage.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Then what is it that all the previous technical studies have been establishing? Surely this business of the seawater was known from the very beginning and there have been a number of studies announced prior to this one which have been carried out by external experts. So what is different that needs to be studied now that has not already been studied?

HON J J NETTO:

I am not very much informed of the details of the previous study but I do know that as a result of the interest expressed by Multiplex we are undertaking this public sector comparative exercise to undertake to see what are the best options to see whether we get good value for money in relation of developing further, but I cannot draw the distinction that the hon Member wishes me to draw between the exercise being provided by the previous tenders and this one unless of course formal notice of his question is given to me to be able to give him the proper answer he would wish to have.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the Minister familiar with the results of the previous studies?

HON J J NETTO:

No I am not familiar with the previous ones I am actually going through the motions in relation to this one but I am not familiar with the details of the other one.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But the Minister will know that in fact in previous questions in previous Houses the information that the Government have been providing was that all the technical work that needed to be done was already being done, now what appears to be new in the answer is this public sector comparator. Is the Minister then saying that what they are looking at is whether it will be more cost effective for the Government to do it as opposed to Multiplex doing it, is that what he means?

HON J J NETTO:

Well, we have not yet concluded whether that will be the fact or not we have not come to that conclusion, that is one of the things that we would wish to know in a position once we do the public sector comparator in terms of the options available to us as a Government.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I know they have not got the answer yet, my question is does by using the phrase "public sector comparator", to me public sector comparator means comparing whether it is more effective to do it in the public sector or in the private sector, is that what he means when he says public sector comparator and if not what is it that is being compared with what?

HON J J NETTO:

For me the public sector comparator means what would be the cost in comparison with other perhaps public utilities but at the end of the day whether the Government decide, which have not decided yet, whether they will take it upon themselves or if

someone will take it on behalf of the Government is an option that needs to be decided at the end of the exercise.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I seem to be having difficulty in the Minister understanding the question. I am not questioning the decision that needs to be taken at the end of the exercise before the exercise is commenced, what I am trying to establish is what the exercise is intended to produce. What is it that the exercise that is being conducted is intended to produce, is it to take the Multiplex proposals and compare them with an alternative which would be the Government doing it or is it to take the Multiplex proposals and compare them with what other people are doing elsewhere?

HON J J NETTO:

My understanding is the latter but it also means as well that there are various options in terms of the technology in relation to the type of plans and all of that also will be part of the exercise as well.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Given that the Multiplex proposal forms part of the East Side contribution for the development to the Government in terms of providing resources as opposed to providing cash, would in fact looking at a possible alternative to Multiplex mean that that element of the Multiplex package would then have to be renegotiated?

HON J J NETTO:

I am afraid I am not in a position to be able to talk about renegotiating the whole package, this is something which I have not dealt with and perhaps probably the Chief Minister is in a position to answer that question because he has been leading on that particular issue, but I am afraid I cannot answer that question.

HON J J BOSSANO:

What I am trying to establish is presumably there is a value attached to this so if that was not done by Multiplex presumably something else will have to be done in its place or paid in its place, would that be a reasonable assumption or not?

HON J J NETTO:

Yes I think that is a reasonable assumption.

NO. 644 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Can Government state the areas of Gibraltar's Public Highways that were resurfaced during the semester ended 30 September 2005 and the cost of the resurfacing?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 645 and 646 of 2005.

NO. 645 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Can Government state the areas of Gibraltar's Public Highways that they propose to resurface during the semester ending 31 March 2006, providing a breakdown by quarter?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 644 and 646 of 2005.

NO. 646 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Can Government state how much they have spent in the period April to September 2005 on Road Maintenance and Resurfacing – Head 103 – 7?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

During the current financial year a total of £84,294 has been spent on highways maintenance. This has been limited to dealing with emergency repairs and minor works pending the award of the Highways Term Maintenance Contract.

The latter was awarded on the 5th October 2005 and work will commence on the maintenance programme shortly. Major works will continue to be let out to tender with individual schemes being announced as and when they are to be executed, as has recently been the case with the Engineer Lane and Bell Lane beautification contract.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 644 TO 646 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

The reason for this question is to determine or rather to have a view as to which are the areas that Government plan to resurface in the next six months, just forward planning.

HON J J NETTO:

I think that the answer would be as my answer implies that we now have a measured term contract which is in place and has been awarded and by the nature of that particular contract, the measured term contract, the contractor who has now been given the contract will do minor response maintenance type of work but whenever a big job is done, like the one that was recently announced in Engineer Lane and Bell Lane, that would go out to tender. The hon Member asks whether we have a programme, yes the Department do have a programme but it is not customary for us in the House to actually list the programme because we would not want to anticipate or give information to contractors in relation to the actual programme. That has never been the practice in the House and I do not think that it is actually necessary.

Suffice it to say that whenever big schemes are scheduled for coming out publicly we would announce during the course of the financial year.

NO. 647 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GIBRALTAR INDUSTRIAL CLEANERS

Can Government state whether the five vacancies at Gibraltar Industrial Cleaners have now been filled?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The five vacancies were filled at the beginning of September 2005.

NO. 648 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CALPE TENANTS ASSOCIATION

How many times has the Minister for the Environment met the Calpe Tenants Association since the last meeting of this House for Questions in April and what action is now envisaged will be taken to tackle the problem of unsightly and unhygienic rubbish dumps in the area?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

No further meetings have taken place with the Calpe Tenants Association since that communicated by my predecessor in reply to Question No. 144 of 2005.

Government have since accepted the recommendations made by the department at the time, with the following action having been taken:

- 1. A revised design for the bin cubicles has been prepared and is presently being priced.
- 2. Funding has been made available to the department to undertake this work.
- 3. Three bin cubicles are intended to be tackled. The first of these will be at the area of Calpe Married Quarters, the second in the area of Willis' House and the third at Willis' Road. The enclosure at Willis' Road will be a temporary one as that area is subject to review due to other projects currently being considered for this location.
- 4. The assistance of the Royal Gibraltar Police has been sought to ensure that the law is strictly enforced in relation to the feeding of the apes.

It is considered that on completion of the scheduled works and with the cooperation of the RGP the desired effect will result. Despite this, the department will continue to closely monitor the situation.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 648 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can the Minister tell us when he envisages that the works will start in the three areas of the bins?

HON J J NETTO:

I can envisage the works starting before the end of this financial year.

HON F R PICARDO:

Financial or calendar year?

HON J J NETTO:

Financial year.

HON F R PICARDO:

Would the Minister be surprised to hear that despite everything he has said about enlisting the assistance of other authorities et cetera, in fact the problem has just been getting even worse and the apes are getting even braver and are now taking to attacking people as they walk past with their plastic bags much more than they used to do before and they continue to be fed by some of the residents?

HON J J NETTO:

Well, I hear what the hon Member says and I think he is echoing some of the views that have been manifested in the press lately, I think there have been a few letters to that effect I remember reading some of them and there seems to be some truth in what the hon Member seems to be saying.

NO. 649 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CAMMELL LAIRD

Can Government confirm how much of the grit mountain at Cammell Laird has now been removed, where it has been removed to, how much remains and what the cost of removal to date has been?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 650 and 651 of 2005.

NO. 650 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CAMMELL LAIRD

Can Government confirm if they have sought and obtained a commitment from Cammell Laird that there will be no further accumulation of grit at that Company's ship yard and what systems are being engineered by the Government to ensure they do not re-accumulate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 649 and 651 of 2005.

NO. 651 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CAMMELL LAIRD

Are Government satisfied that the 'dampening' being carried out by Cammell Laird is sufficient to ensure that the grit mountain in that Company's shipyard is not causing environmental pollution to residents in the area of the south district?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Government welcome the removal of the grit mountain from Cammell Laird and, based on the advice that they have received from the Environmental Agency, are satisfied that no nuisance is being caused as a result of this to the residents of the south district.

By close of play on Friday 7th October 2005, approximately 1,440 tons of grit out of a total accumulation of about 8,000 tons had been removed from the Cammell Laird shipyard. It has been sent for proper disposal to the Gamasur Campo de Gibraltar SL site at Los Barrios. The movement of this waste is being carried out in accordance with the provisions of the transfrontier shipment of waste legislation and it has been approved by the Gibraltar and Spanish competent authorities.

The total cost of the removal of the grit mountain is estimated to be £360,000.

Government have obtained a commitment from Cammell Laird that there will be no future accumulations of grit in the shiprepair yard. This is an issue that is of importance to the Government.

In essence, now that a system for exportation of the waste grit to a proper disposal site has been put in place, grit will be exported at frequent intervals whenever sufficient quantities have been accumulated to make up a load. Temporary storage of the grit will be within a dedicated tank that the company will install specifically for this purpose.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 649 TO 651 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can the Minister tell us how much is a load?

HON J J NETTO:

As my original answer implied the load is the load sufficient for a lorry to be taken.

HON F R PICARDO:

I understand that, I did not mean a load as in normal English, how much is a load, how much is each tanker going to carry so that we know how much? The Minister should know.

HON J J NETTO:

My hon Friend says it is about 40 cubic feet so I take his extreme knowledge on the subject as accurate.

HON F R PICARDO:

I think to be fair to the Hon Mr Britto what he is saying is that the container is traditionally 40 cubic feet, but we have not been told that the container is going to be used we have been told that a lorry load is going to be used. Now, different lorries carry different weights do we know how much it is that the lorries that move this type of grit move?

HON J J NETTO:

No I do not know what type of lorry the company who are engaged for the removal use, there are different lorries of different sizes and I am sure they will get along and fill it in and take it away.

HON F R PICARDO:

Fair enough, there is nothing more honest than somebody who says they do not know, if they do not know they do not know but of course we are being told that the Government are paying for this, we were told it was going to cost £500,000 and now we are told it is going to cost £360,000. Who will pay for the onward, after we have dealt with the 8,000 tons that there are there who will pay for the continued costs as and when there are accumulations?

HON J J NETTO:

My understanding is that it will be the company.

NO. 652 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT – AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Will the Government confirm to the House what has been the monthly operating cost of operating the air quality monitoring stations set up in compliance with EU obligations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 653 to 657 of 2005.

NO. 653 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Can the Government confirm that the total cost of £411,000 paid to the Environmental Agency in respect of the air quality monitoring stations is inclusive of the £18,000 paid to NETCEN, the UK consultants employed in connection with the establishment of the monitoring stations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 652 and 654 to 657 of 2005.

NO. 654 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Will the Government state what the monthly operating cost has been of operating the website www.gibraltarairquality.gi which will provide information as to the air quality readings picked up by the air quality monitoring station?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 652, 653 and 655 to 657 of 2005.

NO. 655 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - AIR QUALITY MONITORING

What concerns if any do Government have about the spikes in the recorded level of Benzene, Ethyl Benzene and mp-Xylene recorded by their air quality monitoring stations in respect of the period between 1 May 2005 and 1 October 2005 in the region of Rosia Road and what action, if any, are Government taking in this respect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 652 to 654, 656 and 657 of 2005.

NO. 656 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Why is there no record maintained on the Government's air quality monitoring site, www.gibraltarairquality.gi about the levels of Benzene, Ethyl Benzene and mp-Xylene recorded by their air quality monitoring stations in respect of the period between 1 May 2005 and 1 October 2005 in the region of Bleak House which thus does not allow users to plot the levels in graphic form?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Answered together with Question Nos. 652 to 655 and 657 of 2005.

NO. 657 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Given the Government's stated commitment to improve air quality in compliance with their legal obligation, what non-permanent air quality monitoring exactly have the Government carried out to ensure the quality of air in the area of Winston Churchill Avenue and Devil's Tower Road is monitored?

<u>ANSWER</u>

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Figures for the annual operating costs of the monitoring stations for the three years from 2005 to 2007 have already been provided in answer to a previous question (No. 145 of April 2005). These amount to £411,150 over the three years. For the first year, that is 2005, the monthly operating cost equates to £12,550.

The £411,150 figure is an all-inclusive sum that includes the cost of the establishment of the website and running of the same. The figure however, does not include the cost of the £18,600 of the NETCEN report.

The spikes in the recorded levels of Benzene, Ethyl Benzene and mp-Xylene at the Rosia Road monitoring station are considered to generally correspond to peaks in traffic conditions. These are expected results from a roadside monitoring station. The standards for these pollutants set out in our legislation and in EU Directives correspond to limit values averaged over a calendar year. Monitoring at Rosia Road started as from February 2005. We therefore do not have sufficient data to be able to compare directly to these standards but, from the data available to date, it would appear that we will be below these set values.

The monitoring station at Bleak House is considered a "Suburban/rural background" station and, as such, is designed to monitor ozones and oxides of nitrogen only, as the hon Member has previously been informed in answer to Question No. 2120 of December 2004. Although there is therefore no automatic monitoring of Benzene, Ethyl Benzene, mp-Xylene at this station, there is a diffusion tube sampling point (non-automatic) located at this site, the results of which are available on the website under "Non-automatic monitoring data".

In addition to the automatic monitoring stations, Government have set up an extensive passive diffusion tube-sampling programme. The siting for these sampling points was decided following advice from consultants engaged by Government. These samplers are used to provide average concentrations over periods of four weeks and monitor for nitrogen dioxide and hydrocarbons (benzene, toluene,

ethylbenzene and xylenes) and are deployed in the following locations either in or in the proximity of the area referred to in the question:

- Hydrocarbons Glacis Road, Kings Lines, Laguna Estate, Devil's Tower Road, Catalan Bay Road
- Nitrogen dioxide Glacis Road, George Don House, Devil's Tower Road

These samplers provide information of spatial variation of pollutant concentrations and elucidate peak background concentrations, thereby providing specific and accurate information of conditions at these sites.

As previously stated NETCEN were engaged by Government in 2003 to carry out a preliminary assessment of air quality for the pollutants regulated by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Daughter Directives on ambient air quality. A requirement for Member States to conduct such an assessment is specified in Article 5 of the Framework Directive on Air Quality (Council Directive 96/62/EC).

The objective of the preliminary assessment was to establish estimates for the overall distribution and levels of pollutants and to identify monitoring requirements in order to fulfil the obligations to the Framework and Daughter Directives and our own transposing legislation.

The Environmental Agency were subsequently engaged to operate the monitoring stations for Government with the following being a breakdown of the £411,150 cost covering the three year period 2005 to 2007:

Year 1	(2005)	£150,600
Year 2	(2006)	£131,350
Year 3	(2007)	£129,200
Total		£411,150

The above figure includes the provision of the following service:

- Quality control data management and data dissemination services in respect of the data obtained from the two monitoring stations;
- Service and maintenance of equipment and the audits of equipment and data.
- Implementation of a passive diffuse sampler programme to obtain further information of spatial variation of pollutant concentrations and elucidate peak and background concentrations.
- A scooping study to identify the availability of appropriate and cost effective data sets for the characterisation of transboundary pollution episodes, natural pollution events and source apportionment of measured PM₁₀ levels within Gibraltar.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 652 TO 657 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful for that very full answer from the Minister but I am very concerned that he does not seem to really address the issue that is clearly of the greatest of concern and set out in particular in Question No. 655, the spikes in the Benzene, Ethylbenzene and mp-Xylene. I have got copies here of the graphs that are produced using the Government's own website which I shall pass him a copy of. From the graph it is possible to see that there is one particular, there are a number of spikes which I can see probably are related to traffic, but there is one particular spike going almost to the top of the graph on the first graph which is benzene; on ethylbenzene there are a number of three or four very worrying spikes; on mp-xylene there are five very worrying spikes and on the Government's own website the definition of benzene states very clearly it is a known human carcinogen. Now I know that the Minister tells me that none of these spikes affect the annual average but would he be happy to be the person standing by the monitoring station when that particular spike occurs, because I think it is recognised by most scientists that exposure to benzene by an individual does not actually do damage if one is there for a year breathing it in, if one breathes it in on one occasion as badly as this it could cause a serious problem. Now, I do not want to have an argument with him about what the law does or does not provide I am not here to do that, is he not as a citizen and as a Minister representing citizens concerned to see those spikes?

HON J J NETTO:

I can assure the hon Member that he is not the only person concerned about this matter, I myself actually took the liberty of looking at the graphs and raising the question. My understanding from the information I have from the Environmental Agency is that it is a suspect reading which is shown in the graph in relation to that particularly high spike. They are looking at it and once they determine whether it is a suspect one or not, in terms of the tube and whether the tube was properly placed in the right place, I will have the answer. Other than that I am told that in regard to the other readings that they are well below the threshold in terms of the legislation and there is no source of concern either to him, to me, or the rest of the community.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am very pleased to hear that this might be a suspect spike, something which I was not told in the original answer but I am very concerned in relation to the other non-suspect spikes that we are still talking about potential averages on what the law provides. Now, can the Minister confirm to the House that he has taken that up specifically that the spikes themselves, that the incidents of greater levels of benzene, mp-xylenes and ethylbenzenes should not create any health concerns, and I assume that he will tell us if he has spoken to the Environmental Agency and to NETCEN about this but has he also got comfort from some medical practitioners?

HON F VINET:

Perhaps I might interject in one regard. These spikes the hon Member is referring to we have known from day one according to the reports supplied by NETCEN, these

are perfectly normal in the sense that they come as no surprise. We know that when traffic in the area is at its worst and busiest those spikes will occur and they come as no surprise to Government or to the Environmental Agency. With regard to the one suspect spike that is being referred to I remember having explained to the House when the monitoring station was being put into place that if we were to have spikes that were suspect as this one appears to be we have to bear in mind that there are factors that may contribute towards that, and those will be examined which is the reply that has been given by the Minister for the Environment.

HON J J NETTO:

Well, the Opposition Member said would I look into it, he is just repeating what I said previously that I am looking at it and I will come to the bottom of it.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful, I do not actually recognise in what the Minister has said now anything that was said already but I am grateful that he is going to get to the bottom of it. Can I take it therefore as a yes that this is an issue of concern and that he is going to get to the bottom of it so that we can all rest assured that this is normal?

HON J J NETTO:

It is not an issue for us.

HON F R PICARDO:

In that case it is not an issue because the Minister will no doubt confirm to the House that he has had information made available to him by the Environmental Agency and a medical practitioner that none of these issues, forget the law and what the law provides, that none of these spikes is going to cause any health risk to any citizen, not just arguments about things being normal and therefore they come as no surprise. Are they issues which cause health concern and is he happy to allay those concerns?

HON J J NETTO:

I already said that the advice given to me by the experts, which is not us, are telling me that the actual readings as the air demonstrated are well below the values, the thresholds to which we should be concerned to the extent that the hon Member happens to be. I can assure that from the information given to me that he should be able to sleep at night without getting too concerned about it.

NO. 658 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENT - NOXIOUS SMELLS

Can Government confirm the advice provided by the Environmental Agency to members of the public to the effect that the strong noxious smells perceived in Gibraltar during periods of westerly winds are caused as much by bunkering barges docked in Gibraltar as they are by the petroleum refinery and other industries located in the North of the Bay of Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

There have been complaints from members of the public of strong noxious smells. These complaints have been sporadic and, though investigated by the Environmental Agency in conjunction with the Port Department and Bunkering Superintendent, it has not been possible to establish their origin with any degree of certainty. A number of suspect sources have been investigated and a series of measures introduced to abate any possible smells from them. The situation continues to be monitored and there have been no recent complaints.

The Environmental Agency has not issued advice to the effect that the smells are caused as much by bunkering barges docked in Gibraltar as they are by the petroleum refinery and other industries located in the north of the Bay of Gibraltar, even though these sources have been considered along with other possible ones in the course of their investigations.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 658 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I assure the Minister that I have information from members of the public who have come to me who have said that when they have telephone the Environmental Agency the Environmental Agency has actually been the one who has told them the phrasing of my question. In other words, that it comes as much from the bunkering here as what is happening from the north of the Bay, and could he confirm to the House that he is going to take that up with the Environmental Agency so that they can confirm that whether or not they have issued with sounds like something in writing sent out to somebody, that is not also the advice that they are giving on the telephone when people phone up which is my understanding of the position.

HON J J NETTO:

As I have said the situation continues to be monitored, they are still looking at them not just the Environmental Agency but indeed the Bunkering Superintendent and the Port Department, they are trying to establish what is the actual source, they have not sort of conclusively come to a decision on what it is and I am sure that they will try to continue to find what is the source and obviously take proper measures if they are measures that we can take obviously within our jurisdiction.

HON F R PICARDO:

That does not at all address the issue which I asked a supplementary on, which is, will he get to the bottom of whether the Environmental Agency is saying these things to people who phone up to ask about smells. Not whether it is or is not the cause but whether he will get to the bottom of whether the Environmental Agency is saying these things, not in writing perhaps, but on the telephone to people who phone up. He can understand why I am saying he should get to the bottom of this.

HON J J NETTO:

If the hon Member wishes to write to me on this particular subject I will certainly take it up with the Environmental Agency.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am asking him in the House whether he will get to the bottom of it. I am not asking him 'if I write to you will you get to the bottom of it', I am saying in this House would he get to the bottom of whether or not the Environmental Agency are saying these things. The answer is fairly simple, 'yes I will' or 'no I will not unless you write to me because I think it is irrelevant'. It is one of the two obviously.

HON J J NETTO:

I have not said whether it is relevant or irrelevant, all I am saying is that if he wishes me to pursue it he will have to write to me and I will take it up with the Environmental Agency.

HON F R PICARDO:

In that case I will take it as a no.

NO. 659 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

UPPER ROCK - FIRE BREAKS

Can Government state whether the Fire Breaks in the Upper Rock have been cleared since the summer of 2004, and if so, when and at what cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The Fire Breaks in the Upper Rock that are the responsibility of the Government were cleared last summer at a cost of £14,998.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 659 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

When the Minister says last summer can he give us a date because this is normally done before the summer? The whole purpose of clearing the Fire Breaks is in fact to do it before the summer because it is when the Upper Rock gets very dry and there is a risk.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes, the Fire Breaks were cleared in the month of June this year. The actual timetable of this is actually not just determined by, I mean there is advice we seek from GONHS for example et cetera as to when the exercise is to be carried out but it is normally in the months of the end of May beginning of June time.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Was this done directly by Government employees or by using a contractor, and if it was a contractor who was the contractor?

HON J J NETTO:

This was carried out by Master Services.

NO. 660 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - ALLOCATION PROCEDURES

Can Government state whether the changes to the pointage system that came into effect in August this year constitute the major reforms of the Housing Allocation Procedures previously announced or are further measures planned?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Important as this change is it does not constitute the major reforms of housing policy and procedures which Government will introduce during the coming 12 months.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 660 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

As the Government stated in their press release that they would review the situation after the implementation at the beginning of August of the new pointage system what is the feedback that the Minister has received from people on the housing waiting list? Are they happy in general or have there been complaints concerning the new system?

HON C BELTRAN:

As with everything there will be a mixture of people who are elated and some who are not quite as happy but I think that is normally the case with every change until the change settles down. There is a period when not everybody receives the amount of positive feedback and positive reaction to their application as they would like until the period of settling down of the system occurs, so it is a combination.

HON C A BRUZON:

I have also noticed that the Housing Allocation Committee would have to make certain judgements concerning the matter of overcrowding as stated in the press release of 5th August, the question I would like to ask the Minister is what yardstick does the Housing Allocation Committee use to determine what is fair and what is unfair?

The question of overcrowding is not quite the same as the question being asked which is to do with the new point system which was solely restricted to the matter of giving greater weighting to waiting time in the application.

HON C A BRUZON:

In their press release they say that in addition people who have been home owners and who have chosen to sell their homes will not be entitled to go on the public waiting list unless in the judgement of the Housing Allocation Committee the sale was genuinely necessary or there is some other justification for being readmitted. So obviously it seems to me that some special powers are being given to the Housing Allocation Committee to determine which is a worthy case and which is not.

HON C BELTRAN:

Yes indeed the Housing Allocation Committee decides on these matters, but what I am saying to the hon Member is that the question refers to one of the aspects of the press release. The hon Member is now asking supplementary questions on what is really another question which is the question of overcrowding or the matter of people selling houses and not being able to go onto the waiting list. I think I have answered the question as it is asked.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So does the Minister not then accept that whether a person is given points for overcrowding or not given points for overcrowding is one of the changes to the pointage system which is what the original question is about?

HON C BELTRAN:

The question refers to one of three changes which is the pointage system. The change in the points was in relation to giving greater weighting to people who are on waiting time, the number of points that they have every year that they obtain every year for waiting. Now quite apart from that there was a question of another change which was persons who sell their homes are not allowed to go onto the waiting list, and the third element of the press release that the hon Member was referring to is the question that if a person sells a house and goes to live with somebody else, parents or whatever, those parents would not be able to accumulate overcrowding points. They are three different issues, the question refers specifically to the pointage system which is one of the three elements.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So the Minister then is saying that the question which asked about changes to the pointage system does not refer to the three changes to the pointage system that he has just mentioned, it only refers to one, why does he think that?

No, what I am saying is that I am interpreting the question in the manner that I think it has been asked but I have no problem. I think I have answered actually part of what the hon Member has asked.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Then what we are trying to establish is does the Minister not agree that before the change the pointage allocated for overcrowding was given automatically independent of the cause of the overcrowding.

HON C BELTRAN:

That is correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Therefore this is an important change because there is now an element of discretion where two individual applicants may in the judgement of somebody be treated differently with some people given a higher place on the list and others not being given a higher place on the list. That is an entirely new element in the entire system of allocating points, is that not the case?

HON C BELTRAN:

No, I think that is not quite correct, I think that there has always been an element of discretion for example within the Social Committee and the Medical Committee that then report back to the Housing Allocation Committee. I understand what he is saying and I think I have answered actually that there is an element of discretion and I am confident that the right procedures are being carried out to make it work.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Minister has not agreed that this is an element of discretion that has not existed before because he makes reference to the Social Committee but the Social Committee is not there to allocate points, and the question originally as he correctly said was about changes to the pointage system and this is the first time that an element of discretion has been introduced. The pointage system until now was simply a question of measuring the space and dividing it by the number of humans and that decided whether it was overcrowding or not, so what was different before?

HON C BELTRAN:

No there is no discretion now in the actual points. The points part of the three part change, the point system that people will receive annually for actually waiting is down in a table there is no discretion.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But do people receive points for overcrowding or do they not receive points for overcrowding?

HON C BELTRAN:

They do now and they will not in certain circumstances and to that extent there will be discretion.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the Minister not accept that if they do now and before they did automatically and now they may or may not get it, these are changes to the pointage system. Why does he think that changes to the pointage system simply means points for waiting? It is changes to the entire pointage system where a higher weight has been given to the time on the list as opposed to the conditions under which people are living, is that not the case?

HON C BELTRAN:

Yes, I think it is a question of interpretation of the question that is all but I am very happy as I am doing now to explain the whole of the system, and I think that very early on I responded to the Opposition Member that in fact I am happy, which I think was the question, am I happy with the way that this is being done the element of discretion that there is and I said 'yes'.

HON J J BOSSANO:

What was the rationale behind the decision to shift the importance in terms of the time people wait to be allocated a house from how long they had been on the list to how bad were the conditions in which they were living, which is what had been the case until now? The balance has been changed towards giving greater importance to waiting time, is that not the case?

HON C BELTRAN:

Yes that is the case.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can the Minister explain why it was thought necessary to give this greater importance to waiting time as opposed to living conditions?

Yes, because it was felt that the system as it was before was unfair on those who waited because people would overtake them because of other issues such as overcrowding.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So would the Minister not agree that the implication of that is that they have had evidence which they have analysed of people joining the list and jumping over the people that were already there? Can the Minister give us an indication of the numbers, how big an impact was this having?

HON J J NETTO:

Yes, the hon Member is right, it has been the knowledge for some time particularly of the staff there, particularly of the Allocation Unit, whereby by the previous system which was introduced in 1994 by the Hon Joe Pilcher that with the pre-list a lot of people were accumulating a lot of overcrowding points in the pre-list and automatically as they moved from the pre-list to the waiting list they were being catapulted to the top, which meant that people who were there for a considerable number of years were actually going down rather than seeing themselves going to the top of the list and eventually getting a house. So yes, he is right in as much as saying this is information that was brought to my notice, previously to the Hon Clive Beltran, and it was an anomaly. The system as has been explained to me by people who have been in Action for Housing, like Henry Pinna for the last 30 years, say that in the period of the AACR the actual system in itself was one based on waiting time. That was changed into a system in 1994 when it was previously reviewed, one which was based more on overcrowding points so the accumulation of those points meant that the system had reached a point which was very unfair so to speak to the people who had been there for a considerable period of time. I remember actually doing exercises, not only with my staff when I was there as Minister for Housing but with the Ombudsman, with Action for Housing in terms of trying to help out so to speak, but some people in some of the various waiting lists where there is more scarcity of a particular type of dwelling to try and get them out because they never had the opportunity to get a house because the people in the pre-list kept being catapulted to the top. So the logic behind it now is to try and have a kind of hybrid between the old system and the previous one where it can be as fair as possible. To that degree of fairness, I think that the Government have given a bit of more discretionary power to the Housing Allocation Committee because things may not necessarily fall squarely in the circumstances of individual families between one system and the other, different families, different circumstances which means that sometimes the old system or the previous system may not be as fair as possible and the details and the circumstances of that particular family will have to be analysed by the information in the reports which are taken to the Housing Allocation Committee and try to see how fair they can respond to those particular circumstances.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But in fact, all that he has said about fairness just applies to whether people have justifiably sold their property or not sold their property, that is the only element.

HON J J NETTO:

No that is a different thing.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well what else is their discretion on then?

HON J J NETTO:

The question of selling the houses is a slightly different issue to the extent that, of course, home ownership was a kind of new phenomenon in the 1990's as he is well aware but what happened was, perhaps in the latter part of that decade, that a few cases so to speak started coming out a manifestation of that new phenomenon having now been settled during that decade, where people were selling their houses sometimes because of unforeseen circumstances in terms that the husband or the wife could have been earning a salary, could have lost their jobs through no fault of their own by an accident, an ailment, illness and obviously we tried to help them. But then we soon find out that there was like a kind of crescendo building up, not in that particular category of people, people who have to sell their house for unforeseen circumstances but rather people who were selling their private house in order to try and use the money either to buy property in Spain and then try to get a house from the Government. There were quite a number of cases because of the new situation that emerged as a result of that period in the 1990's and it got to the point that we started looking at cases, I know some of them very well not because I was the previous Minister but because Gibraltar is a small community and we tend to know a lot of people, and there were clearly cases of abuse and we had to do something about it. What we did about it is to say 'well look, what we need to do is to protect the people who through no fault of their own have to sell their house. Those are the ones we have to help and protect and be there for them, but the ones who are thinking of selling their homes with the intention of buying property in Spain or investing their money, or whatever they want to do with their money then what they cannot expect is to do that and then come in and try to get a flat from the Government'. That is the issue that has been addressed in the manner that the Minister has said.

HON J J BOSSANO:

That is all very well but that is not the question I asked him. He said in his previous answer that the discretion was not just about people selling their house and then moving in with somebody else and then being given or not being given points for overcrowding. I then asked him if there was something else they had discretion on what was it, and he then gave me a long story about the abuses of the people who sell and move. I am asking him because he said that and if he is wrong he must have made a mistake when he said it. He said in his previous answer that the discretion that this Committee would have to look at where one cannot be black and white and one has to look at all the circumstances was not just about selling and moving in with the in-laws. Now, is the discretion just about the pointage for overcrowding when one moves in or is it not because I have seen nothing else in the Regulations that have been published which provides any discretion in any other factor?

The discretion is when a person sells their home and moves in and the person is stopped from actually applying for a new house unless the Housing Allocation Committee see that it is a worthy case, as it were, along the lines previously described by my hon Friend, or the person is stopped by the Regulations by the person into whose house the person who sold the house moves, the receiving household as it were is stopped from accumulating overcrowding points, again there is discretion there by the Housing Allocation Committee along the lines explained by my hon Friend.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So in fact there is no discretion in the previous answer that he gave me about looking at all the circumstances, the discretion is exclusively limited to two potential parties in accumulating additional points because there is greater overcrowding brought about by somebody selling their private dwelling and moving into a Government rented accommodation, and that is the only discretion that exists.

HON C BELTRAN:

That is what the Regulations state in terms of what can happen when the person tries to move in.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So in fact since that is the only discretion that exists it must follow that this has been put there because there was evidence that people specifically were gaining points as a result of property being sold, because the people that gain points other than from property being sold would still get the points.

HON C BELTRAN:

That was explained in the Government press release already mentioned.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does he not realise that with the new system that they put in of waiting points, which I put to the Minister, it is incorrect to say that before it was purely on the circumstances of their living conditions, in the previous system that existed until August of this year there were both points accumulated by waiting and points accumulated by the environment in which the person was living. Would the Minister not agree that on the basis of the geometrical progression of points that has now been provided, in fact what will happen is that everybody who has been on the list for four or five years will automatically all be at the top of the list irrespective of how bad the conditions of other people may be.

If people are living in bad conditions they also accumulate points within the system but I think it has been explained quite clearly by now that what was perceived by Government as being a developing scenario that was unacceptable was people actually, to put it very crudely, jumping the queue and this has been what this element of accumulation of points for extra waiting being given to this waiting time is all about.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But does the Minister not realise that the argument that has been put about the unfair jumping of points is being addressed by whether the overcrowding points would be permitted or not? So the only people that are going to be affected are not the people now who were jumping the queue unfairly because they were selling and then wanting to get back on the housing list, because those will not get overcrowding points. The people who get overcrowding points without having sold, those people will now be penalised and go to the bottom of the list as a result of the additional waiting time. So in fact would the Minister not agree that the system that has been put into place has actually altered the balance between the living environment and the waiting time predominantly to a degree never before in the waiting list, predominantly in favour of people who have been there a long time?

HON C BELTRAN:

Yes there are two points, one has been pointed out by my Colleague which is that previous to the change in his time, powers were given to the Housing Allocation Committee to have discretion over these circumstances that can develop. Not only that but the press release that the Opposition Member referred to in the original question, also states that Government will review the situation and change as necessary, I believe that those were the words. So if it is found that there is an overwhelming imbalance Government want to be fair, obviously the necessary changes will occur.

HON C A BRUZON:

I know that we have been a few minutes discussing this very important issue. The question is a loaded question, it has been very carefully worded to give us a chance to discuss this in the House as the subject matter generally requires. At one point of the discussion I asked the Minister what was the yardstick that the Housing Allocation Committee uses to determine some of these issues, is it by looking at two or three letters? Is it by a member of the Housing Allocation Committee actually interviewing these people, or is that done just by the Housing Manager? I think it is very important because the 300 or so complaints that I have had since I became a Member of the House of Assembly on the housing allocation procedures give me to understand that there are certain issues that obviously the Government will address when further new procedures are put in place.

Yes, there is a whole new legislation being prepared which is an in-depth study into all these issues some of which have been highlighted by the Opposition Member. The Housing Allocation Committee take in all sorts of information, information received by the Housing Manager at interviews with individuals and families, letters written in, their experience of course and factors that come to the notice of the Committee in any other fashion. It is a consultation process that also takes in all sorts of information and a decision is then taken.

HON J J NETTO:

Could I then just perhaps add over and above what my hon Friend has said in relation to the question, yes there are a number of sources of information that is put before the Housing Allocation Committee which may emanate from the social workers in some cases, some reports may emanate from the Environmental Agency, sometimes even from the Health Authority depending on the case and the circumstances. So there will be quite a brief, not just in the information collected by the Housing Manager and the Housing Manager's staff but it would be quite substantive depending on the case placed before the Housing Allocation Committee, which goes to answer the question the hon Member wanted to know.

HON C A BRUZON:

Yes, but what worries me enormously is that the impression I get with two year's experience as Shadow Minister for Housing is that the people who actually make these discretionary decisions, and some of them I understand do this on a voluntary basis, all of them, the Housing Allocation Committee, the Medical Allocation Committee, the ones that have to make the decisions do not actually see for themselves the physical state in which these people live and they make decisions based on documentary evidence only and they do not get the chance to see people with the real problems face to face.

HON C BELTRAN:

The hon Member seems to be trying to give the impression if I read him correctly that it is only perhaps himself or Opposition Members who actually take the special interest that is required in going to each and every person on the housing list to find out for themselves what the exact situation is. He will of course accept that if one is the Housing Manager, the Housing Minister or the Housing Allocation Committee where there are many such cases, it is really a physical impossibility to go to all these and also continue with the work at the Ministry. I think that this Government have given ample proof of their social commitment to the elderly, to young people, to students, to youth, to any and every sector of the community and I have, I may be wrong in the impression I gather but if that is what the hon Member is trying to do, to portray a picture where only himself or Opposition Members take the interest in looking in depth at cases of housing then that is totally incorrect, I have to say.

HON F R PICARDO:

That is not answering the question, the question was very clear and the Minister has got up and given a party political broadcast and he has not answered the question. I assume from what he says that he is accepting that he and none of the members of the Committee actually visit the houses.

HON C BELTRAN:

The hon Member who has just stood on his feet is the first one to give political broadcasts from the Opposition benches, I think that I have answered the question.

HON F R PICARDO:

On a point of order, this is Question Time the Government are here to answer questions, we have been here before they are not here to criticise the Opposition they can make whatever partisan points they want we are not going to criticise that of course this is politics but they are here to answer questions and the question was very clear and what we got was a party political broadcast from the Minister. Can they please be directed to answer the questions, then we will not have this type of crossing of swords?

MR SPEAKER:

This is definitely Question Time and I have allowed this particular question to develop into a mini debate and I am quite happy to allow it to develop into a mini debate, because I do feel important issues as all issues debated in the House ought to be at a reasonable length and I must say I did take the view that the last answer by the Minister for Housing did tend to verge on a general defence of his party's approach to their responsibilities as opposed to specifically dealing with the specific point made by the Hon Mr Bruzon.

HON C BELTRAN:

I was just making a comment on the inference that seems to come, the implication perhaps of the tone of the question.

HON C A BRUZON:

May I just correct the Minister? I most definitely do not think that I am the only one who is concerned about housing matters. I hope I will never ever give the impression that I think that I am the only one that does great things because I think I am humble enough to recognise that I do not have that attitude.

NO. 661 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

The Buildings and Works software systems are currently being updated and therefore I can provide an estimated figure, which shows that 1,522 Government tenants are currently listed as requiring work to be done in their homes.

NO. 662 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. 663 of 2005.

NO. 663 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 663

Answer to Question 662

There are 33 applicants on the waiting list that are medically recommended as follows:

Α	11
В	8
С	14

Answer to Question 663

A *	6
Α	64
В	56
С	78

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 662 AND 663 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

I thank the Minister for the information. I notice that there are 11 applicants medically categorised 'A' in answer to Question No. 662 and that there are six applicants categorised 'A' with an asterisk and then there are 64 categorised 'A' without the asterisk, could he explain that please?

HON C BELTRAN:

I think that an explanation of the asterisk is required, I think that is really an administrative procedure just to show that those six are down for an immediate allocation.

HON C A BRUZON:

I trust that immediate means within the next few days.

HON C BELTRAN:

Immediate means as soon as a house is available that suits the requirements of that family. It is not always within a few days.

NO. 664 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 starting from December 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

A total of 17 pre-war flats have been allocated since 1st December 2004 to date.

NO. 665 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 No. 666 of 2005.

NO. 666 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

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

ANSWER TO QUESTION 666

Answer to Question 665

There are currently 476 applicants on the pre-list as follows:

1RKB	292
2 RKB	37
3 RKB	92
4 RKB	51
5 RKB	3
6 RKB	1

Answer to Question 666

There are currently 742 applicants on the waiting list as follows:

1RKB	407
2 RKB	50
3 RKB	195
4 RKB	77
5 RKB	11
6 RKB	2

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 665 AND 666 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

I have noticed that there is very little movement in the numbers, can the Minister explain why?

HON C BELTRAN:

The reason for as the hon Member describes very little movement is because it can be a combination of two factors mainly. One is that not enough flats have been given out as might be hoped for and also that new applicants come onto the list and hence that is why we get a fluctuation of figures.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can the Minister say how many people have moved from the pre-list to the main list since 1st August?

HON C BELTRAN:

I do not have that information before me, I would require notice to answer those details.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does he have any idea in terms of a ballpark figure, would it be in the 20's or in 10's or what?

HON C BELTRAN:

I do not have an idea, I do not have a clear figure on that.

NO. 667 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - NUMBER OF REPOSSESSED FLATS

Can Government state how many Government flats have been repossessed to date, in the financial year 2005/2006, giving a breakdown of pre-war and post-war?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

A total of eight flats have been repossessed to date as follows:

Post-war - 7 Pre-war - 1

NO. 668 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have received rent relief in each month of the current financial year to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos. 669 to 672 of 2005.

NO. 669 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have applied for rent relief in each month to date, in the current financial year 2005/2006, and how many of these were approved?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos. 668 and 670 to 672 of 2005.

NO. 670 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households were on full rent relief for each month in the current financial year 2005/2006 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos. 668, 669, 671 and 672 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 671 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have had the level of rent relief reduced to date, for every month in the current financial year 2005/2006?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Answered together with Question Nos. 668 to 670 and 672 of 2005.

NO. 672 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households on rent relief have had this benefit terminated for every month, to date, in the current financial year 2005/2006?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

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

Answer to Question 672

Answer to Question 668

The number of households that have received rent relief in each month in the current financial year to date is as follows:

April	_	738
May	-	738
June	_	731
July	-	724
August	-	725
September	-	709

Answer to Question 669

The number of households that have applied for rent relief in each month in the current financial year to date, and the number that were approved is as follows:

April	-	7	(6 approved)
May	-	15	(10 approved)
June	-	5	(4 approved)
July	-	6	(3 approved)
August	-	9	(8 approved)
September	-	10	(5 approved)

Answer to Question 670

The total number of households on full rent relief for each month in the current financial year to date is as follows:

April	-	107
May	-	103
June	-	101
July	_	94
August	-	92
September	-	90

Answer to Question 671

The number of households that have had the level of rent relief reduced for each month in the current financial year to date is as follows:

April	-	7.1
May	-	62
June	-	48
July	-	58
August	-	57
September	-	45
•		

Contd..

Cont Answer to Question 672

Answer to Question 672

The number of households on rent relief that have had this benefit terminated for each month in the current financial year to date is as follows:

April	-	12
May	-	18
June	-	14
July	-	9
August	-	20
September	-	22

NO. 673 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 each month of the current financial year to date, and what is the total of arrears covered by such agreements?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

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

Answer to Question 673

The following are the number of agreements entered into by tenants to pay arrears of rent in each month of the current financial year:

April	24	£73,679.41
May	21	£46,237.39
June	8	£21,230.05
July	11	£25,781.19
August	10	£28,916.18
September	6	£14,867.98

The total amount covered by such agreements is £210,712.20.

NO. 674 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Do Government accept that there are problems of anti-social behaviour in some Government estates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

Yes, part of the Housing policy reforms include Anti-Social Behaviour legislation.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 674 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

I know that this is a manifesto promise on the part of the GSD Government to introduce new legislation but can the Government confirm that this will happen soon?

HON C BELTRAN:

I think that in a previous question I answered that the new legislation would come in within the next 12 months.

NO. 675 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

BUILDING & WORKS DEPARTMENT

Can Government state what progress has been made in the discussions taking place with the Unions regarding the movement of the workforce of Buildings and Works Department into a proposed Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING

No such discussions are taking place at the moment.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 675 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Will they be resumed because last time I asked a similar question I was told that the discussions were on-going so do the Government propose to resume these discussions?

HON C BELTRAN:

The contacts that have already taken place before my time have been part of the process whereby Government would arrive finally at a decision as to whether to go down the road of the authority or not. Such a decision has not been taken yet.

ORAL

NO. 676 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GHA - AVIAN FLU

Can Government state how many units of the antiviral drug Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) have recently been ordered and what is the criteria that will be used to dispense the units in the event that a pandemic of avian flu should affect Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

A total of 7000 doses have been ordered. This is based on current World Health Organisation guidance but additional stocks may be procured if the advice changes. The GHA will operate a distribution criteria based on internationally agreed principles and as recommended by the WHO.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 676 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Will the Minister confirm that a unit will be enough to vaccinate one unit per member of population?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I think that is correct but the hon Member has his terminology wrong. This is not a vaccine, this is not an antibiotic it is an anti-viral drug because vaccines have not been developed at this stage and if a pandemic breaks out it will not be expected to be developed in time for us to acquire.

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister say whether any other measures have been taken in order to protect the population against avian flu?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

My responsibility is health not environment or public health as such so within the GHA the answer is no.

HON L A RANDALL:

I say this because I read only yesterday in the Spanish press that the EU has prohibited the import of birds and feathers from Turkey as a measure against protecting their population against avian flu and that there are other bans in respect of the importation of fresh meat. Does that apply to us? Obviously it applies to all Member States so it should apply to us as well.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

As I have just said as Minister for Health that is not part of my remit but as a previous Minister for the Environment I can tell the hon Member that any such prohibition that comes into force within the EU would be applicable to Gibraltar and would be brought into force on the advice of the Environmental Agency.

NO. 677 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GHA - E111 MEDICAL CARD

Can Government state the number of residents of Gibraltar that have been issued with the new version of the E111 Medical Card as at 30 September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

A total of 1940 European Health Insurance Cards have been issued as at 12th October, 2005. I would draw the attention of hon Members on both sides of the House that this answer differs from what the printed version that we will no doubt be distributed later by the Clerk of the House, this is because I have updated the figures to be valid as from yesterday, what is printed in the answer is at some date in September but these are the up to date figures.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 677 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister say what percentage of the total they expect to issue 1940 is?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I have not got a calculator at hand but I can tell him that we calculate the total number of cards to be equal to the population so it would be of the order of 30,000. We have issued 1940 but we have available already for issue a total of 9500 of which the applicants, remember people have to apply to give us the information and the applicants have been or are being advised that their cards are ready and are coming in for collection. I am advised, as of yesterday, that what was a trickle is now mounting and increasing numbers are coming in as the hon Member will see from the printed answer which differs considerably from the 30th September to 12th October, the figures have practically doubled.

NO. 678 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 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 of 2004/2005 & 2005/06?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 679 to 684 of 2005.

NO. 679 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 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 of 2004/05 & 2005/06 as a result of the 15 per cent addition to the cost of medicines?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 678 and 680 to 684 of 2005.

NO. 680 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 10, 11, 12, 13 of 2004/05, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 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

Answered together with Question Nos. 678 and 681 to 684 of 2005.

NO. 681 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 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 of 2004/05 & 2005/06 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. 678 to 680 and 682 to 684 of 2005.

NO. 682 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 which pay a total of £7.50 for the accounting periods 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 of 2004/2005 & 2005/06?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 678 to 681, 683 and 684 of 2005.

NO. 683 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PRESCRIPTION CHARGES

Can Government state how much extra revenue the Gibraltar Health Authority has raised for periods 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 of 2004/2005 & 2005/06 as a result of their having increased prescription charges from £1.20 to £2.50?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 678 to 682 and 684 of 2005.

NO. 684 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PAYMENTS TO PHARMACISTS

Can Government state how much has been paid to the pharmacists as dispensing fees for periods 10, 11, 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 of 2004/05 and 2005/06?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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

Answer to Question 684 of 2005

Answer to Question 678

	04/05	04/05	05/06	05/06	05/06
Period	12	13	1	2	3
Prescriptions	14399	13236	13360	14387	13572
Items	53069	47962	49017	53462	50637
Cost	£605,942.02	£519.320.62	£539,600.33	£562,288.79	£521,718.74

Answer to Question 679

	04/05	04/05	05/06	05/06	05/06
PERIOD	12	13	1	2	3
TENIOD	£79035.92	£67737.47	£70382.65	£73342.02	£68050.27

Answer to Question 680

2003/04				
PERIOD	10	11	12	13
PAID	£33061.80*	NIL	NIL	NIL

2004/05				
PERIOD	10	11	12	13
PAID	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

2005/06			
PERIOD	1	2	3
	£88230.60	£96231.60	£91146.60

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in respect of periods 4,5 and 6 of 2005/2006.

2004/05			
PERIOD	1	2	3
	£83190.60	£84326.40	£83327.40

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in respect of periods 4,5,6 of 2005/2006.

contd....

^{*} The figure of £33,061.80 differs to the answer given to Question 77 in the last House. Figures for these periods may be subject to change depending on submissions. The total figure will however not exceed £750,000 in any financial year.

Cont'd Answer to Question 684 of 2005

Answer to Question 681

	04/05	04/05	05/06	05/06	05/06
Period	12	13	1	2	3
Prescriptions	6414	6040	5826	6473	5915
Items	12337	11711	11347	12730	11519

Answer to Question 682

	04/05	04/05	05/06	05/06	05/06
Period	12	13	1	2	3
No. of items	4023	3867	3771	4398	4313

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in respect of periods 4,5,6 of 2005/2006.

Answer to Question 683

When the prescription charges were amended, the Government made all medicines free for all persioners and additionally, after charging only for the first three items on the prescriptions, supplies all further medicines completely free of charge.

It is not possible to calculate the extra revenue raised with any degree of accuracy but it is estimated to be £30,000 for periods 12 & 13 of 2004/2005 and periods 1,2, 3, of 2005/06.

Answer to Question 684

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in rspect of periods 4,5 and 6 of 2005/2006.

2004/2005				
Period	10	11	12	13_
Dispensing fees	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

2005/2006			
Period	1	2	3
Dispensing fees	£88,230.60	£96,231.60	£91,146.60

The foregoing is in respect of completed periods only. Some accounts are yet to be submitted in respect of periods 4,5,6 of 2005/2006.

NO. 685 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - KGV HOSPITAL

Can the Minister for Health now confirm whether he is satisfied that since 1998, after the review of the City Fire Brigade was carried out in relation to KGV Psychiatric Unit, the necessary installation of equipment for fire prevention, or the measures required for dealing with the onset of a fire have been adequate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 686 and 750 of 2005.

NO. 686 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - KGV HOSPITAL

Can the Minister for Health now confirm whether he is satisfied that the recommendations of the report that was carried out by the City Fire Brigade dated 19 November 1998 in relation to the KGV Psychiatric Unit were implemented?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 685 and 750 of 2005.

NO. 687 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PRIVATE PRACTICE

Can the Government confirm that in the event that new contracts for private practice are required for the medical and dental staff of the GHA, which entity have the Government appointed to draw them up?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 688, 723 and 724 of 2005.

NO. 688 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PRIVATE PRACTICE

Can Government confirm whether General Practitioners, Consultants or Dental Officers will need their contracts or their job descriptions changed in order for them to be able to carry out the new private practice arrangements, and if so, have any changes already taken place?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 687, 723 and 724 of 2005.

NO. 689 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CT SCAN

Can Government state, in view of the answer given by the Minister for Health in reply to Question No. 104 of 2005, whether a suitably experienced Radiologist has now been recruited so that the services of the CT Scan at St. Bernard's Hospital can be initiated?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 690, 691, 722, 725 to 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 690 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON

Can the Minister for Health confirm when did the second Orthopaedic Surgeon, which he said had been recruited during his budget contribution, start working for the Gibraltar Health Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689, 691, 722, 725 to 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 691 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CATERING DIRECTOR

Can Government confirm the salary of the post of Catering Director for the Gibraltar Health Authority, whether the post has been advertised and whether the incumbent of this post has been recruited from outside the Civil Service or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689, 690, 722, 725 to 728, 736, 764 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 692 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MEALS

Are Government aware that there are still many complaints being voiced by patients in St. Bernard's Hospital at Europort, that the quality of the meals being delivered to them in trays, from the kitchen, which is now situated in the old Wine Factory area, is poor and that they are still arriving cold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Government are aware of complaints that have been made by some patients.

Food is being served within the temperature parameters recommended by the European Union. However, there have been isolated instances where the temperature of the food has fallen outside these recommendations.

Weekly audits are conducted on the temperature and quality of the food being served. A nutritional link nurse has been nominated at ward level in order to ensure that the meals contain the nutritional content in keeping with the dietetic guidance.

Monthly nutritional meetings are held with the involvement of nursing, catering and dietetic staff to discuss the suitability, quantity and quality of menus.

NO. 693 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CAR PARKING

Can Government state how much they are paying Morrison's for the use of car parking facilities which are being used by users of St. Bernard's Hospital at Europort, and for what period of time have they entered into this agreement?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 694 of 2005.

NO. 694 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CAR PARKING

Can Government confirm when the car parking spaces, which they have acquired from the Developers of Euro Plaza, will be available for the public who need access to the Europort Hospital?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question No. 693

Government do not pay anything for the concession offered by Morrisons with regard to the use of the car parking facilities.

This is an open agreement with no time constraints. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Morrisons for providing this free car parking facility for hospital visitors and Outpatients.

Answer to Question No. 694

The car parking spaces acquired from the developers of Euro Plaza will be available once the project is completed.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 693 AND 694 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Have the developers informed the Government of the projected completion date?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

If they have I am not aware of that, they have certainly not informed me. I am told by my Colleague that the projected termination date of the project is May 2006.

NO. 695 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - WATER INGRESS

Can Government confirm whether all the necessary repairs have already been carried out in St. Bernard's Hospital at Europort, in order to avoid the incidents of water ingress which occurred in many areas of the hospital shortly after it opened?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 696 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 696 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - SHOWER SEATS

Can Government confirm that shower seats for the elderly or disabled at St. Bernard's Hospital in Europort have now been fixed to a proper masonry wall instead of to a plaster board wall as hitherto, which has brought about incidents whereby the plaster board wall has given way and the seats have broken off causing injuries to one patient and recently another incident has occurred involving yet another patient?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question No. 695

Government can confirm that the few isolated incidents of water ingress which occurred last year have been addressed. These were rectified by the Contractors under the defects liability period at no cost to the Government or to the Gibraltar Health Authority. However, water ingress has occurred as a result of the heavy rains earlier this week and this is also being addressed by the contractor under the defects liability period.

Answer to Question No. 696

There have been two incidents involving shower seats which had not been properly anchored during the construction period. Following the first incident and at GHA's request the contractor carried out a risk assessment of all shower seats and confirmed to GHA that all seats were safe for use. However and unfortunately a second incident did occur. Following this second incident the GHA insisted that all seat attachments be removed and a full survey of fixing methods that had been used to be carried out. The contractor has dismantled all fixings and has re-installed or is reinstalling, because it has not quite finished yet, every single seat with reinforced supporting structures. On completion the contractor will provide the GHA with full certification that all seats are now fixed to design specifications as per industry norms.

NO. 697 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - DIALYSIS TREATMENT

Can Government confirm whether all patients requiring dialysis treatment are being transported by St. John Ambulance to the Europort Hospital?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 732 of 2005.

NO. 698 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - RENTAL OF PRIVATE PROPERTIES

Now that the Government have confirmed that properties have been rented to employees of the Gibraltar Health Authority in Harbour Views, Montagu Gardens and Westview Park, where sub-letting is prohibited, have the Government already informed the GHA that they can no longer make available flats in these estates to their employees?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 699 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 699 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 latest figure for accommodation, under Sub-Head 22 in the Financial Year 2005/2006 of the Gibraltar Health Authority and up to which month does it relate to?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question 698

The Government and the GHA are still considering the appropriate way to deal with the situation that the hon Member has pointed out to the Government, but no final decision has yet been made.

Answer to Question 699

The latest expenditure to September 2005 for accommodation under Subhead 22 for the current financial year is £300,393.93.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 698 AND 699 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

If memory serves me right, not at the last Question Time in the House but at the one before then I think just before Christmas in December, I think the whole House at the time alighted upon the fact that certain individuals in the GHA had made available to them properties in Estates where the lease does not allow sub-letting. It is now ten months since then, when does the Minister think that the consideration that they are applying their minds to in this respect are going to be final so that we know what is going to happen with those properties in the future?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I would not like to put a date to it, there is not a cut-off date or a guillotine on this it is a matter where we had preliminary discussions well before the summer, they were due to be resumed in July and they were not because the agenda of the meeting that took place had to be cut short, truncated, and they were due to resume in September where again the same thing happened and they are due to resume when the twice postponed or truncated meeting takes place, which should be some time between now and December. I cannot really put a date to it.

HON F R PICARDO:

Would the Minister not agree that this is an issue that is (a) serious; and (b) needs to be resolved quickly because there is a breach here of the Government's own lease as head lessor, by the under-lessee who is allowing sub-letting of their property at Harbour Views or Montagu Gardens. I note that the hon Gentleman is the Head of the GHA but is also a Minister of the Government, both as Government head lessor and as under sub-lettee in his guise as the Minister for GHA is he not concerned that this issue is serious and needs to be resolved quickly?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I do not agree that the issue is serious in the sense of it being well shaken or that it needs to be resolved quickly. In fact, if one thinks about it the opposite could be said to be the case. Here we have a situation where the Government own or have owned, because it has been identified that all the flats that are currently being let are 100 per cent owned by the current owner, that of course does not affect the terms of the lease but the situation that the Government are considering is that if the leasings or the rentings stop, effectively it will mean greater expense for the GHA and therefore for the Government, because the pool of properties that are available to the GHA to rent, one must remember that the properties are rented by the GHA and not by the individual and then subsidised, they are rented by the GHA and part-paid by the GHA and the individual pays another part of the rent, so therefore what the Government are seeking to do is to weigh up the situation to see whether there is an advantage to the Government to make a change to the legal situation, if there is a financial advantage to the Government or if there is not. By curtailing the number of properties available, as the implications of the question would seek to do, the rental market in itself shrinks and therefore the rental values rise.

HON F R PICARDO:

The rental market has shrunk already. From the moment that those leases were created those houses were not available to be sub-let in the way that the GHA is now sub-letting them. Now, before I go down that route can I simply ask the Minister, does he as a Government Minister, as a representative of the head lessor, now accept that that clause in that head lease is not being enforced or is not enforceable?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The clause is a matter, as I have said before in this House, for the management company or the owners and the owner of the property, not for the Government to enforce or not to enforce.

HON F R PICARDO:

With the greatest of respect to the hon Gentleman, it is a head lease matter which does not forward in the purview of the management company. It is a head lease matter, these properties could not be sub-let. Now, there are many people who are having difficulties in that Estate because they cannot sub-let their properties or because they are wanting to sell to individuals themselves, they want to sell to individuals although they own 100 per cent of the properties, who are not designated individuals. In other words, they are not Gibraltarians, they want to sell to people who are UK nationals, some of whom are married to Gibraltarian nationals. That also is a condition of the head lease. It seems that the Minister is saying, 'well we are not going to apply the covenant against sub-letting because it is applies to us but we will apply it to everybody else as head lessor'. Does the Minister now accept that this actually betray a manifest unfairness in the way that the Government as landlord are implementing the terms of the head lease?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The Government accept nothing of the kind. The red herring which the hon Member seeks to introduce on the question of selling, I will not take up because that is irrelevant to the question on the Order Paper. The issue, as I have said in my answer, the Government are considering the situation and will seek to make decisions based on the situation and will seek to make those decisions in the interests of Gibraltar and in the interests of the taxpayer. I would add that those decisions have not yet been made so there is nothing more I can add.

HON F R PICARDO:

Will those decisions deal with the implementation or the enforcement by the Government, qua-Government and not qua-GHA, of all the negative covenants in that head lease, or simply the ones that deal with the issue of sub-letting which seems to be in the interests of the GHA?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I would be better placed to answer that question after the considerations have finished and the decisions have been made.

HON J J BOSSANO:

How long have the Government been aware that the GHA was in fact renting properties which the Government do not allow other people to rent?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I think it is probably fair to say since the matter was raised in this House. I certainly was not aware of it before that so I cannot answer for Government collectively on this, but I certainly as Minister was not aware until it was raised in this House.

HON J J BOSSANO:

When the Government found out and they were not very clear what the situation was, did they go back and find out how long this had been going on for?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is part of the consideration of the situation as it arises.

HON J J BOSSANO:

If something is known to be in breach of the law which the Government enforce against other citizens, on the premise that these properties have been built for home ownership, it was not permissible is it not the case to buy any of these homes to rent? So if that was the policy of the Government that these houses were only available for home ownership, owner/occupier and not for renting, then having discovered that a Government agency was in fact acting in breach of the legal requirements reflecting Government policy what is it that they have to decide? By condoning the continuation of this are they not deciding that the GHA can dispense with this requirement but it continues to be in force for everybody else?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

For a start, and bowing to the others that have got more experience in legal matters than I have, I do not accept that this is an illegality. This is a question of interpretation of the head lease and the sub-lease and if anybody is in breach it is the owner of the property who is sub-letting in breach of the terms of a sub-lease, not the Government or the GHA. Secondly, part of the issues that are being considered is whether the terms of that restriction continues to be unfair in terms that the owner who is sub-letting is now 100 per cent owner. There are two situations with a view of making possible changes. It is a different situation with an owner who is a 50/50 owner still who would be renting and deriving income from a property that is partly owned by the Government. The situation is obviously different as is the case in all the properties that have been rented by GHA, all those properties are 100 per cent owned by the present owner. Therefore, that is an argument whether the same restrictions should apply but I do not want to pre-empt the issue. As I said at the beginning, the situation is being considered as a whole with a view of either maintaining the status quo or making changes to adjust to make the status quo come within the terms or to prevent the new restrictions that are coming to taking place.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it the policy of the Government that the new properties that are being developed for sale, the so-called affordable housing, should have these restrictions to people who buy them?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is not a valid question to the Minister for Health.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am asking the Government not the Minister. Given the fact that the Minister is in fact defending the position as the person that is renting from the Government.......

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Point of order, point of fact. The Minister is not defending the position, the Minister is saying that the position is under study, under review and under consideration and then he will defend the decision that is made. He has not defended anything yet.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Minister is defending the position that something they discovered was happening without the knowledge of the policy-makers has been continued notwithstanding the fact that it was not a policy decision in the first place to do this, on the basis that they still cannot make up their minds because they reckon it would cost them more money if they prohibited this. That seems to be the explanation we have been given. The balance is whether if we say one cannot rent for contract officers property in home ownership estates, which were intended for owner/occupiers, then one would have to rent in the open market and therefore the Health Authority would finish up paying more money. So the Health Authority as a health authority has got an interest in keeping its budget under control and that is the position and I can understand it if the Health Authority was a private entity. But of course, my question is that this is not an accident, is it not the case that the policy of the Government from the very first moment that home ownership was launched in our time, and presumably I am asking if it is still the policy of the Government, was that they were offering property for people to buy and occupy themselves not for people to invest in as a business. If we are saying that some people can buy 100 per cent of properties that have got the price fixed and then go out into the market and rent them, then presumably the other investors will argue that this is not a level playing field because they have to pay the full open market price. I am asking the Government, whoever is responsible I think it is the Hon Clive Beltran who is now driving the houses, as I remember the wording of the last press release, in his driving seat in his new housing scheme can he tell the House whether there has been any change in the policy that the people who buy the new houses will not be allowed to rent them?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Before my Colleague answers or not answers that, it is entirely up to him, let me reiterate what I said before. I am not defending any position, what I have told Opposition Members is a statement of facts. I have been asked what the situation is and I have told him what the situation is. He has asked me on what basis the Government are considering changes and I have just put on the table as it were in this House a number of factors which I neither necessarily agree with or disagree with. A number of factors that need to be taken into account before coming to a decision and I reiterate that the position of the Government in relation to this particular issue, not the wider issue of housing in general, but in relation to this particular issue of the GHA renting properties where the owner of the property is in contravention of the terms of the sub-lease, that is what the Government are studying to see whether that needs to be changed or not needs to be changed. At the end of the day, and I am speaking from memory now, at the end of the day I think we are

talking about something between three and five houses, it is not a large number. This is an issue of principle, I am not saying anything to the contrary but there are also contracts in force and there also is an issue of rehousing as well. Again, I am not defending the position, I am just stating that there are a number of issues that need to be taken into account and this is what is happening and this is the discussion that has taken place and is still to take place before a final decision is made.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I do not know whether the Minister is going to volunteer the information to the question that I asked whether there has been any policy change on the part of the Government as to whether the new houses will have a requirement that those who purchase have to occupy them, or whether they will be permitted to rent?

HON C BELTRAN:

I do not know, there is no policy change in the 1,500 houses that we intend to build over the next two years.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So the 1,500 may not be rented unless the Health Authority rents them surreptitiously, is that it?

HON C BELTRAN:

I said there is no change in policy.

HON F R PICARDO:

Finally coming back to the issue of the original question, does the Minister for Health accept that in fact the ten month delay in dealing with this issue is really giving rise to legitimate expectation in anyone who is listening to this debate who owns 100 per cent of their property in any of these estates that they can now start to rent the houses freely?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

First I do not think it is a ten month delay, if I am not mistaken this was raised in April for the first time.

HON F R PICARDO:

No, it was first identified in December and we came back to the issue in April when the hon Gentleman said that consultation on what was going to happen was starting, so it is now October, it is ten months since this issue was first aired in the House.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I think if I am not mistaken the matter was first addressed in spring of this year but I would need to check that. I do not think that anybody who is listening to this should jump to any of the expectations that the Opposition Member is suggesting that they should jump to. Anybody listening should listen to what I have said and that is if there is an existing situation, that any home owner in any of these developments is prevented from sub-letting according to the terms of his sub-lease, that is still the situation, that the Government are studying that situation and until such time as that review or that study has finished I will not be able to announce what the situation is. No one should jump to any conclusions, either of increased expectations or decreased expectations or any other kind of expectations.

HON F R PICARDO:

No, in fact those are not the facts of what the Minister has said and for his own peace of mind, this was raised in Question No. 132 of 2005 in spring, in April, because it had already been dealt with in an earlier House and there was a follow-up question in April. What he is in fact telling listeners is that the Government discovered over ten months ago that they were renting houses from individuals sub-letting in estates where the head lease did not allow that sub-letting to occur, and that for ten months they have done absolutely nothing about it. Does the Minister not agree with me that that is the message that they are sending out? That when the Government discover breaches of this sort they will do absolutely nothing about them. In any event, especially given that he has told this House, that there is no long stop date for determining this and they are really more determined about how much it is going to cost the GHA to obtain new properties not the principle at stake of people being in breach of the head lease. Is that not the message that people will take from this debate and act accordingly? Hopefully with the benefit of legal advice.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Subject to Hansard proving me wrong, I say again this matter was mentioned in passing in October or November as on the periphery or on the back of another question, but it was not a specific question. It was only identified in April of this year, not ten months ago. It was mentioned, I am speaking from memory subject to correction by Hansard, it was mentioned in passing in November, it certainly was not identified in November, that is point number one. Point number two, I say again and I believe it is the third time and I am not going to say it again, that is the situation, no one should jump to any conclusions, the Government are giving it due consideration and will make decisions as and when they are ready to make those decisions.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Minister mentioned, as if that was something that had weight when looking at these things, that four or five properties are all now 100 per cent owned. Can he say whether they were all 100 per cent owned at the time when they were first rented?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No, I cannot say one way or the other because I would need notice of that question. I can certainly say that at the time that the question was first asked in April of this year, they were 100 per cent owned. I have no idea for how long they have been rented.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Government must be conscious of the fact that when they sold the 50 per cent to home owners very recently in 2004 at a very reduced price it was on the basis that they were helping people who were owner/occupiers and might have difficulty in meeting, as it were, the full price originally stipulated of 7 per cent per annum. So presumably that is a matter that ought to be taken into consideration as well, at what price the other 50 per cent was bought and when.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

As I have said, the Government are taking all the factors into consideration before they make a decision.

HON F R PICARDO:

Just by way of clarification, in his answer and I direct the Minister to it just for the next time, in page 177 of the last Hansard it is very clear that we identified this in December, that we had a debate about it in December, there was correspondence between him and the hon Member long before April, that we dealt with the issue in April and that the Government accepted then that the GHA had been renting in breach of the lease, because at least in the Chief Minister's words, it had not been taking care to check the underleases. So just to get our time frame right for the next time.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is correct, I remember the correspondence subsequent to October, in which correspondence GHA did not accept that it was in breach and did not accept that it had any action to take at that moment in time. Subsequently, since April, it has become a wider Government issue. Up to April it was a GHA issue.

NO. 700 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 September 2005, which is included in Sub-head 30, School of Health Studies of the Gibraltar Health Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The total expenditure for study leave up to the end of September 2005 is £81,617.22.

NO. 701 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Can Government confirm the total number of patients who are presently occupying a bed at St. Bernard's Hospital giving a breakdown by sex and age and in which ward or unit they are in?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 702, 703, 704, 749 and 751 of 2005.

NO. 702 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF BEDS

Can Government confirm the total number of beds which there are at St Bernard's Hospital at Europort, also giving a breakdown of how many there are in each ward or unit?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 701, 703, 704, 749 and 751 of 2005.

NO. 703 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF BEDS

Can Government state during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September of 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;
- 3) Others able to be looked after?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 701, 702, 704, 749 and 751 of 2005.

NO. 704 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 April, May, June, July, August and September 2005, giving a breakdown by sex and age?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 701, 702, 703, 749 and 751 of 2005.

NO. 705 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - COMPLAINTS CO-ORDINATOR

In view of the answer given in reply to Question 118 of 2005, that for pay purposes the Complaints Co-ordinator is analogued to the Higher Executive Officer pay scale and the salary is £26,248 per annum, can the Government confirm whether this post forms part of the GHA complement and is it on a contract basis or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 706 to 708 of 2005.

NO. 706 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - COMPLAINTS CO-ORDINATOR

Can the Government confirm how many complaints have been dealt with by the Complaints Co-ordinator to date, which have not been passed on officially to the Independent Review Panel?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 705, 707 and 708 of 2005.

NO. 707 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 since it started to function at the end of September 2005, from users of the Health Services, specifying the date of each complaint?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 705, 706 and 708 of 2005.

NO. 708 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 often the members of the new Independent Complaints Review Panel have now met to consider complaints from users of our Health Services?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question 705

I can confirm that the post of Complaints Coordinator forms part of the GHA complement. The post holder is engaged on a contract basis.

Answer to Question 706

A total of 90 formal complaints have been dealt with by the Complaints Coordinator to the complainants' satisfaction and have therefore not been referred by the complainants to Independent Review. During that same period when 90 complaints were formulated, 263 commendations from patients in the form of letters, cards, newspapers, advertisements and tokens such as flowers and chocolates have been received.

Answer to Question 707

A total of four complaints have been referred to Independent Review by complainants. The office of the Ombudsman gave notice to GHA on the following dates:-

- 1. 7th January 2005;
- 10th May 2005;
 13th May 2005;
- 4. 17th June 2005

Answer to Question 708

As the hon Member already knows from the answer given in this House to Question No. 120 of 2005 the Independent Review Panels are not obliged to inform the Government on how often they meet.

NO. 709 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - LEGAL CLAIMS

Can the Government confirm how many legal claims the Gibraltar Health Authority has received pertaining to the years, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and up to April 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 710 and 711 of 2005.

NO. 710 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - LEGAL CLAIMS

Can the Government confirm how much has been spent in meeting legal claims made against the Gibraltar Health Authority pertaining to the years, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and up to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 709 and 711 of 2005.

NO. 711 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GHA – ANNUAL INSURANCE PREMIUM

Can Government state what was the level of the annual insurance premium paid to cover medical professionals against claims for malpractice for the years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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

Answer to Question 711 of 2005

Answer to Question 709

The medical malpractice claims for the financial years commencing April 2000 are as follows:-

2000/01	25
2001/02	14
2002/03	32
2003/04	14
2004/05	13

Answer to Question 710

The quantum paid in respect of legal clams is as follows:-

2000/01	£296,835.25
2001/02	£16,267.31
2002/03	£2,296,687.75
2003/04	£56,554.09
2004/05	£26,421.40
April to	£42,437.07
September 2005	
Total	£2,735,202.87

^{*} Note: Payments made within a financial year may not relate claims made in that particular year.

Answer to Question 711

The premia paid to cover the all GHA staff and including the Hospice at Home against claims is:-

Financial Year	Amount
2002/03	£601,711.40
2003/04	£742,588.00
2004/05	£742,588.00
2005/06	£695,090.00
Total	£2,781,977.40

NO. 712 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CAFETERIA

Can Government confirm if any seats will be earmarked at the Cafeteria of St Bernard's Hospital for the Medical and Nursing staff?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 713 of 2005.

NO. 713 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CAFETERIA

Can Government confirm that in the event that seats at St Bernard's Hospital's cafeteria will be earmarked for the Medical and Nursing staff and, if so, how many?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Government can confirm that an area has been identified for use by the GHA staff, and not only by the Medical and Nursing staff. This area will be used exclusively by staff members once an on-going exercise on capacity in relation to demand is concluded.

NO. 714 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CANCER REGISTER

Can the Government state whether they are carrying out an exercise to determine the incidence of cancer in Gibraltar to establish whether or not this is on the increase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The Government established the Cancer Registry in 1999, which continues to collect data on cancers. The Registry will shortly commence a quality audit in line with international guidelines and is expected to complete this next year, after that it is planned to produce a report on the incidence of cancers.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 714 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Is the Minister in a position to say whether since 1999 the incidences reported have been on the increase?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I have been warned against drawing conclusions from the figures that I have seen because firstly, the quality audit has not been established that those figures are a correct basis for the data. Secondly, because trends should not be established in this instance on data covering under five years, that is the advice that I have. All that being said and with those caveats, the indications prior to the audit are that the graph is steady and not either going up or down.

NO. 715 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Can the Government confirm how much is the expected total expenditure in respect of the payments they are making to the NHS Modern Agency, in respect of the Health Care Development Team Programme they have commissioned for our Health Services?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 716, 717, 718, 719, 721, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 716 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Can Government now confirm how much they expect will be the final total expenditure they will pay to the NHS Modernisation Agency, in respect of the Health Care Development Programme they have commissioned for our Health Services?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 717, 718, 719, 721, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 717 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Can the Government confirm whether they intend to make public the reports of the Health Care Development Team in relation to all its recommendations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 718, 719, 721, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 718 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CLINICAL REPORT

Can Government confirm whether they have now received the clinical report on laboratory services, and if so, have they accepted its recommendations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 719, 721, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 719 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CLINICAL REPORT

Can Government confirm whether they have now received the report from the Health Care Development Team on clinical services with regard to the KGV Psychiatric Unit?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 718, 721, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 720 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE

Can the Government now confirm in view of the replies given by the Minister for Health, in answer to Questions 826 of 2004, 1589 of 2004, 2217 of 2004, and 123 of 2005, whether they intend to provide extra resources within the district community service as recommended by the Health Care Development Team?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

In Question No. 826 of 2004 the hon Member (meaning the Opposition Member responsible for Health Matters) asked the Government "to verify whether the District Community Services are under resourced…"

In Question No. 1589 of 2004 she again asked the Government to confirm if they agreed with:-

"the comments made by the Health Care Development Team in their report of September 2003 that District Community Services are under resourced..."

In Question No. 2217 of 2004 the hon Member asked whether Government intended "to improve resources within the District Community Services".

In Question No. 123 of 2005 she invented new grounds on which to base the question by changing the word "comments" used in Question No. 1589 of 2004 into recommendations and asked whether Government intended:

"...to improve resources within the District Community Services as recommended by the Health Care Development Team..."

Today, the hon Member has repeated practically word for word Question 123 of 2005, which incidentally was asked less than six months ago. Well, I would also repeat the answer I gave in April to Question No. 123 of 2005 and that I have given in answer to questions on previous subjects, that the situation remains the same as given in answer to all these previous questions.

No such recommendations, originally called comments and then changed to recommendations, have been made by the Health Care Development Team. Comments which they made in the September 2003 Diagnostic Report are exactly

that "comments" and not recommendations and as such the Government do not have to agree or disagree with them.

It is Government policy to improve all services to the public whenever and wherever possible. Whether this requires an improvement in resources in any particular service is a matter for the Government to consider as part of the many and varied changes that are already taking place within the Health Service.

In the meantime, the Opposition Members should be congratulating the Government for these many changes and improvements to the Health Service. They should stop wasting the time of this House by repeatedly asking this and similar questions at consecutive meetings totally ignoring the answers that are given and not taking them into account when redrafting and asking the same question again.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 720 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Would the Minister not agree with me that in fact it is not true to say that the same question has been asked twice within six months because the wording of Question No. 720 must be completely new, and it must be completely new because it includes the words "and Question No. 123 of 2005" which is the one that is allegedly being repeated. This question says 'can the Government now confirm in view of the replies given by the Minister for Health in answer to Question Nos. 826 of 2004, No. 1589 of 2004, No. 2217 of 2004 and No. 123 of 2005 whether they intend to provide extra resources within the District Community Services recommended by the Health Care Development Team?". Therefore, that question cannot be a repetition as has been suggested by the Minister of the earlier one because it actually mentions the earlier one.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Whether a question is a repetition or not a repetition is entirely the prerogative of the Speaker and far be it for me to judge whether it is or whether it is not. What I have said and I will say again what I read in my answer, 'the hon Member has repeated practically word for word Question No. 123" and although accepting that it has the added four or five words, the spirit of the question is exactly the same and on that I will say no more, it is entirely Mr Speaker's prerogative to make rulings of this nature.

HON F R PICARDO:

On the basis that I take that answer to be a withdrawal of the allegation I am happy to leave it at that.

MR SPEAKER:

I do not see that as a withdrawal because I was reading the answer as the Minister read it out and the word there is repeated practically and that is all that he has reiterated.

HON F R PICARDO:

He used the word, it is a repetition. As Hansard will show he said that it had been repeated within six months, that is a Parliamentary term of art for a question that should have not been put because it has been asked before within the six month period, and that has to be an identical question which this one, in her absence I am happy to say, is not.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Hansard will show that what I said is what is written on this piece of paper which the hon Member will get a copy of within a matter of hours which says, "today, the hon Member has repeated practically word for word Question No. 123 of 2005". That is what I said.

HON F R PICARDO:

No, the hon Gentleman also said something about it being within six months which is about the rule that one cannot put the same identical question within six months. If he is happy to withdraw that then that is fine.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I am withdrawing nothing of the kind, I said what I have just read and I ended the sentence with the words "which incidentally she asked less than six months ago". That statement is 100 per cent accurate, I do not withdraw it, I stick to it and it is what I said and what I will repeat again if it needles me further.

MR SPEAKER:

The fact that I allowed the question perhaps inadvertently, goes to show that I did not take the view that it is repeating the question verbatim.

HON F R PICARDO:

I do not think there are any grounds for not accepting this question but having accepted what the hon Gentleman said in the substance of his reply, are the Government going to provide extra resources within District Community Services as might be necessary to comply with any comments which may have been made by the Health Care Development Team?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I do not want to go through this again, I have answered this question time and time again. There are no recommendations, there were comments about resources in Community Services, the Government are constantly reviewing their level of resources and if and when the Government judge that the Community Services need to be resourced further, they will be resourced. At this moment in time, as has been the case over the last year and a half that I have been answering the same question,

not always within six months, the Government have to date not made any substantial changes. They may have made minor changes but have not made any substantial changes in Community Services within the GHA. If a need is identified then a change will be made. So far no such need has been identified and therefore they will not be made on the basis of comments that were made in September 2003.

HON F R PICARDO:

That is the answer?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Yes, and I have been saying that for the last year and a half.

NO. 721 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PAIN CLINIC

Have Government now received the clinical services review regarding the staff composition of the Pain Clinic, and if so, can they confirm whether they have accepted the recommendations contained therein?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 761, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 722 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - EXECUTIVE TEAM

Can the Minister for Health confirm which posts have been earmarked as Administrative Support for the new Executive Team of the Gibraltar Health Authority and whether any new posts for the team have been created?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 725 to 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 723 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

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

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 687, 688 and 724 of 2005.

NO. 724 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Can Government state for how long they have renewed the contracts which were due to expire in January 2005, for five Medical Practitioners, and in which department of the GHA do they work?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question Nos. 687 and 688

Private practice ceased within GHA as from 1st December 2004. Therefore any discussion in respect of contracts relating to private practice is inappropriate.

Answer to Question No. 723

Discussions on a number of issues are taking place with the General Practitioners. Matters related to job descriptions form part of these discussions.

Answer to Question No. 724

Of the five Medical Practitioners whose contracts were due to expire in January 2005, three had their contracts extended to June, 2006 and two had their contracts extended to June, 2007.

All of these Practitioners are based at the Primary Care Centre.

NO. 725 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NEW POSTS

Can Government list the officers that have been employed on temporary and non-pensionable terms in the Gibraltar Health Authority since 24th April, 2002, giving the grade, date of entry and length of contract and whether their contracts have been with the Government or with the Gibraltar Health Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722 and 726 to 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 726 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - TEMPORARY NON-PENSIONABLE OFFICERS

Can Government state of the officers employed in the GHA as at 24th April 2002, listed in answer to Question No. 571 of 2002, which officers have since left the service and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722 and 725, 727, 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 727 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - TEMPORARY NON-PENSIONABLE OFFICERS

Can Government state of the officers employed in the GHA as at 24th April 2002, listed in answer to Question No. 571 of 2002, which officers have since been made permanent and pensionable, if any, and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722, 725, 726, 728, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 728 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CONTRACT OFFICERS

Can Government confirm whether all the officers in the employment of the Gibraltar Health Authority on non-pensionable terms, as at the 24th April 2002, had Contracts of Employment with the Government, as Crown Civil Servants, and if not, list those who had contracts with the Gibraltar Health Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722, 725, 726, 727, 736, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 729 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MRSA INFECTION

Since the reply given to Question 102 of 2005, can the Government confirm whether there have been any new cases of MRSA infection affecting patients within St. Bernard's Hospital or affecting those who have been treated in health facilities abroad?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question No. 730 of 2005.

NO. 730 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MRSA INFECTION

Can the Government state the names of the Health facilities abroad, in which patients who have returned to Gibraltar with MRSA Infections, were treated in?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question 729

Between January and September 2005, 17 cases of MRSA were detected in St Bernard's Hospital, of which 7 cases were imported.

Answer to Question 730

The Government do not consider that it is in Gibraltar's best interest to discuss the identities of these facilities publicly. However, I am prepared to provide the information to the hon Member on a confidential basis.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 729 AND 730 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I just ask, I do not want to press the Minister, I think it is very clear that our attitude is that if the Government take the view that something is not in Gibraltar's interest we do not press them, but can I just ask him why it might not be in Gibraltar's interest, what thinking there is behind that? I am not pressing him for the answer, just for the logic behind why it might not be in Gibraltar's interest.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I will give that information privately to the hon Member because by giving the reason I might as well divulge the initial information.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Mr Speaker, with your leave, when answering Question Nos. 729 and 730 in respect to MRSA I think the wording of the question may have given Members the wrong impression and I would like to correct that wrong impression for the sake of accuracy and for the sake of the record. My answer was that between January and September 2005, 17 cases of MRSA were detected. The key word is 'detected' here. Were detected in St Bernard's Hospital of which seven cases were imported. Although it is correct that there were 17 cases, the answer gives the impression that seven cases were imported of the 17 (end of tape) acquired in St Bernard's Hospital. This is bad drafting and unfortunately the drafter of the question took the word 'detected' in a broader sense to include the laboratory. So the correct answer is that 17 cases were detected, of which seven were imported, as given, five were acquired in St Bernard's Hospital, three were intrinsic cases, that is people who are carriers of the bug and have it in them when they arrive at the hospital, and another two are what were classified as undetermined. In other words, also that they had the bug before they arrived but it is not know from where it came from. So they were not imported but they were not hospital acquired. So to say again, of the 17 cases seven were imported, five were hospital acquired, three were intrinsic cases and two were from undetermined causes. My apologies to the House if I inadvertently misled anything.

HON F R PICARDO:

Now that the Minister has clarified that perhaps we are in a position to ask him that given that the previous statistic provided by the GHA is that in the year between 1996 and 2004 there had been 18 cases detected, is it a cause of concern for the Government that in barely ten months of this year we have already had five homegrown acquired MRSA detections in obviously the new hospital, and what are the Government doing in that respect?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Actually the figure for this year is lower than it was for last year. Also, as a percentage of the population it is markedly lower than what one would expect in similar hospitals in UK and Spain, which are the two countries to which we send patients. Having said that, GHA is not complacent on this matter and there are active measures being taken on a continuing basis, and both Opposition Members and members of the public who have been visitors to the hospital recently, will have seen that we are introducing new alcohol based cleaners at the entrance to wards so that not just staff but all visitors entering and leaving wards are asked to cleanse their hands, there is a continuing monitoring process on cleansing and it is a topic that I assure Opposition Members we are very conscious of and very much trying to stay on top of it.

HON F R PICARDO:

I appreciate that, but in answer to Question No. 102 of 2005 the statistic given was 18 patients treated for MRSA acquired within St Bernard's for the period since 1996. We are talking about the period there of eight years. Now, 18 in eight years does not compare favourably to five in ten months. The Minister tells us that the figure of five in these ten months is actually lower than the figure for last year. Can he tell us of those 18, between 1996 and 2004, how many related to 2004?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Yes, as the hon Member well knows, MRSA is a developing phenomenon. I do not have the figures in front of me, I am afraid, but I can tell him that the figure for last year was six, speaking from memory. I cannot give the breakdown for previous years but I know it has been a slightly increasing trend throughout the years. We would seem to be on the same level as we speak. As I say, the key statistic is not so much the six and the five but compared with heads of population I am advised that we are still markedly lower than similar hospitals in other countries to which we send patients.

HON F R PICARDO:

In his first answer to my supplementary the Minister said that those who had visited the hospital will have known or will have seen what it is that the Government have done. I do not mean to sound flippant when I say that I consider myself lucky not to have had to visit the new hospital, not from a professional, political point of view but from a health point of view, and as I have not been there I am sure there are many others who have not. Could he give us an indication of what it actually is that happens now in relation to the prevention of MRSA infection?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Well, one of the known ways in which MRSA is contracted is through people touching and then depositing somewhere else. So people are being asked to cleanse their hands, I think it is with a petroleum-based jelly, not with soap and water but at the entrance to the ward there are dispensers placed in which people come and throw it into their hands and clean their hands.

HON F R PICARDO:

The answer to Question No. 102 also revealed that in one of those 18 cases, MRSA had contributed or had been found to be a contributing factor in the cause of death. Of the 17 cases detected this year, not all of which are home-grown, and of the five can the Minister tell us whether MRSA has been a contributing factor to the cause of death, or is that not information which he has available today?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I would need notice of that question, that information was not provided to me. I am not aware that any deaths have been caused, much less that MRSA has been a contributing factor. I would need notice of that question.

NO. 731 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF NURSES

Can the Government confirm what is the present distribution of nurses by wards and departments at St Bernard's Hospital, Europort, specifying their grades?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 733, 734,, 735, 737, 738, 759, 767 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 732 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - DIALYSIS TREATMENT

Can the Government confirm whether they are already making arrangements for our nursing staff to train in providing the required Dialysis treatment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question 697

Yes Sir, all patients who are currently receiving Dialysis treatment have been assessed and it has been established that they all require the transportation services provided by St John Ambulance.

Answer to Question 732

As part of GHA's policy on on-going training, a Staff Nurse has been attached to the dialysis unit to acquire and develop the skills and knowledge required. This is the second nurse to have been given the opportunity to obtain the relevant experience.

NO. 733 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - ENROLLED NURSES

Can Government confirm how many Enrolled Nurses have applied for first level training up to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 734, 735, 737, 738, 759, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 734 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CONTRACT NURSES

Can the Government confirm how many contract nurses are employed by the Gibraltar Health Authority, at the end of September 2005, listing the speciality in which they are employed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 735, 737, 738, 759, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 735 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - CONTRACT NURSES

In view of the answer given to Question 115 of 2005, can Government confirm whether it is also the policy of the GHA to review the performance of the nursing staff who are on contract before their contracts can be renewed, and, if so, whether this is done by external assessors, as is the case with all other officers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 734, 737, 738, 759, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 736 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NEW POSTS

In view of the answer given by the Government in reply to Questions 109, 116 & 117 of 2005, can they now confirm whether the staff being recruited or arriving in May, have now occupied their posts?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722, 725 to 728, 764 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 737 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF NURSES

Can Government confirm how many nurses there are in post as at the end of August 2005, giving a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 734, 735, 738, 759, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 738 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF NURSES

Can Government state the number of non-Gibraltarian nurses in service with the Gibraltar Health Authority on the 30 September 2004 and 30 September 2005, providing a breakdown by nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 734, 735, 737, 759, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 739 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - MALAGA CLINIC

Can the Minister for Health state now much money was spent by the Gibraltar Health Authority with regard to patients being sent to the Malaga Clinic for scans in April, May, June, July, August and September of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 740 to 744 of 2005.

NO. 740 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - ALGECIRAS CLINIC

Can Government confirm how much has the Gibraltar Health Authority spent to date in sending patients to the Algeciras clinic for scans during the Financial Year 2005/2006 with the comparable figures for the same period last year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 739 and 741 to 744 of 2005.

NO. 741 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PATIENT REFERRALS TO SPAIN

Can Government state how many patients have been given a choice of being treated in Spain as opposed to the UK, as sponsored patients, and have elected to go to Spain during the months of April, May, June, July, August & September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 739, 740 and 742 to 744 of 2005.

NO. 742 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PATIENT REFERRALS TO UK

Can the Government state from April to September 2005, what has been the number of patient referrals to the UK and at what cost, together with the comparable figures for the previous year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 739, 740, 741 and 743 to 744 of 2005.

NO. 743 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - SPONSORED PATIENTS

Can the Government state from April to September 2005 what has been the number of sponsored patients treated in the UK and at what cost, together with the comparable figures for the previous year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 739 to 742 and 744 of 2005.

NO. 744 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - PATIENT REFERRALS TO UK

Can the Government state whether the figure of £2,658,028 in respect of the number of patient referrals to the UK during the Financial Year 2004/05 has changed since the answer given in reply to Question 93 of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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

Answer to Question 744 of 2005

Answer to Question 739

The amount paid to clinics in Malaga for Scans in April, May, June, July, August and September of 2005 were as follows:-

Total	£4,857.32
September 2005	£699.32
August 2005	£874.45
July 2005	£308.07
June 2005	£2,375.97
May 2005	
April 2005	£599.51

Answer to Question 740

The total amount spent for scans on the Algeciras Clinics is as follows:-

Up to 6 October 2005 Up to 6 October 2004 £107,321.71 £117,379.05

Answer to Question 741

All patients are given the choice to be treated in Spain as opposed to the UK at the time of referral when considered appropriate by the referring Consultant. 170 patients out of 619 have elected to go to Spain during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005.

Answer to Question 742

The number of patient referrals to the UK from April to September 2005 was 653 patients referrals. The cost identified to date is £981,159. (This figure is subject to change, as accounts have not yet been finalised).

The comparable figures for April to September 2004 was 592 patient referrals with a cost of £1,664,174.

Answer to Question 743

The number of sponsored patients treated in the UK from April to September 2005 was 449 patients. The cost identified to date is £981,159.00. (This figure is subject to change, as accounts have not been finalised).

The comparable figures for April to September 2004 are 461 patients with a cost of £1,664,174.00.

Answer to Question 744

The total payments to NHS Trusts in UK in respect of the number of patient referrals for financial year 2004/05 amounted to £2,477,272.

This figure is not subject to change.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 739 TO 744 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

In reply to Question No. 743 it pleases me to note that the cost identified to date is £981,000, although it says that this figure is subject to change as accounts have not been finalised. Is it likely to increase by very much, because I note that in the comparable figures costs for almost the same number of patients was close to £1.7 million?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Well, the question covers only part of the year, it covers only April to September so obviously it needs to increase to cover the full financial year.

HON L A RANDALL:

Yes, but then the comparable figure from April to September is given as close to £1.7 million in 2004, the previous year.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

This is a demand-led.....

HON L A RANDALL:

No it is just almost the same number of patients, although there is a caveat here that this figure is subject to change as accounts had not been finalised, the 2005 figure. In comparison to 2004 for the same period it seems that the April to September 2005 figure is rather low.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That may be so but it is not easy, we are not comparing apples with apples, 400 cases in one year could be completely different to 400 cases in another year. One gets a leukaemia patient and the costs shoot through the ceiling. It is difficult to compare without looking at specific cases.

NO. 745 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES

Can Government confirm the total number of outpatient attendances at the Primary Care Centre for the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005, keeping to the format given in answer to Question No. 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. 746 to 748 and 756 of 2005.

NO. 746 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 the Primary Care Centre, including the number of out-patients being attended to by District Nurses, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 745, 747, 748 and 756 of 2005.

NO. 747 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 during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 745, 746, 748 and 756 of 2005.

NO. 748 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 during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 745 to 747 and 756 of 2005.

NO. 749 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 April, May, June, July, August and September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 701, 702, 703, 704 and 751 of 2005.

NO. 750 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 April, May, June, July, August and September of 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question Nos. 685 and 686

The situation remains the same as given in answer to Question Nos. 100 and 101 of 2005.

Answer to Question No. 750

Three Psycho-geriatric patients have been admitted into KGV during the period April to September 2005.

NO. 751 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 April, May, June, July, August and September 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 751 of 2005

Answer to Question 701

Inpatients on Friday 7th October.

Emily McIntosh	Male	Age Group	<u>Female</u>	Age Group	<u>Total</u>
	3	0 to 10		ļ., <u> </u>	
	<u>_</u>	0 10 10	3	0 to 10	6
			4	21 to 30	4
T-4-1		 	2	31 to 40	2
Total					12
				 -	
Victoria McIntosh	0	41 to 50	2	41 to 50	2
	2	51 to 60	1	51 to 60	3
	2	61 to 70	6	61 to 70	8
	0	71 to 80	6	71 to 80	6
	0	81 to 90	10	81 to 90	10
	0	91 +	1	91 +	1
Total			<u>-</u>	01.	30
John McIntosh	2	31 to 40	0	31 to 40	2
	2	41 to 50	0	41 to 50	2
	2	51 to 60	0	51 to 60	2
	2	61 to 70	5	61 to 70	7
	3	71 to 80	6	71 to 80	9
	4	81 to 90	2	81 to 90	6
Total					28
Dudley Toomey	1	31 to 40	3	31 to 40	4
	3	41 to 50	3	41 to 50	6
	3	51 to 60	2	51 to 60	5
	3	61 to 70	1	61 to 70	4
	1	71 to 80	2	71 to 80	3
	0	81 to 90	1	81 to 90	1
	0	91 +	0	91 +	
Total					23
Capt Murchison	3	41 to 50	2	41 to 50	
-upt muromoon	3	51 to 60	1	41 to 50	5
	0	61 to 70		51 to 60	4
	4		4	61 to 70	4
	1	71 to 80	5	71 to 80	9
	0	81 to 90	2	81 to 90	. 3
Total	U	91 +	11	91 +	1
IOIAI					26

		1			
James Giraldi	1	41 to 50	0	41 to 50	1
	0	61 to 70	1	61 to 70	1
	0	71 to 80	3	71 to 80	3
Total					5

contd...

Cont'd Answer to Question 751 of 2005

Answer to Question 702

The total capacity of beds in the present hospital is 212.

The table which I will now hand the Hon Member below indicates the beds in use at the moment.

Ward	No. of beds
Emily McIntosh	22*
Rainbow	23*
Victoria McIntosh	30
John McIntosh	30
Dudley Toomey	30
Capt Murchison	30
A&E	2
Day Surgery	8
James Giraldi	6*
TOTAL	181

contd...

Cont'd Answer to Question 751 of 2005

Answer to Question 703

Inpatients on Friday 7th October, 2005

	APRIL 2005					
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
61-70	•	-	-	-	_	-
71-80	1	1	2	1	1	2
81-90	-	1	1	-	1	1
91+	-	-	-	-	-	_
TOTAL	1	2	3	1	2	3

	JUNE 2005				JULY 2005	
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
61-70	-	1	1	-	1	1
71-80	1	2	3	2	2	4
81-90	-	-	-	-	_	-
91+	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	3	4	2	3	5

	AUGUST 2005			SEPTEMBER 2005		
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
61-70	-	-	-	-	-	_
71-80	2	2	4	2	2	4
81-90	-	-	-	-	-	_
91+	-	-	-	-	-	_
TOTAL	2	2	4	2	2	4

All elderly patients require some sort of support be it physical, emotional or social.

All patients who have been officially discharged are able to be looked after.

contd...

Cont'd Answer to Question 751 of 2005

Answer to Question 704

Total number of Long Stay Elderly

TOTAL PER MONTH		MALES	FEMALES
April	23	4	19
May	54	10	44
June	38	7	31
July	36	8	28
August	37	8	29
September	32	6	26

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
April	65-75	1	4
	75-85	3	7
	85-95	0	6
	95+	0	2

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
May	65-75	3	8
	75-85	4	15
	85-95	3	18
	95+	0	3

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
June	65-75	3	7
	75-85	2	10
	85-95	2	14
	95+	0	0

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
July	65-75	2	8
	75-85	3	9
	85-95	3	10
	95+	0	1

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
August	65-75	2	7
	75-85	3	11
	85-95	3	10
	95+	0	1

	AGE GROUPS	MALES	FEMALES
September	65-75	3	8
	75-85	2	0
	85-95	1	8
	95+	0	1

Contd..

Cont'd Answer to Question 751 of 2005

Answer to Question 749

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

2005	Clinics		A&E			
	Clinics	Dressings	Plasters	Physiotherapy		
April	1501	1970	504	64	614	
May	1608	2053	502	78	561	
June	1590	2102	580	76	625	
July	1344	2170	605	61	478	
August	1666	2171	654	27	642	
September	1625	1997	400	56	580	
Totals	9334	12463	3245	362	3500	

Answer to Question 751 Total inpatient admissions

April 2005	422
May 2005	409
June 2005	407
July 2005	436
August 2005	435
September 2005	431
Total	2540

Average number of inpatients per day

April 2005	113
May 2005	108
June 2005	109
July 2005	111
August 2005	116
September 2005	108

NO. 752 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS

Can Government confirm how many non-entitled patients have been admitted to St. Bernard's Hospital during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 753 and 754 of 2005.

NO. 753 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS

Can Government state whether non-entitled patients have also access to Primary Care treatment on the payment of a fee?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 752 and 754 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 754 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS

Can the Minister for Health confirm whether private fees for non-entitled patients accessing secondary care have now been reviewed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question No. 752

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

 April:
 5

 May:
 13

 June:
 20

 July:
 28

 August:
 9

 September:
 9

The total number of patients for the period is therefore 84.

Answer to Question No. 753

The GHA does not provide facilities for non-entitled patients to access treatment at the Primary Care Centre.

Answer to Question No. 754

The fees for non-entitled patients are in the process of being reviewed but final decisions have not yet been taken.

NO. 755 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - WAITING LISTS

Can Government provide the latest waiting lists for public patients covering all specialties, giving a breakdown of each, for both out-patients and in-patients which also includes those who require surgical interventions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 757, 758 and 760 of 2005.

NO. 756 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GHA – DUTY DENTIST

Can Government state the times at which the duty Dentist is available at weekends and Public Holidays at the Primary Care Centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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

Answer to Question 756 of 2005

Answer to Question 745, 746 & 748

DEPARTMENT	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	TOTAL
AUDIOLOGY	173	196	200	214	59	279	1,121
DIETICIAN	97	106	89	88	75	95	550
CLINIC SISTER	1767	1719	1662	1508	1441	1743	9,840
SCHOOL HEALTH	357	445	448	201	212	299	1,962
SPEECH & LANGUAGE	188	196	185	155	38	242	1,004
MENTAL WELFARE	193	204	208	204	208	194	1,211
GP CLINIC	8378	8125	7718	7235	7485	8018	46,959
DERMATOLOGIST	75	No Clinic	104	No Clinic	75	No Clinic	254
DENTAL	1676	1457	1039	1123	1034	1381	7,710
CHILD WELFARE	907	831	827	724	666	841	4,796
NURSE PRACTITIONER	1125	834	1066	1162	1093	969	6,249
CRYOTHERAPY	36	28	129	124	143	182	642
TOTAL	14,972	14,141	13,675	12,738	12,529	14,243	82,298

Orthoptist and Optometry Clinics are now held at St Bernard's Hospital.

*COMMUNITY

TOTAL	3,439	3,519	3,986	3,317	2,925	2,005	19,272
DISTRICT	2999	3077	3644	2995	2643	1908	17,266
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	260	230	166	153	132	97	1,038
PHYSIO	180	212	176	169	150	81	968

Contd...

Cont'd Answer to Question 756 of 2005

Answer to Question 747

DEPARTMENT	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	TOTAL
HOUSE-CALLS	681	503	521	410	308	435	2,858

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

Answer to Question 756

The emergency dental clinic is available from 0900-1000 at weekends and at public holidays. Emergencies outside those hours present at the A&E and St Bernard's Hospital and, if appropriate, the duty dentist is called to attend the patient.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 745 TO 748 AND 756 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister specify who is responsible for calling out the duty dentist if thought appropriate?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Presumably he is talking about the A&E Department in St Bernard's Hospital? The answer is exactly there, if there is an emergency outside those hours the patient goes to A&E and they call the duty dentist.

NO. 757 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA – DENTAL DEPARTMENT

In view of the long waiting lists at the Dental Department, which have existed now for about 4 years, can the Minister confirm what measures the Government are taking to alleviate the position?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 755, 758 and 760 of 2005.

NO. 758 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 there are presently waiting for elective surgery in each specialty?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 755, 757 and 760 of 2005.

NO. 759 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF NURSES

Can Government state whether they now have a second team of nursing staff which they have said is required to be able to perform more operations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 734, 735, 737, 738, 767 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 760 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - NUMBER OF OPERATIONS

Can Government confirm how many operations were performed in St. Bernard's at Europort, for the months of April, May, June, July, August and September of 2005, by specialties, specifying which were elective and which were emergencies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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

Answer to Question 760 of 2005

Answer to Question 755

SPECIALITY	OUT PATIENT CLINIC	SURGERY
OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY	Adults 8 weeks	Adults 24 Months.
	Children 10 weeks	Children 12 Months.
GENERAL SURGERY	16 weeks.	Up to 9 months
	Į	depending on
		procedure.
GENERAL MEDICINE	10 to 12 weeks.	
PAEDIATRICS	5 weeks.	
OPHTHALMOLOGY	8 weeks.	Minor and other Surgery
		3 weeks.
		Cataract Surgery 4 - 6
F. D. T. D. C.		Weeks.
ELDEROLOGY	2 weeks.	
PAIN CLINIC	3 weeks.	
PSYCHIATRY	1 to 3 weeks.	
GYNAECOLOGY	Urgent cases 1 Day.	
	Cases requiring	
	attention soon 2	requiring amornion coon
	Weeks.	12 weeks. for routine
	Routine 8 Weeks.	surgery
ORTHOPAEDICS	Urgent cases 1 Day.	Waiting time for public
	Cases requiring	
	attention soon 2 weeks.	Weeks to Years
	Routine cases 52	
	weeks.	intervention.

THERE IS NO WAITING TIME FOR EMERGENCIES

Answer to Question 757

The successful development of the dental department and its services has resulted in raising patient expectations and therefore the demand. The dental department is evolving from what was essentially a paedontic service service to specialist dental unit and, despite the increase in dental staff and commitment, and an increase in the number of consultations to approximately 20,000 a year, the demand continues to increase.

The department is currently assessing ways of improving access to its patients through improved efficiency. The Government requested, and has obtained, a comprehensive internal report reviewing dental manpower, services and activity, facilities, IT and Equipment provision. This will be considered in next year's estimates. The aim will be to provide a sustainable plan for the alleviation of waiting times and improved access and service for all entitled patients.

Cont'd Answer to Question 760 of 2005

Answer to Question 758

Elective Surgery Waiting Lists

General Surgery	228
Orthopaedics	297
Ophthamology	42
Gynaecology	50
Otorhinolaryngology	202
Orthodontics	184
Plastic Surgery	255

Contd..

Contd to Answer 760 of 2005

Answer to Question 760

Elective operations performed:

	APRIL 2005	MAY 2005	JUNE 2005	JULY 2005	AUGUST 2005	SEPTEMBER 2005
General Surgery	48	56	64	68	58	59
Gynaecology	20	20	21	31	24	17
Ophthalmology	27	28	36	11	20	23
Orthodontics	11	16	24	18	21	30
Orthopaedics	41	30	39	53	27	26
Otorhinolaryngology	15	16	15	21	20	15
Total	162	166	199	202	170	170

Emergency operations performed:

	APRIL 2005	MAY 2005	JUNE 2005	JULY 2005	AUGUST 2005	SEPTEMBER 2005
General Surgery	13	9	2	7	9	12
Gynaecology	6	6	7	3	4	16
Ophthalmology	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orthodontics	-	-	2	-	-	2
Orthopaedics	-	3	1	6	7	12
Otorhinolaryngology	2	-	-	1	1	3
Total	21	18	12	17	21	45

NO. 761 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - GYNAECOLOGY SURGERY

In connection with the third review team recommendation, which relates to scheduled surgery in the specialty of gynaecology, can the Minister for Health now confirm how many patients have taken up the offer to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 721, 762, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 762 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - SCHEDULED SURGERY

Can the Minister for Health now confirm whether scheduled surgery has commenced for specialties other than gynaecology?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 721, 761, 765 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 763 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

GHA - STRESS MACHINE

Can the Minister for Health confirm whether authorisation has now been given by those who donated the treadmill, so that it can be upgraded and used for stress testing, and can he also confirm whether any conditions are required for the medical staff to use a stress testing machine?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The situation remains as stated in answer to Question Nos. 105 of 2005, 1539 of 2004 and 2245 of 2004. I cannot resist the temptation to say that this is another of those questions that is just being asked time and time again and the answer is the same. I will expand on it. The answer is the same because this stress unit was donated, it is incomplete, it is an exercise bicycle as opposed to a stress unit, the medical advice is against it being used other than in a facility that has an ITU next door and consultants nearby and is totally against it being used in the Primary Care Centre. In fact, if hon Members will bear with me a moment I have got a letter here from a well-known cardiologist, Dr Wyn Davis, who has visited Gibraltar for many years who says: 'I know of no setting in the UK where an exercise system is used by general practitioners, which is my understanding of the equivalent set-up of the Health Centre'. With one or two exceptions from within the Health Services, some of which may be not altogether lacking in personal agendas, the medical opinion, the expert opinion is totally against a stress machine being used in the Primary Care Centre. The unit that was donated is, as I have said, incomplete. It lacks software, it lacks hardware, nevertheless the donors were invited by me when I took over as Minister, I do not know if it happened before my time as well, were invited to agree to it being used in St Bernard's Hospital under the proper medical supervision and circumstances and upgrade it either at their cost or at our cost, I am not sure what the situation on that is and we are still two years down the line waiting for an answer to that request. Until such time as they agree or disagree, unfortunately the exercise bicycle as I call it will remain where it is unused, and that will remain the answer to this question despite the number of times that it is asked. The ball is not in the court of the GHA.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 763 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I ask whether the Minister might agree to follow up with his pursuit of this with the donors just in case his letter or his request has fallen between two stools, whoever it is that the donor is, and perhaps in that way we might have a different answer to the question which I have no doubt will be put again at the next session of the House?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Which no doubt will get the same answer, that the situation has not changed. I have taken up the matter again and I do not want to make any provocative statements but there seems to be an ingrained belief in those who donated it that it has to be used in the Primary Care Centre or nothing else, and that is the impasse. I will reassure the hon Member, if and when I meet the donors again officially, I will take up the matter again.

NO. 764 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA - SALARY SCALES

Can Government provide the Salary Scale of each grade of employee working in the GHA indicating those grades which have a pay review pending?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 689 to 691, 722, 725 to 728, 736 and 769 of 2005.

NO. 765 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA – CLINICAL GOVERNANCE AUDIT

Have any further payments been made to the NHS Modernisation Agency since the answer given to Question 128 of 2005, and if so, how much and when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 721, 761, 762 and 766 of 2005.

NO. 766 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA - LABORATORY SERVICE

Has the Clinical Report on Laboratory Services now been presented to the Government, and if so, what are its conclusions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Questions 715, 716 and 765

No payments have been made to the NHS Modernisation Agency since the answer given to Question No. 128 of 2005.

The total expenditure is not expected to exceed £1.6 million.

Answer to Question 717

The consultation process for the different workstreams has been very extensive and the Government and the GHA have endeavoured to involve as many members of staff as has been possible in the development of these proposals making this a very transparent and open process.

The staff have been involved at three stages either individually or as part of working groups. First in the formulation of the initial documentation. Secondly, in the development of all proposals and thirdly before final consideration by the Government of Gibraltar.

Where the Government have felt that public participation was desirable, for example in the complaints process, external organisations and individuals have been consulted. These have included the unions, the Ombudsman, patient user groups and the general public.

The recommendations accepted by the Government have now been incorporated into the GHA's strategic plan which was outlined during my budget speech. Executive responsibility has been assigned to individual executive team members for different elements of the Health Care Development Team recommendations.

Answer to Questions 718, 719, 721 and 766

The GHA has received a report on Workstream No. 18 in relation to clinical services within the GHA. No specific review was undertaken of the pain clinic. The recommendations accepted by the Government are being incorporated into the GHA strategic plan.

Answer to Questions 761 and 762

The pilot initiative for scheduling in gynaecology is proceeding as outlined in answer to Question No. 2241 of 2004.

A total of 133 patients were scheduled for surgery in the period April to September 2005, that is surgery in gynaecology. Scheduling in other specialities has not started.

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 715 TO 719, 721, 761, 762, 765 AND 766</u> <u>OF 2005</u>

HON J J BOSSANO:

Perhaps I have missed it but what was the answer on the clinical report on laboratory services?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That it has been received, together with all the other reports, as part of the report on Workstream No. 18. Workstream No. 18 provided the report on the Modernisation Agency or the Health Care Development Team in respect of all clinical services.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So the Minister is not able to answer the second part of the question which is, what are the conclusions in respect of the laboratory services then?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

This is a very wide-ranging report covering 12 different clinical services, like all the other details it is not possible to identify in an answer like this individual recommendations. That is notwithstanding the fact that in terms like clinical services, the Government have not published and do not intend to publish publicly the results of Workstream No. 18.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, but was there not a particular problem in relation to the laboratory services which surfaced at the time, which was in the public domain and which presumably was being looked into and addressed?

I am not sure what particular problem the hon Member is referring to.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Certainly there was something that I think it was the pathologist first raised and then withdrew, I certainly remember that particular incident.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That had nothing to do with the workstreams. If I remember rightly, this was a concern that the pathologist expressed in relation to staffing levels and to equipment levels, both of which I tackled publicly at the time and the Government did so by press release, and I am not sure whether the pathologist withdrew it or made a new statement or just changed his mind. The issues that the hon Member is referring to were not part of the clinical review, this was something that the pathologist raised at the time and the issues were addressed by the GHA on their own merits.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So then the report that has dealt with the laboratory services has not looked at manning levels, and has not looked at procedures and has not looked at whether the equipment was okay, none of it has been looked at?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The reports on all the clinical services have looked at all aspects of the clinical services, including where relevant, manning levels, equipment levels, it is a wideranging review of all the clinical services.

HON J J BOSSANO:

They have not come to a conclusion as to whether they were adequate and needed improving because that was one of the issues, whether the resources that the laboratory had were sufficient? There have been a number of questions in the past about this and we were always being told it was being looked into.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Again on my feet and without the reports here I cannot answer that question, but in any case as I have said, the implications are that the Government will not be publishing that particular workstream report.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the Minister not agree with me that there is a vast difference between publishing a report in full and giving an indication of the conclusion as to whether the conclusion is that a particular department needs more resources or more money and manpower, or that it does not? I am not asking for anything more explicit than that.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The question was had the clinical report been presented to the Government and what were its conclusions. I have said, yes it has been presented to the Government, no the Government do not intend to make the conclusions public.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am asking was one of the conclusions, without asking for all of them to be made public, expressing a view on the insufficiency of resources which has previously been a matter in the public domain before this study took place? I would have thought that if there was a debate as to whether the laboratory was sufficiently resourced, and one is going to get people that one is going to pay to come and take a look at the laboratory, I would have thought that one would expect them at the very least to express a view on that, which we are asking the Government to share with us if such a view has been expressed.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

As I have already said, at this moment in time I cannot say whether equipment was looked at in this clinical review but I would expect it to have been looked at because this is what the clinical review is all about, but I cannot say it because I have not got the report here and I have not checked that specifically in preparing the answer to this question.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I ask about the previous question where the Minister said the total cost was £1.6 million? This £1.6 million is paid to the agency by the Health Authority or by the Government?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No, let us clarify two issues here. Is the hon Member distinguishing on who actually wrote the cheque, is that what he is asking me to do?

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am asking who the cheque was made to and who it was made by, I am asking both those things.

I understand. Let us leave who it was made to for a moment because that is relevant. I think the process was that initially the payments were being made by the GHA and in some cases payments continue to be made by the GHA on behalf of the Government. As at one stage the Treasury or the system was changed and at one stage the Treasury took over the account and from that point on, which I cannot identify but within the last year or so, at one point the Treasury started making the payments. So, to the question 'who wrote the cheque?' the answer is both but it is a technicality because obviously the GHA when they were writing cheques were writing them on behalf of the Government. I think it is a technicality in that the GHA had the account initially and then the account, because it was a Government-commissioned review, passed to the Treasury. That is my memory of it. Who the cheques were made to is more relevant because that £1.6 million is the total cost and that includes flights and hotels and issues like that, so not all of it would have been paid to the agency. The fees of the agency would have been paid to them and other incidental expenses would have been paid to the parties concerned, like the airlines and hotels.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So it is not that there was a contract for the total amount with the agency and then the agency met its own expenses? Is the Minister in a position to say how much was the agency's part?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No, and in order to pre-empt a possible question in the future, I asked the same question myself because it seemed a fairly obvious supplementary, and I was told it was going to be difficult to extricate.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is that in the same box that everything else is in?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No, it is not in the same box but it does mean going back and looking at every single payment and separating the breakdown of the payment. Again, technically possible but I asked for it to have the supplementary information here with me and I was told it was not an easy exercise but if the hon Member is content with blanket figures it might be possible, if he is not interested in getting it itemised down to single pounds.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I ask, are the payments to individuals who have been working in Gibraltar included in that and are they made by the agency to the individuals in terms of salaries or fees or whatever, or is that separate?

Does the hon Member by 'individuals' mean members of the Health Care Development Team who were working here? If he does, in that sense his questions one or two back was correct in that the Government contracted the agency to provide the service and the agency decided or had pre-planned who it was going to send. So the Government did not pay one individual or another individual that formed part of the Review Team, there was a contract fee overall and the agency provided its resources as and when it needed.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So the people who have been working here sent out by the agency were paid by the agency and not directly by the Government then?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is correct. Paid by the agency presumably from the fees paid under the contract.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I believe that when I asked this question some time ago there was some doubt as to whether the amount received by the individuals was taxable. I am fairly sure that I asked that question and that I did not get a straight answer, can the Minister now give me a straight answer?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No, the Minister could not give a straight answer then and he cannot give a straight answer now, because it does not come under my responsibility. We pay the agency and it is up to the Treasury and others to decide whether it is taxable or not taxable. I recollect the discussion and I think I must have said something pretty similar at the time and the answer remains the same, I do not know whether it is taxable or not taxable.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the Minister accept that it is they who choose who should answer the questions, we put the questions to the Government and not to individual Ministers? I would have thought that given his previous concern about the amount of money that it is going to cost the Health Authority to buy property for rental in the open market as opposed to buying it in the restricted market, whether people working in Gibraltar in the Health Authority in a Government agency are actually complying with their requirements, I would have not thought it was reasonable. If the Government have got as a matter of policy which they announce periodically pursuing those who do not comply with their obligations to hand over PAYE and Social Insurance and all the rest, would the Minister not agree that the Health Authority ought to be setting a good example to make sure that the people that are working on its pad at public expense are in fact paying their taxes and levies due?

With the greatest of respect to the hon Member, he has not only changed the goal posts but he has mixed his circumstances and has changed the question completely. Firstly he says that if the Opposition side decide to ask the questions it is up to the Government to decide to answer it and the person who answers it should know what he is talking about, implying that I do not, which is true in this case I do not.

HON J J BOSSANO:

With all due respect, I am not saying the Minister ought to be able to all I am saying is that since the question is addressed to the Government there is nothing to prevent another member of the Government that may be able to throw light volunteering.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is precisely why I said changing the goal posts. There is not a question on this subject addressed to the Government. The question is on the amount of fees to the agency. The question of tax, which is what is being raised now, is a memory that the hon Member has just had of a previous question. If the hon Member had asked the question on tax then it would have been addressed by someone in Government who was better qualified and better prepared to answer it. No such question has been raised, it has been raised in supplementaries and the short answer is that we need notice of the question on tax.

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Minister say how many, if any, of the recommendations contained in the report have not been accepted by Government and will therefore not be incorporated?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I appreciate the hon Member is standing in for the Opposition Member for Health and therefore may not be entirely familiar with this, although I have to say that his colleague does not seem to be totally familiar with it either. Work that has been done by the Health Care Development Team is extremely extensive, it is not a straightforward report commissioned to look at this room and advise on how to make it look better, and then the recommendations would say knock it down and build it again or repaint it, or wallpaper it again, or re-roof it and whatever and they would be specific. Here we are talking about 20 different workstreams, each workstream covers one particular area or sector of the work of our Health Services, each workstream is many pages long sometimes running into hundreds of pages, many of them are not reports in the sense of having a beginning, a middle and an end and a list of recommendations at the end. Many of them are narrative and many of them are saying, 'maybe this could be done better or maybe this should be done', what I am trying to say is that it is not possible, without a massive exercise, to go through every single one and try to extract and say firstly what is the recommendation and secondly which ones have been accepted by the Government, which ones have not, which ones have been done, which ones are being done, which ones have been rejected, it is being done on the basis of report by report, the Government have

accepted the report and made some rejections, not many but there have been some rejections, and the GHA has been charged with implementing it. It has taken over two years if I remember rightly, in September 2003 the diagnostic report was published and the Election was in November 2003. Prior to September 2003 they had already been working on it for another year or year and a half so we are looking at work that has gone on over an extended period of time running into years, we are talking about two or three years plus, hon Members cannot expect the Government to be able to say 'yes everything has been done', it is an on-going process. The results of that work which took three years to do will take many months to implement, part of it is still being analysed. It is one thing to accept the recommendation and one thing to say re-roof the ceiling here, another thing is to then come and actually do it. Similarly, with some of these recommendations which are complex and which need to be assessed, need to be valued, need to be costed, which then probably got moved forward into the following financial year it is not an easy task and it is not an easy task trying to summarise it in answer to a question. I hope I have given the small details of the explanation and I hope the hon Member's colleague is listening to it on radio that that explanation will serve to put it into context.

HON L A RANDALL:

I asked the question because I took note here where the Minister said that recommendations accepted by Government are being incorporated. That to me implied that perhaps there were recommendations that had not been accepted and were therefore not being incorporated. Also if my memory serves me right, in previous exchanges of supplementaries with my Colleague the Hon Marie Montegriffo, I seem to recall that the Minister himself said that some of the recommendations may not be accepted by Government and would not be incorporated. Even by the answer it seems to imply that there are recommendations which the Government have decided not to implement.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That is correct. They are in the minority and it is also true to say that some of the recommendations that had been accepted cannot all be implemented at the same time. Some have been implemented immediately, like we always come to the Complaints process which was one of the first ones, but also because it is one that is in the public eye all the time but then there are other recommendations of a minor nature that are on-going into the future that will take longer to implement.

HON L A RANDALL:

I appreciate what the Minister has just said, the purpose of the question was to determine whether any of the recommendations have just been turned down, not accepted or not being implemented, I can understand recommendations will take time to implement, if they have been accepted they will be implemented in the future, it is on-going there are delays but the purpose of the question is have any recommendations been turned down altogether and said 'this we have are not incorporating'?

Can I take the hon Member back to what I was saying at the beginning? The short answer to the question is yes but if he then asks me which ones, on my feet it is difficult because there are so many of them and some of them will have been accepted and some not.

HON L A RANDALL:

Fine, I will ask questions to that effect at the next meeting of the House.

NO. 767 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA - ENROLLED NURSES

Has there now been a 2005 Enrolled Nurses Training Intake, and if so, have the students been guaranteed employment in the GHA on the successful completion of their training?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answered together with Question Nos. 731, 733, 734, 735, 737, 738, 759 and 768 of 2005.

NO. 768 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA – STAFF NURSE TRAINING

Can Government provide a breakdown by Nationality of the last two intakes of students undertaking Staff Nurse Training?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule which I hand over to him.

Answer to Question 768 of 2005

Answer to Question 731

Dudley Toomey Ward

Sister	1
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Nurses	9
Enrolled Nurses	6

Captain Murchison Ward

Sister	1
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Nurses	7
Enrolled Nurses	7

Maternity Ward

Sisters	2
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Midwifes	12

Rainbow Ward

Sister	1
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Nurses	8
Enrolled Nurses	3
Senior Enrolled Nurse	1
Auxillary Nurse	1

A & E Department

Sister	1
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Nurses	12
Enrolled Nurses	6

Clinics

Staff Nurse	1
Senior Enrolled Nurse	1
Enrolled Nurses	9

Blood Department

Staff Nurses	2

Contd..

Cont'd Answer to Question 768 of 2005

Infection Control Dept

Charge Nurse	1	
Pallative Care		
Sister	1	٦

Eye Dept

Charge Nurse	1	
Staff Nurses	2	

John Ward

Charge Nurses	2
Staff Nurses	9
Enrolled Nurses	8

Victoria Ward

Sisters	4
Staff Nurses	6
Enrolled Nurses	7

Intensive Care Unit

Sisters	1
Charge Nurse	1
Staff Nurses	20
Enrolled Nurses	5

Operating Theatres

Sister	1	
Charge Nurse	1	
Staff Nurses	9	
Enrolled Nurses	1	

Answer to Question 733

Applied	Withdrew	Interviewed	Selected
10	1	9	6

contd....

Cont'd Answer to Question 768 of 2005

Answer to Question 734

The following is a breakdown within nursing specialities of the contract nurses employed by the Gibraltar Health Authority, at the end of September 2005:

Director of Nursing & Patient Services	1
Education Development Officer	1
Nurse Lecturer	1
Nurse Practitioners	2
Charge Nurses	2
Staff Nurses	24
Staff Nurses (part-time)	1
Registered Sick Children's Nurses	4
Registered Mental Nurses	4
Theatre Nurses	2
Staff Midwives	7
Operating Department Practitioners	6
Enrolled Nurses	4

Answer to Question 735

It is now the policy of the Gibraltar Health Authority to review the performance and development needs of all nursing staff on a regular basis using internal resources.

Contd....

Contd to Answer 768 of 2005

Answer to Question 737

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

Director of Nursing & Patient Services Deputy Director of Nursing Services Clinical Nurse Managers Education Development Officer Senior Nurse Tutor Nurse Lecturer Nurse Practitioners Charge Nurses	1 1 6 1 1 2 35
Staff Nurses 107 Full-timers 9 Part-timers (4.5 Full-time equivalents) Midwives 7 Full-timers 2 Part-timers (1 Full-time equivalent)	119.5
Senior Enrolled Nurses	5
Enrolled Nurses 81 Full-timers 14 Part-timers (7 Full-time equivalents)	88
Nursing Auxiliaries 9 Full-timers 1 Part-timer (0.5 Full-time equivalent) Nursing Assistants 80 Full-timers 10 Part-timers (5 Full-time equivalent) 4 (28 hours) (3 Full-time equivalent)	97.5

Contd..

Contd to Answer 768 of 2005

Answer to Question 738

On 30 September 2004 the were a total of 54 non-Gibraltarian nurses, the breakdown of these are as follows:

38 British

12 Spanish

1 Polish

1 Irish

1 German

1 Malaysian

On 30 September 2005 the were a total of 68 non-Gibraltarian nurses, the breakdown of these are as follows:

46 British

18 Spanish

1 Polish

1 Irish

1 German

1 Malaysian

Answer to Question 768

	<u>Gibraltarian</u>	<u>British</u>	<u>American</u>	<u>Canadian</u>
2002 Intake	8	2	1	1
2004 Intake	6	3	1	

Answer to Question 759

An additional 6 nurses have been recruited to meet current surgical Human Resource requirements.

Answer to Question 767

Following an analysis of short-term enrolled nursing requirements, it was decided to postpone the 2005 Enrolled Nurse training intake pending completion of an internal workforce planning report that will be used as a basis for determining all future nurse training requirements, including Enrolled Nurses.

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 731, 733, 734, 735, 737, 738, 759, 767</u> AND 768 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the question on the guaranteed employment also on the schedule? Question No. 767, I asked this question in the last meeting of the House and the Minister said he was not in a position to answer me because there had not been an intake yet. That is why it is here.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I shall quote the answer because I remember it vaguely. The answer that I have given him in the schedule is "following an analysis of short-term enrolled nursing requirements, it was decided to postpone the 2005 enrolled nurse training intake pending completion of an internal workforce planning report that will be used as a basis for determining future nurse training requirements, including those of enrolled nurses." So the question of guarantees still remains hypothetical.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So in fact, there has not been an intake then in 2005 and it does not look as if there is going to be one now in 2005? Presumably, if it is resumed it will be in 2006. Can I ask the Minister? In this kind of training is there any particular reason why it has to be at a particular time of the year like with other things that are linked to exams where the academic year starts after the summer, or can it be started in any given month?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I am not aware of any reason why it has to be at any particular moment in time but the hon Member has interpreted my answer correctly. Although an intake had been planned for September, because of the various changes that are taking place within the GHA it was assessed that our complement of enrolled nurses was sufficient with what we had, and because we are planning further changes and looking at the overall picture it was decided to postpone the intake with a view to having a size of intake in line with requirements. Although the Government cannot undertake to guarantee employment to people that they give training to, and this is Government wide and not just the GHA, from a GHA point of view because one trains an enrolled nurse they cannot really go and get employed by the Education Department for example, the objective of the GHA would be to have a course with the right number of students to fill the right number of vacancies expected to arise at the end of the course, and because we cannot determine those vacancies that is why we have postponed it. I cannot here now say that the Government will guarantee employment, I can say that the GHA and the Government will seek to train the right number of nurses so that they can be employed at the end of the course.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Would the Minister not agree that there would be little point in investing money in training people for jobs that we do not need them for? In this particular case where it is not a question of sending them to study in the UK and then they are free to work anywhere. Is it not the case that in-house training of enrolled nurses has always been in the knowledge that they would be needed when they completed the training?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Yes, it is implicit of what I have said earlier that I accept that principle. One cannot accept the principle completely because theoretically an enrolled nurse could then go and find employment away from Gibraltar. So if one were to strictly apply that criteria then we would never give a scholarship to someone to study nuclear physics for example, because he cannot come back to Gibraltar to work it, but that would be restricting the ability of that particular student. In the cases of nurses, it is more incestuous as it were because there is only a certain employer who can employ those nurses, but theoretically one could have a situation where there is a particular individual who wants to do a particular course in nursing...... supposing there were no vacancies projected in nursing for the next two years and if no training were done it would restrict that individual. I think that in the case of nursing it would be debateable whether it is the correct use of public funds to create a training course if vacancies are not identified. So it is debateable either way.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well no, this is not part of the Government's facilities for Education and Training which exist. If the Government are saying they are going to have training courses for nurses period like they train carpenters or they train electricians, or they send people to the UK to be student teachers, then that is a different issue. The Health Service is training people for its own needs surely and therefore the same considerations do not apply.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I think essentially we are both saying the same thing, we are both agreeing in principle. I was just trying to add to the philosophical debate but I think we should stick to, as the hon Member said earlier, that the GHA will seek to have training courses only for identified vacancies, as far as it is possible to crystal ball gaze two years ahead.

HON S E LINARES:

Just as a matter of interest, who accredits the enrolled nurse? I believe the Minister for Health before used to say that they had contact with the University of Durham, or is it Sheffield Hallam?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

No it is not Sheffield Hallam it is the other Sheffield University. It has been up to now. There may be changes on that in the future because there have been internal changes within Sheffield University itself and I think GHA are about to go out to tender for an association into the future. So it continue to be Sheffield, it could become Sheffield Hallam to which the present School of Nursing in Sheffield is moving into, or it could be another successful tenderer.

HON F R PICARDO:

Could I simply ask one question in relation to this? Was there a public statement to the effect that the process of training had stopped for the year 2005?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I would not have thought so because the course had not been announced as such and applications had not been invited. If that had happened then maybe we would have announced its cancellation but the course has just been postponed in time rather than cancelled. So I cannot remember any public announcement.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I wonder if I may be permitted to put a supplementary question on No. 768 because it takes a bit of time to read all of it? In the intakes that took place for Staff Nurses, is there in those cases a guarantee of employment or not as opposed to the enrolled nurses which we already have received an answer on?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

There has been a guarantee of employment in that all the nurses who were on the course have been employed. De facto all have been employed and they graduated a couple of weeks ago.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am talking about Question No. 768 where we had a breakdown by nationality of the 2002 intake which presumably finished three years later in 2005. So all of those have now completed their training from 2002 and have been taken on in employment, is that the case?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

All nurses who finished the course two or three weeks ago have been, all who finished successfully because some dropped by the wayside, all who successfully

finished the course and qualified and graduated two or three years ago have been employed into the GHA.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I ask in terms of the nationality breakdown, given that we have got American and Canadian nationals being trained by the Health Authority as Staff Nurses, is it not the case that these non-EU nationals require work permits and my understanding is that the Staff Nurses are not treated as employees but are given actual bursaries to undertake the studies for three years? So how does it work with non-EU nationals that have been recruited?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I am subject to correction on this answer, but my understanding is that it works exactly the same as EU nationals. If they have worked with us before they lose their salary or their wages and they get a bursary instead and I do not know whether they can come in straight into the course, they work on the basis of a bursary which was initially or used to be paid by the Education Department but as from this year is being paid or funds are being controlled by the GHA. My understanding, subject to correction, is that there is no difference in as much as the payment during the training period. At least if there is it has not come to my notice.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I do not think the Gibraltarians would be too pleased to see that the others are getting paid more than they are so it was bound to be the same. My question is, given that these nationalities that are non-EU require work permits in Gibraltar, it seems peculiar to me that we should be providing training to non-EU nationals who at the end of the day do not even need to work for us and we have been training them. I can understand that it could be argued that there may be some requirement under EU law that we give the same opportunities to nationals of other Member States in applying for courses and training.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

There is obviously a requirement for equal opportunities to other Member States. I think I would be right in saying that in the question of nursing supply is always less than demand and therefore, as appears to have happened here, non-EU nationals have entered the course. I would have thought that if the course had been oversubscribed by EU nationals then there would be no xxxxx there, but I am subject to correction in this answer.

ORAL

NO. 769 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA - FRONTIER WORKERS

Can Government state how many frontier workers were employed in the Gibraltar Health Authority as at October 2004 and give a breakdown by sex and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Answer to Question No. 689

I can confirm that a new Radiologist took up his post on 1st October 2005 and that CT Scan services in St Bernard's Hospital will commence shortly. The recruitment of a second Radiologist is already under way.

Answer to Question No. 690

Shortly after my contribution at the last budget session of this House the second orthopaedic surgeon who had been selected informed us that he was declining our offer of appointment for reasons of a personal nature which arose after the offer had been made. The post was immediately re-advertised and I can confirm that a second Orthopaedic Surgeon has been selected and, subject to acceptance of contract offer, will commence his duties in 2006.

However, until the second orthopaedic surgeon takes up his post one of the nonconsultant hospital doctors has been appointed to provide some of the services that would normally be provided by an orthopaedic surgeon.

Answer to Question No. 691

The post of the Catering Director was advertised internally within the Civil Service in the Bulletin of Circulars and externally in the local press. No application from within the Civil Service was received. Five external applications were received and one of these applicants was appointed. The salary scale for the post of Catering Director is as follows:

£25,434; £26,447; £27,505; £28,612 and £29,753 per annum.

Answer to Question No. 722

Three Personal Secretary posts have been created in order to support the new Executive Team.

Answer to Question Nos. 725, 726, 727 and 728

The information which goes back several years requested by the hon Member in Question Nos. 725 and 728 of 2005 is not available electronically. While theoretically it would be possible to provide the information requested, it would involve a disproportionate amount of administrative effort to produce these statistics.

Answer to Question No. 736

All members of staff listed in answer to Question Nos. 109, 116 and 117 of 2005 as being recruited or arriving in May are now in post with the exception of the Orthopaedic Surgeon, an Anaesthetist, the Building Maintenance Officer and some part-time Domestics.

Answer to Question Nos. 764 and 769

The statistical information requested by the hon Member in Question Nos. 764 and 769 of 2005 is contained in the schedule that I hand over.

Answer to Question 769 of 2005

Answer to Question 764

<u>GRADE</u>	SALARY SCALE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	11,220 to 17,072
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	13,336 to 20,293
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (p/t)	13,336 to 20,293
" ,	
ASSOCIATE SPECIALIST	73,748 to 90,998*
BASIC GRADE PHARMACIST	21,791 to 24,221
CATERING DIRECTOR	25,434 to 29,753
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	108,544
CHIEF SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPIST	38,389 to 41,525
CLINICAL NURSE MANAGER	26,685 to 32,001
CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST	20,246 to 25,283
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	52,540
CONSULTANT	73,750 to 91,000*
CONSULTANT (Distinction B Award)	96,035*
DENTAL OFFICER	30,351 to 48,077
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NURSING SERV	38,744
DIETITIAN SNR I	23,295 to 27,806
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, IMT, EXTERNAL	20,200 to 21,000
AFFAIRS AND	
PS TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH	71,680
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES	60,758*
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR OF NURSING & PATIENT SERV	66,758*
	00,700
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES AND	74 000
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	71,680
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH	76,367*
DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERV & WORKS	39,331
ENROLLED NURSE	13,918 to 18,253
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	17,072 to 25,317
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	61,891*
GHA CLERK	13,336 to 20,293
H.P.T.O.	21,320 to 31,627
HEAD PHARMACIST	41,265 to 43,499
HEALTH PROMOTION OFFICER	25,434 to 29,753
HIGHER EXECUTIVE OFFICER	21,320 to 30,893
HOSPITAL ATTENDANTS	16,029 to 22,105
HOSPITAL OPTOMETRIST	28,052 to 30,341
IT USER SUPPORT ASSISTANT	13,336 to 20,293
IT USER SUPPORT OFFICER	20,974 to 29,219
JUNIOR MEDICAL LAB & SCIENTIFIC OFFICER	10,546 to 14,224
MEDICAL LAB & SCIENTIFIC OFFICER	16,849 to 20,500
MEDICAL LIBRARIAN	20,903 to 22,608
MEDICAL SECRETARY	13,336 to 20,800
MENTAL WELFARE OFFICER	19,686 to 23,280
NURSE ASSISTANT	11,485 to 13,918
NURSE AUXILIARY	11,485 to 14,614

contd....

Cont'd Answer to Question 769 of 2005 Contd Answer to Question 764

NURSE PRACTITIONER	26,685 to 31,015
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST – HEAD	28,962 to 32,001
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST – SNR I	23,295 to 27,806
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST - SNR II	19,615 to 24,972
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY HELPER	10,764 to 12,927
OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTITIONER	15,575 to 19,709
ORTHOPTIST - SNR I	23,295 to 27,806
PATIENT COMPLAINTS CO-ORDINATOR P & GS 'C' P.T.O PERSONAL SECRETARY PHYSIOTHERAPY HELPER PHYSIOTHERAPIST – SNR I PHYSIOTHERAPIST – SNR II RADIOGRAPHER – SNR II RADIOGRAPHER – SNR II RADIOGRAPHER HELPER RECEPTIONIST/HELPDESK OPERATOR	21,320 to 30,893
PATIENT COMPLAINTS CO-ORDINATOR	21,320 10 30,693
P & GS 'C'	18,812 to 25,996
P.T.O	17,072 to 26,626
PERSONAL SECRETARY	13,336 to 20,800
PERSONAL SECRETART	13,330 10 20,000
PHYSIOTHERAPY HELPER	10,764 to 12,927
PHYSIOTHERAPIST - SNR I	23,295 to 27,806
PHYSIOTHERAPIST – SNR II	19,615 to 24,972
PHYSIOTHERAPIST - SINK II	19,615 to 24,972
RADIOGRAPHER – SNR I	23,295 to 27,806
RADIOGRAPHER – SNR II	19,615 to 24,972
RADIOGRAPHER HELPER	10,764 to 12,927
RADIOGRAPHER HELPER	10,764 to 12,927
RECEPTIONIST/HELPDESK OPERATOR	12,156 to 13,917
S.P.T.O.	26,626 to 39,331
	58,718 to 59,498
SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER (DISC)	
SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER	43,777 to 57,937
SENIOR ENROLLED NURSE	15,966 to 21,137
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER	26,626 to 37,864
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER	
NON CONSULTANT HOSPITAL DOCTOR	23,849 to 33,443*
S.M.L.S.O.	21,314 to 34,129
SENIOR MENTAL WELFARE OFFICER	23,967 to 25,372
SENIOR OFFICER	36,705 to 57,330
SENIOR TUTOR	35,962
SISTER/CHARGE NURSE	23,890 to 29,072
SPECIALIST DIETITIAN	26,674 to 29,453
SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPIST	29,171 to 31,555
STAFF MIDWIFE	20,246 to 25,283
STAFF NURSE	17,082 to 22,964
STORES ASSISTANT	13,670
STORES OFFICER GRADE D	16,214 to 23,615
SUPPORT GRADE BAND II	11,910 to 16,767
OUDEDINITENDENT DUNCHOTHED A DIOT	
SUPERINTENDENT PHYSIOTHERAPIST	28,962 to 32,001
SUPERINTENDENT RADIOGRAPHER	28,962 to 32,001
T.G.1	16,214 to 23,615
TECHNICAL INSTRUCTOR GRADE III	13,136 to 14,729
TSSU/CSSD MANAGER	17,082 to 22,964
TSSU/CSSD TECHNICIAN (PTH)	17,082 to 22,964
TSSU/CSSD TECHNICIAN	11,485 to 13,918
TUTOR	32,461 to 34,725
TYPIST	11,220 to 17,072
	24,527 to 30,383
WARD PHARMACIST	
WARD CLERK	13,336 to 20,293

* PAY REVIEW PENDING

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Cont'd Answer to Question 769 of 2005

Answer to Question 769

As at October 2004 there were a total of 20 frontier workers employed in the Gibraltar Health Authority, the breakdown of these is as follows:

British Male	Spanish Male	British Female	Spanish Female	Total
2	5	6	7	20

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 689, 690, 691, 722, 725 TO 728, 736, 764</u> AND 769 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

In fact, the Minister is saying that they have no way of knowing without doing it manually whether of the 91 contract officers that were given in answer to the question in 2002 whether they were employed by the Health Authority or employed by the Government?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The information that I was provided when the questions were placed was that most of this information was historical and in order to provide a full answer to all the questions we would need to open up the archives and look into records, and whereas it might be possible to provide answers to those people who are currently in post, because their files are current, in many cases the files are now stored away and they need to be found, identified and research carried out and I was told that the work involved could take up to about two weeks. However, if there are specific questions on any specific individual then it would be obviously easier to answer but it would take a long time to provide the answer to the questions as phrased.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I remind the Minister that in answer to a previous Question there was quite a lengthy series of exchanges as to whether in fact people were being employed by the Health Authority with contracts issued by the Health Authority, we were talking about contract people who were not permanent and pensionable, and in fact it was not clear whether the policy, I think it was left then, that although the power had always existed in the Ordinance from 1987 for the Health Authority to employ people directly the answers that I had to my questions at the time was that the Ministers were not 100 per cent sure whether in fact any or all or none were in fact directly employed. What is the position today? I would have thought that one would know at the very least whether as a matter of policy the Health Authority actually engages people itself or does not.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The answer to that is simple, yes, by far the majority of the employees of the Health Authority are employed by the Government on behalf of the Health Authority. I think in fact if I am not mistaken this is the subject of another question or there is an answer to it in another question that provides this information but by far the majority are employed by the Government on behalf of the GHA and are Civil Servants but the GHA does employ in its own right contract officers depending on the circumstances. For example, the Catering Director who we have just mentioned has been employed by the GHA.

HON J J BOSSANO:

When the applications were advertised internally in the Government what was the position then? Would somebody applying from within the Government then would have had to leave the Government and join the GHA, or is it that because the applicant was recruited from outside that he is employed by the Health Authority?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

If we are talking about the Catering Director, yes. In the case of the Catering Manager or Director if the application from someone within the Service had been successful he would have retained his position as a Civil Servant and taken up the post. As there were no applications internally then the job was given to someone from outside and that was on contract to the GHA.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In terms of the 91 that we were given on the list on that date the Minister cannot in fact confirm that they were all, I mean it is not that all contract officers are automatically are employees of the Health Authority then?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I am not sure of the answer to that question, we may be back in the position that we were in 2002. Both are happening, contract officers generally are by the GHA. I hesitate to say that all by the GHA without checking that information. I cannot say that on my feet without having checked the answer.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Would it be correct to assume that people who are contract officers with the GHA as opposed to contract officers with the Government are not subject to things like General Orders and Colonial Regulations and so forth, which are Civil Service conditions of employment?

HON LT-COL E BRITTO:

No I do not think that is correct, I think that as part of the contract they would be subject to all the same conditions. I think we would write into the contracts that they are subject to General Orders. This is the same in the Electricity Authority and in various other Authorities.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see, so although these are Civil Service conditions of employment they are applied in the Health Authority and in the other Agencies to non-Civil Servants?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

The conditions are applied according to the terms of the contract. I cannot give the hon Member a blanket answer, if he asks a specific question on a specific post I can give him an answer but not as generally as he is phrasing the question.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is there then not a Government policy? Presumably the Government have got a policy of employing people in the Gibraltar Health Authority as employees of the Health Authority as opposed to being employees of the Gibraltar Government, they must also have a policy of whether Gibraltar Health Authority employees are still subject to General Orders and Colonial Regulations as if they were Civil Servants, notwithstanding the fact that they are not Civil Servants? It cannot be that one may apply to one individual and not to the next applicant, surely there must be a Government policy on these things otherwise one would be handing out discriminatory treatment for people doing equal jobs. I find that difficult to understand frankly.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

It brings me back to the position of 2002, I would need notice of that question to be able to give an exact answer.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It is not even possible then, for example, in the first of these questions which is Question No. 725, to provide information as to how many are still in post and how many have left the Service and things like that? I think there was a series of supplementaries relating in Question No. 726 asking about which officers have left the Service and on which date, so the Government are not able to tell us of the officers that they gave us who were on contract who is no longer there?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That answer would seem to be easier to give. The answer I have given is in relation to all four questions, Question Nos. 725, 726 and I think Nos. 727 and 728 if I am not mistaken. Those four questions are very wide-ranging and it would need examining, all those 91 records but as I said at the beginning those that are current are easier to answer, those that are not current then we would have to go back and find out what happened at the time. It is the digging into the archives that would take time. If the hon Member would like to narrow down the question then within the House or outside the House I can attempt to give him an answer.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I would have thought that if the Question of which we have given notice is, 'can Government state of the officers employed in the GHA on 24th April 2002 listed in answer to Question No. 571, which have left the service and on which date?' well, there were 91 names on that list, there were eight cooks, I would have thought simply

by looking into the kitchen one would know whether there were still eight there or only seven without having to delve into all the closed records. So it would appear to me, with all due respect to the Minister, that if it was not possible to give a full answer to this question at least some answers could have been given, simply to say it would take a long time I would have thought it would not be all that difficult to establish who has left and who is still there because presumably most of them are still there.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

That would seem a logical position.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Would the Minister not agree that perhaps if we repeat the question at a future date, given that they have got until now and the next Question Time, it may be possible to produce some answers?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Well, I would encourage the hon Member to narrow the scope a bit because as I said the scope of the four questions together I was advised involved up to two weeks of research and of work in compilation. I am hesitant to agree with him that that amount of administrative effort is appropriate. However, if the hon Member could give an indication of which areas interest him and narrow the scope of the question a bit, I would appreciate a little more than six days notice and if he wants to ask the question at the next House we can try and compile the information for him between now and then. It is not that I do not want to give him the information it is just that if he is really that interested we would make an effort to provide it but it will take a lot of time, so if he can try and narrow the scope down to help the administrative officers who are going to have to do it, we will compile it and provide it to him either by letter or at the next House of Assembly, whichever he prefers.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I think that if the Minister revisits the debate that followed Question No. 571, it appeared then that the reason why there were so many people on contract was because policy decisions had not yet been taken as to in which direction they would go in terms of the Health Authority. Three years later one would have thought that by now something would have been decided.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I would just like to leave it that if the hon Member would like to look at the questions again and try and narrow the scope, as I say it is not me personally it is the people who are going to have to do all the digging out and finding files in the bottom box in a pile ten boxes high in the basement of the hospital, as opposed to opening a filing cabinet. If he can narrow it a bit it would be helpful and we would then try to provide the answers between now and the next House or in writing if he so prefers. I take it the hon Member will write to me and indicate whichever way he wants to go.

NO. 770 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME

Can Government state how many vocational trainees have been successfully enrolled for the Vocational Training Scheme this year?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question No. 771 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 771 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME

Can Government state how many potential vocational trainees have applied for the Vocational Training Scheme this year?

ANSWER

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

Answer to Question No. 770

There have been 161 new entrants into the Vocational Training Scheme since 1^{st} January 2005 to 7^{th} October 2005.

Answer to Question No. 771

A total of 174 applications have been received to join the Vocational Training Scheme (VTS) between 1st January 2005 and 7th October 2005.

NO. 772 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – CONSTRUCTION TRAINING CENTRE

Can Government state how many trainees have applied for enrolment in the Construction and Training Centre this year giving a breakdown by courses offered?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question No. 773 of 2005.

NO. 773 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - CONSTRUCTION TRAINING CENTRE

Can Government state how many trainees have been enrolled in the Construction and Training Centre this year?

ANSWER

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

The statistical information requested is set out in a schedule which I hand the hon Member.

Answer to Question 773 of 2005

Answer to Question 772

A total of 16 applications have been received between 1 January 2005 and 7 October 2005 to join the Gibraltar Construction Training Centre

The breakdown by courses offered is as follows:

Applications*	Construction Trades – 2005 entrants
3	Bricklaying
5	Carpentry & Joinery
1	Painting and Decorating
0	Plastering
5	Plumbing
2	Wall & Floor Tiling
16	Grand Total

^{*} These figures show Applicants' 1st preference of Trade at the time of submitting application.

As a result of aptitude tests carried out during the selection procedure, some potential Trainees then express an interest to change onto another trade.

Answer to Question 773

A total of 11 Trainees were enrolled in Intake 12 at the Gibraltar Construction Training Centre. The start date for Intake 12 was 3 October 2005.

NO. 774 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

Can Government state how many trainees have applied for the Cammell Laird apprenticeship courses offered in conjunction with Government this year giving a breakdown by trade?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question No. 775 of 2005.

NO. 775 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

Can Government state how many trainees have been successfully enrolled to the Cammell Laird apprenticeship scheme this year giving a breakdown by trade offered?

ANSWER

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

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule which I hand to the hon Member.

Answer to Question 775 of 2005

Answer to Question 774

There were a total of 29 applications received to join the Engineering Trades Training Scheme 2005 Intake.

Breakdown of Engineering Trades applied for are as follows:

Applications received to join ETTS in 2005

14	Electrical Engineering
6	Mechanical Engineering
9	Welding & Fabrication
29	Grand Total

Answer to Question 775

All 12 new entrants into the Engineering Trades Training Scheme follow an initial "generic" training programme for around 3 months. Thereafter, based upon a trainee's ability, they follow training leading up to NVQ Level 3 in one of the following trades:

- a. Electrical Engineering
- b. Mechanical Engineering
- c. Welding & Fabrication

Therefore, trainees who enrolled on 19 September 2005 will opt for their preferred specialised trade during December 2005.

NO. 776 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT

Can Government state how many peripatetic teachers are currently employed for the Pupil Referral Unit for this academic year?

ANSWER

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

The Behaviour Education Support Team (BEST) to whom some pupils need to be referred for behaviour modification counselling and support consists of two full-time and one part-time teachers.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 776 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Is this a slight decrease from the three that were employed last year on full-time basis? There seems to be two full-time and one part-time.

HON DR B A LINARES:

It is two and a half as opposed to three, but we are now counting on the vacant post of Education Welfare Officer which as planned and redefined will include a certain commitment, an extensive commitment, to peripatetic support for disaffected pupils, and this is due shortly.

ORAL

NO. 777 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - MATERNITY LEAVE

Can Government state whether they have responded to the proposals submitted by the NASUWT in relation to maternity leave for teachers?

ANSWER

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

The Department of Education and Training is working closely with the Human Resources Department to consider and prepare recommendations to Government on this issue. No formal response has yet been given.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 777 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can Government state when they envisage to have a response to this, since the proposal, as I understand it, was well before January or February when it was submitted? I could be corrected if I am wrong on those dates but it is an issue that has come about because of the Civil Service conditions of maternity which have changed, and also EU legislation and stuff like that?

HON DR B A LINARES:

These are matters of negotiation and can be complicated in this case, because in the case of teachers the cost implication is difficult because cover has to be supplied but I cannot give the hon Member a date that he asks for.

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister state whether teachers who are taking unpaid leave to extend what could be classified as a maternity unpaid leave, once they do their stint of right of maternity leave, that they are being asked either to extend that so that it does not encroach on a term? I will give an example it is very simple, if somebody finishes a maternity leave say in January, the first two weeks in January, and they want to extend that as unpaid leave for say all February, that they are not allowed to do that

until it goes to the Easter holidays. They either take up to the Easter holidays or they do not take it at all. Is that the case, can the Minister confirm this?

HON DR B A LINARES:

I am sorry but I have no knowledge of that practice, I could find out.

NO. 778 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY

Can Government state how many times the Department of Education has met in relation with the Technical Services and the Gibraltar Health and Safety Inspectorate in relation to the Health and Safety policy for schools?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 779 and 780 of 2005.

NO. 779 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY

Can Government state how many times the Department of Education has met with the NASUWT in relation to the Health and Safety policy for schools?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC AND CONSUMER}}{\text{AFFAIRS}}$

Answered together with Question Nos. 778 and 780 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 780 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY

Can Government state whether the Technical Services Department and the Gibraltar Health and Safety Inspectorate have given their recommendations on the Department of Education's Health and Safety policy?

ANSWER

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

The Health and Safety Policy document produced by the Department of Education and Training was circulated, as I have announced in this House before, to all Headteachers and NASUWT as a draft. The Policy was then re-formulated based on the feedback provided, and as I also informed the House at the previous meeting, it was then submitted for the consideration of the Technical Services Department and the Health and Safety Inspectorate. The final document incorporating the input, the recommendations and advice from the latter two bodies, has now been submitted to Government for their consideration. The Department has met on an on-going basis with all relevant stakeholders as deemed necessary, including many conversations and discussions over the telephone.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 778 TO 780 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can Government state when was the last time they conducted training in relation to the health and safety to teachers and other employees within the Department of Education?

HON DR B A LINARES:

I do not know the date exactly but I do know that there is an on-going attention from the Department to matters of training in terms of health and safety. I am pretty satisfied and confident that the Headteachers and other teachers, particularly the technical staff in laboratories and workshops, have been given practical and on-going training and advice. What we need now really is the formulation of a policy written statement, which is now as I explained being worked out, but I want to assure the hon Member that we are all, obviously as he is, conscious of the need to have real

knowledge and practical experience and advice to the front line people in terms of health and safety in our schools.

HON S E LINARES:

Is the Minister aware that all new recruits have to go through a course of health and safety in schools? All new recruits, teachers, cleaners, everybody who is recruited into working into a school environment, or any environment?

HON DR B A LINARES:

I am sure that an on-going exercise is being carried out by the Department.

HON S E LINARES:

So the Minister can then confirm that these training courses are being conducted probably through the probationary year and the induction course, is that correct?

HON DR B A LINARES:

It is very likely that it is part of the very structured probationary, as the hon Member will know, the probation year now is quite structured to fit within the induction course that all teachers in the UK are required to carry out before they are finally approved.

NO. 781 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - BISHOP FITZGERALD SCHOOL

What was the cost of the toilet block, store and changing rooms at Bishop Fitzgerald School?

ANSWER

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

The cost of the extension in Bishop Fitzgerald School was £168,628.43. As a result of which the extra area being available the extension houses ten new toilets, a much-needed storage space, an extra teaching area for Years 4 and 5 Learning Support Facility pupils, and a larger staff room/teachers resources area. The lunchtime supervisors and cleaners changing room has been relocated to the portakabin which used to house the library.

NO. 782 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - PRIVATE NURSERIES

Can Government state what premises have been offered to the nursery situated at the Fleet Pavilion site for relocation and whether these premises are of a temporary or permanent nature?

ANSWER

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

No premises have been offered as yet for the relocation of the private nursery situated at the Fleet Pavilion on either a temporary or permanent basis, but I do know that the Government are committed to providing suitable premises to this nursery to enable them to carry on the very good work that they are doing. The matter is under constant discussion with the owners of the nursery.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 782 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Government state whether they are looking for premises on a temporary or permanent basis?

HON DR B A LINARES:

I do not know but I imagine that whilst the works on the major project in that area is being carried out there may be a need for a temporary allocation of premises, but the intention and the objective finally is to give them a permanent and suitable and agreed premises.

HON S E LINARES:

That permanent, suitable, agreed premises will it be within the project or the whole Mid-Town project that the Government are embarking on?

HON DR B A LINARES:

This is very much part of the logistical review of the project, which is still in the pipeline, but certainly I can assure the hon Member and the owners of the nursery know that and agree, it will be within the geographical area of that part of town.

NO. 783 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - PRIVATE NURSERIES

Can Government state how many visits have been conducted by officers of the Education Department to private nurseries since the last election?

ANSWER

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

Officers from the Department visit private nurseries as and when necessary and appropriate. The Department does not keep a log of such visits, neither does it keep a record of the number of the many telephone calls and conversations answered in relation to advice sought by private nurseries on specific issues and specific pupils. The Department also responds to parental complaints whenever there is a concern in this respect. The Department monitors the running of most aspects of private nurseries and other agencies such as the Fire Brigade and the Environmental Health Agency monitor other relevant more physical aspects of these premises, such as health and safety matters.

Therapists from the multi-professional team (such as the speech and language therapist, the occupational therapist, the physiotherapist, all of whom have special paediatric training) go to private nurseries as the need arises and when they are called to attend to particular pupils.

All private nurseries also know that the St Martin's highly specialised Child Development Unit (pre-school unit) takes pupils as early as possible, which the hon Member will understand is very important in these cases of special needs. As a rule, pupils with very special needs are actually by agreement transferred from private nurseries to the St Martin's nursery or the Child Development Unit as it is called, or at least supported on an outreach basis and part-time basis by the specialists there.

The Principal Educational Psychologist will observe a child, again when he is asked to do so for particular reasons, in a private nursery when there is evidence of any particular problem.

ORAL

NO. 784 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - SCHOOL LUNCHES

Can Government state how many pupils are staying and stayed in schools for lunch in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and this academic year 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 I hand to the hon Member. Would he please note that no figures can be given for 2001 since school lunches had not started yet. We do not have the complete figures for 2005/2006 because the reception year pupils do not start on full-day schooling programme until mid October. So very soon we will know that figure but not quite yet. In any case, the figures for 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 were already provided to the hon Member in answer to Question No. 2288 of 2004.

Answer to Question 784 of 2005

School	January 2002*	At the start of the academic year 2003	At the start of the academic year 2004	2005**
Bayside	575	844	815	
Westside	435	395	321	
Bishop Fitzgerald	416	413	434	
Sacred Heart	241	247	230	
St Anne's Middle	347	411	388	
St Joseph's Middle	280	345	334	
Hebrew	37	23	20	
St Mary's First	158	160	155	
St Bernard's First	99	113	123	
Notre Dame First	229	307	225	
Governor's Meadow	299	307	301	
St Paul's First	229	249	253	
St Joseph's First	256	284	307	

- * School lunches started January 2002. No figures can be made available for 2001 since they had not started yet.
- ** Results for 2005 not yet collated. Department waits to find out how many YR pupils decide to stay on they start full-day attendance as from mid-October. We can forward this information after half-term.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 784 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

I would appreciate if the Minister could forward to me as soon as possible the 2005 figure. The reason why I have asked as in 2002, 2003 and 2004 is to have a correlation of the whole since it started. I also appreciate the fact that it did not start till 2002, thank you.

NO. 785 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - A-LEVEL EXAMS

Can Government state how many students sat A-levels in Bayside, Westside and College of FE last academic year?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 786 and 787 of 2005.

NO. 786 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - AS LEVEL EXAMS

Can Government state how many students sat AS-levels in Bayside, Westside and College of FE last academic year?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 785 and 787 of 2005.

NO. 787 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - GCSE EXAMS

Can Government state how many students sat GCSE exams in the last academic year giving a breakdown by school and college?

ANSWER

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

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule which I hand the hon Member. May I point out that the figures quoted in this table are liable to slight adjustments to allow for the inclusion of students who are now repeating their GCSE's and examinations and once they qualify, once they attain that necessary grade, they may then join into the AS or A levels. So there will be slight adjustments to those figures, just to make sure he knows the exact state of play.

Answer to Question 787 of 2005

<u>Number of Students sitting GCSE, AS and A-level Examinations – Summer 2005</u>

Centre	GCSE	AS Level	A Level
Bayside Comprehensive School	169	84	67
Westside Comprehensive School	180	96	98
Gibraltar College	183	110	66
Totals	532	290	231

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 785 TO 787 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

When I am reading this table it means, for example, that in Bayside Comprehensive School where GCSE is 169 there could be a student who only sat two. Is that the case? That is included as a person because I am interested in how many persons.

HON DR B A LINARES:

We are talking about the number of students.

HON S E LINARES:

Exactly, this is what I am saying. A student sitting the exam so therefore 169, one student might have sat three GCSE's only and another one four, another one five, it does not matter the number that they sat the exam.

HON DR B A LINARES:

No, it does not matter the number of how many exams and how many subjects.

NO. 788 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - MANDATORY GRANTS

Can Government provide this House with a list of courses chosen by students who have been awarded both mandatory and discretionary grants giving a breakdown by gender?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 789 and 790 of 2005.

NO. 789 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Can Government state how many discretionary grants have been awarded this year giving a breakdown by gender?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 788 and 790 of 2005.

NO. 790 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - MANDATORY GRANTS

Can Government state how many mandatory grants have been awarded this year giving a breakdown by gender?

ANSWER

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

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule that I hand the hon Member.

Answer to Question 790 of 2005

Answer to Question 788

University Courses followed by Gibraltar Government sponsored students broken down by gender (Students starting in 2005)

No of students	Courses Being Undertaken (Females)
1	Adult Nursing
1	Ancient History/Archaeology
1	Archaeology and History
3	Art
1	Art & Design
2	Bar Vocational Course
2	Blomedical Sciences
1	Business Information Systems
i	Business Information Technology
2	Business Management
2	Business Studies
1	Business Studies and Spanish
i	Business Studies and Sport Sciences
i	Business Studies with Finance
1	Business Studies with History
1	Business Studies with HRM
1	
1	Child Care & Early Years Education
1	Computer Science
1	Computing
•	Construction Design Management
1	Criminology and Social Policy
1	Dance Studies
1	Dance Theatre
1	Dentistry
1	Design Crafts
1	Design for stage & screen
1	Design Management for Fashion Retail
1	Development Studies
1	Diabetes
1	Diagnostic Radiography
1	Dip In Payroll Management
2	Dip in Pre School Pracice
1	Diploma in Law
1	Diploma in surveying
1	Drama & History
1	Drama & Italian
1	Drama & Media Arts
1	Drama with Psychology
2	Early Childhood Studies
1	Early Childhood Studies with Psychology
1	Early Childhood Studies with Social Science
1	Economics
1	Economics, Finance & Banking
7	Education
1	Education Studies & Spanish
2	Engineering
4	English
1	English & Americal Literature and History
1	English & History of Art
1	English & Italian

Contd Answer to Question 788

1	English & Spanish
1	English & Spanish Law
2	English Literature
1	Environmental Earth Science & Education
1	Environmental Studies
1	Equine Studies
1	European Studies with French & Spanish
1	Fashion
1	Film & Media
2	Fine Art
1	Fine Art & Teaching
1	French & Spanish
1	Geography
1	Geography & Environmental Management
3	Health & Social Care
1	Hebrew & Economics
10	History
1	History & Politics
2	History & Sociology
1	History of Art Architecture & Design /Spanish
1	Hospitality & Business Mangement
1	Human Anatomy & Biology
1	Human Evolutionary Studies
1	Human Resources Management and Business
1	Human Services
4	Humanities
1	Information Technology
1	Information Technology with Spanish
1	Interior Design
1	International Business & Economics
1	International Business Studies
1	International Management & Modern Languages
1	Introduction to Psychology
1	Journalism
1	Journalism & Communication Studies
15	Law
1	Law & Accounting
1	Law & Italian
1	Law & Spanish
1	Law and Politics
1	Law and Sociology
1	Law with Business
1	Law with IT
1	Legal Practice
1	Makaton Vocabulary Development Project
2	Management
1	Management & Tourism
1	Management Studies with Spanish
1	Marketing
1	Master of Nutrition
2	Mathematics
1	Mathematics & Education

Contd Answer to Question 788

1	Mathematics & Physics
1	Mathematics and Accounting and Financial Management
1	Media Studies
1	Medicinal Chemistry
8	Medicine
1	Medicine & Health Studies
1	Midwlfery
2	Modern Languages
1	Money Banking & Finance
2	Music
1	Neuroscience
2	Nursing
1	Nursing and Mental Health
1	Nursing Palliative Care
1	Nursing/Midwifery
1	Nutrition & Dietetics
1	Occupational Therapy
1	P.E. & Secondary Education
1	Philosophy
1	Phsychology/Education Studies
1	Physical Education
1	Physiotherapy
1	Pimary Education & History Specialism
1	Politics & Development Studies
1	Politics with Media
24	Primary Education
1	Professional and Creative Writing and Media Arts
2	Professional Practice in Healthcare
8	Psychology
1	Psychology & Counselling Studies
2	Psychology & Criminology
1	Psychology and French
1	Psychology and Tourism and Leisure Studies
1	Psychology with Special Needs
1	Retail Marketing Management
1	Secondary Physical Education
1	Social Care
1	Social Policy
7	Social Science
1	Social Sciences
2	Sociology & Social Policy
1	Software Engineering
1	Spanish
1	Spanish & English
1	Spanish & Italian
1	Spanish & Tourism
1	Spanish with Television & Film Studies
1	Speech & Language Therapy
1	Sport & Leisure Management
1	Sport & Physical Education
1	Sport Health & Fitness Sport Studies & Psychology
7	SDOR STUDIES & PSYCHOLOGY

Contd Answer to Question 788

1	Sports and PE
1	Sports Medicine
1	Sports Science
1	Sports Studies with Business
1	Study of Religions & Theology
2	Therapeutic Counselling
1	Tourism Management and French
1	Tourism Studies
1	Travel & Tourism Management
1	Upper Primary with Physical Education
1	Veterinary Medicine
1	Working with young People
1	Writing
1	Zoology
No of students	Courses Being Undertaken (Males)
1	Applied Criminology and Forensic Investigation
1	Architectural Design
2	Architectural Design & Technology
4	Bar Vocational Course
1	Biomedical Sciences
1	Business & Finance for Managers
1	Business Administration
1	Business and Law
1	Business and Management
2	Business Information Technology
1	Business Marketing
2	Business Studies
1	Business Studies with Human Resource Management
1	Civil Engineering
1	Computer Aided Product Design
1	Computer Engineering
1	Computer Science
1	Computing and IT
1	Computing Communications
2	Construction Management
1	Contemporary Dance
1	Criminology and Criminal Justice
1	Criminology/ Sociology
2	Data Communications Systems
1	Dental Technology
6	Dentistry
1	Design Animation
1	Dietetics
1	Diploma in Building Construction
1	Diploma in Nursing
1	Diploma In Surveying
1	Drums & Contemporary Popular Music
2	Earth Science
3	Economics
1	Economics & Finance
1	Economics and Politics

Contd Answer to Question 788

1	Economics, Econometrics & Finance
1	Education & Italian
1	Education and Employment with Management Studies
1	Education Employment & English
1	Educational Doctorate
1	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
2	Electrical Engineering
1	Electronic & Communication Engineering
2	Engineering
1	Engineering Mechanics
1	English
1	English & PE Teaching
1	English and Film Studies
1	English and History
1	English Education & Employment
1	English Literature
1	English Literature & Multimedia Journalism
1	English Studies/Film & Media Studies
1	Environmental Health
1	European Economics with Spanish
1	European Law
1	European Legal Studies
1	Family & Social Policy
1	Film Studies and drama Production
1	Finance, Accounting & Management
2	Fine Art
2	Foundation Course in Art
1	French & Italian
1	French & Russian
1	Geography & Planning
1	Graphic Communications
2	Graphic Design
1	Health Care
1	History
1	History & Politics
1	History & War Studies
1	Horticulture
3	Humanitles
2	Illustration
1	Illustration & Animation
1	Industrial Design
1	Information Technology & Society Key Skills for Professional Engineering
2	Interactive Multimedia
1	Interior Architecture & Design
1	Interior Design
1	International Business Spanish & German
1	International Business with Spanish
1	International Hospitality Management
1	International Relations
1	International Relations & French
1	International Relations with Strategic Studies
1	International Sports Law

Contd Answer to Question 788

1	Internet Communications and Networks
1	Internet Computing
1	Internet Technologies & Applications
1	Internet Technology & Multi media computing
1	Journalism
1	Languages with Professional Studies
32	Law
5	Law with Spanish
1	Law & Phsychology
2	Law with Business
1	Law with Criminology
i	Law with English Literature
	Law with French
1	
1	Law with Hispanic Law
1	Law with Japanese
1	Leisure Management
1	Linguistics and Contemporary European Studies
1	Live Television Production
2	Marine Technology
1	Marketing Management
5	Mathematics
1	Mathematics & Physics
1	Mechanical Engineering
1	Medical Informatics
12	Medicine
1	Mental Health & Distress
1	Merchant Ship Operations
2	Modern Languages
3	Multimedia
4	Music
1	Music & Liturgy
1	Music and English
2	Music Industry Management & Live Production
ī	Music Production
1	Music Teaching
	Nutritional Consultant
;	Occupational Safety & Health
i	Palaeobiology & Evolution
1	Performing Arts
1	Pharmacy
2	
	Philosophy
1	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
1	Photography
5	Physics
2	Physiotherapy
1	Policing
1	Popular Music
1	Popular Music with Music Technology
4	Product Design
1	Professional and Creative Writing and Media Arts
1	Project Management

Contd Answer to Question 788

6	Psychology
1	Psychology & Educational Development
1	Psychology & Social Policy & Administration
2	Quantity Surveying
1	Radiography
1	Real Estate Management
1	Research in Disaster Management
1	Science
1	Secondary Physical Education
1	Site Management
6	Social Sciences
1	Sociology
1	Sociology and Popular Culture
3	Software Engineering
1	Sonic Arts
1	Spanish & Psychology
5	Sport Science
1	Sports Coaching
1	Sports Coaching Management
1	Sports Development
1	Sports Health & Exercise Science
1	Sports Injuries
1	Sports Journalism
1	Sports Science & Management
1	Sports Science and Education and Employment
1	Sports Technology
2	Sports Therapy
2	Strategic Studies
1	Surveying
4	Teaching
1	Technology
1	Theatre Technology
1	Therapeutic Counselling
1	Traditional Chinese Medicine
1	Veterinary Medicine
3	War Studies

Answer to Question 789

A total of 15 discretionary grants have been awarded this year. Of these 5 were to females and 10 to males.

Answer to Question 790

A total of 176 mandatory grants have been awarded this year. Of these 89 were to females and 87 to males.

7.

NO. 791 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - DISTANCE LEARNING GRANTS

Can Government state how many people applied for a Distance Learning grant in the year 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 to date?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question No. 792 of 2005.

NO. 792 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - DISTANCE LEARNING GRANTS

Can Government state how many Distance Learning grants have been awarded in the year 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 to date?

ANSWER

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

The statistical information requested is set out in the schedule which I hand to the hon Member.

May I point out to the hon Member that the number of distance-learning subsidies awarded in 2001 to 2004 was already provided to the hon Member under Question No. 1692 of 2004. I have included these figures, however, in the schedule together with the new information in 2005/2006.

Answer to Question 792 of 2005

Answer to Questions 791 and 792

Academic Year	No. of applications	No. of subsidies awarded
2001-2002	56	30
2002-2003	No record available	48
2003-2004	31	20
2004-2005	29	14
2005-2006	29	22

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 791 AND 792 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister just state why there was no record in 2002/2003?

HON DR B A LINARES:

Yes, it was a mystery to me but I am beginning to understand that it was a moment of transition between the Advisor, Mr Paul Lyons, who used to do these scholarships, he was responsible for that area, moving out when he got the post Headteacher and then another advisor, Mr George Garcia, taking over and there may have been a bit of a blip there, a hiccup, and I suppose I apologise for not having the exact records.

NO. 793 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION - TEACHING AND LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY PAYMENT

When will Government implement the UK's Teaching and Learning Responsibilities, Excellent Teacher and Management Allowance schemes into our local system of education?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 794 and 795 of 2005...

NO. 794 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – TEACHING AND LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY PAYMENT

Can Government explain how they are going to assimilate the UK's Management Allowance scheme into our current Education System?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 793 and 795 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 795 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – TEACHING AND LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY PAYMENT

Can Government explain how they are going to assimilate the UK's Teaching and Learning Responsibility payment scheme into our current Education System?

ANSWER

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

I am grateful for these questions which give me the opportunity, with the leniency of the House, to explain to the House the important, complex and pretty radical reforms in the pipeline afoot in the UK to the Educational system and the schools management structures contemplated in UK and how the Department of Education and Training locally is keeping a close watch over these developments and actually, very actively planning to adapt these changes.

The Department of Education & Training has kept itself fully briefed on the state of play in England and Wales, as the hon Member and other Members will know is full of controversy and discussion, in relation to the change-over from Management Allowances to Teaching and Learning Responsibility payments. In fact, our Education Advisers attended an intensive training session in England in June 2005 – one of the first provided for schools in England. Let me say that without being too triumphalistic about it, our Advisers were surprised at how advanced our Department was in comparison to the majority of schools and Local Education Authorities in England which appeared to be a bit lost, even at this stage. The hon Member seems to be under the impression that these changes are already in place in the UK. Far from it, this is not so.

A presentation for headteachers is already scheduled for October 19th as well as similar sessions for GTA/NASUWT and all members of the profession. A draft proposal on the new school structures has already been worked out and will be presented at the end of the presentations – well ahead of English schools where this has been scheduled for December 2006. Once this has been accomplished, schools will be given the opportunity to feed back and discuss the proposals. One major difference between UK and Gibraltar is that the introduction of the Workload Agreement (in the UK) has seen the employment in schools of other ancillary staff, in particular Learning Support Assistants (Classroom Aides). LSA's take on teaching duties and other "chores" which are being removed from teachers' job descriptions. This may not be the case in Gibraltar given that GTA/NASUWT has had no mandate from the membership to implement the Workload Agreement locally. Therefore they have not made any submission in this respect. The Department has had access to sample job descriptions in UK within the concept of the Workload Agreement, and it

is fair to say that even in England teachers are still expected to undertake certain tasks, administrative or otherwise, that are inherently linked to teaching and learning. For example, collating reports from subject teachers, actually displaying pupils' work as part of the incentive and rewarding system in the schools et cetera.

Another source of complication is that the restructuring in England is being left up to individual schools given the degree of autonomy that they have when compared to their Gibraltar counterparts. My understanding and knowledge is that in many schools headteachers have not gone in this direction because they have not got the money to. They have not got the resources to go in that direction so although there is a national Workload Agreement, when it comes to the individual schools they still have a long way to go. Here, the Department of Education & Training has been working on a common model to avoid creating inequalities and anomalies between our schools that may already exist and that this is an opportunity to overcome over the years.

I should add that the exercise is not, I think the House will understand it is complex, not a straightforward case, which means just simply shifting Management Allowances which exist today and converting them into Teaching and Learning Responsibilities. The Management Allowances are being done away with in England and we do agree because it was felt that greater emphasis related to these allowances should be placed on aspects of the Teaching/Learning process as opposed to pure administrative responsibility.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 793 TO 795 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

I appreciate the explanation given by the Minister on how the current situation is. As the Minister is aware and he stated in that statement, the Management Allowances in Gibraltar locally are permanent and pensionable quite frankly. They are not like in the UK where they were given. In the UK they were given for a certain amount of years or at least for a year and then that pending whether the teacher was performing that, then they would either extend it for another year or extend it for four and five years depending on the management of the school, basically the headteacher, as is not the case here. The question therefore would be, how are Government going to reconcile the fact that we have permanent and pensionable officers already here in Gibraltar with a salary that follows with it, and incorporate the Teaching and Learning Responsibility and Management Schemes and Excellent Teachers Schemes?

HON DR B A LINARES:

I am pretty sure that Government must be committed to maintaining the present, in respect of permanent and pensionable, status maintaining the present system whereby allowances become part of the reckonable pension at pension stage. I am pretty sure that that could not be done away with. I am not too sure about the situation in the UK, I think this renewing of allowances year after year, on the whole I think they are consolidated. Again of course, as the hon Member knows, a lot depends on the governors of each particular school, what incentives and conditions they want to offer in terms of recruiting in the very difficult situation they have of recruiting teachers in UK. In some cases they may make these allowances

pensionable as an incentive, in other cases they do not. Whereas we have a national, global model in the UK it varies from school to school.

HON S E LINARES:

In relation to the way that we run our Education system, as the Minister says is a national thing and we all have the same rather than different schools having different things, when are they going to begin the equalisation of posts? Or is this now going to be incorporated into the TLR system, and how is that going to be assimilated?

HON DR B A LINARES:

A good point, this is one of the opportunities when certain anomalies in equalities can be now overcome, but it is complex, there will have to be a lot of negotiations, a lot of feedback from the schools. I want the hon Member to appreciate, and the House to appreciate, that the task ahead of us to be fair at all times and at the same time to be reasonable is one of the objectives that we have and is certainly being worked on. We already have a map, a scheme already worked out by the Department which, as I said on October 16th, will now be put to headteachers and to the GTA and there will have to be a process of consultation to reach the objective that we all want. A fair system and also an equitable one.

NO. 796 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

EMPLOYMENT - NEW ENTRANTS

Can Government state how many Gibraltarians employed in the months from April to September 2005 were new entrants to the local labour market giving a breakdown by sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 797 of 2005.

NO. 797 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

EMPLOYMENT - NEW ENTRANTS

Can Government state how many non-EEC nationals in the months of January to March 2005 were new entrants to the local labour market giving a breakdown by nationality and job title?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought is being submitted to the hon Gentleman in written format. However, I would like to draw to the attention of the hon Member that the information requested in Question No. 797 was supplied in answer to Question No. 191 of 2005 at the meeting of the House in April 2005. However, the information is repeated here for the convenience of the hon Member.

Answer to Question 797

Schedule to Question 796

Number of Gibraltarians who were employed in the months of April to September 2005, who were new entrants to the local labour market:

Month April May

Month	Males	Females	Total
July	28	8	33
August	25	27	52
September	26	30	26

Schedule to Question 797

Non EEC nationals in the months of January to March 2005 who were new entrants to the local labour market broken down by nationality and job title.

	Bahamian	Brazilian	Brazilian American Israeli	5	raeli	Indian	an	Japanese Romanian Russian	Se I	Romania	an	Russia		Serbian	羅斯	Turkish	Sh
January Zuno	M	MF	MF	M		M	F	N							N	题	ш
Manag.						2						-			-	-	
Prof.	1																
Ass. Prof			1													-	
Admin																-	
Skilled		1														1	
Personal Svs																1	
Sales				-					-		-						
Plant													-			1	
Element																	

Cont...

Romanian Turkish Moroccan M USA Bulgarian Canadian Hungarian Turkish M F Cont Answer to Question 797 2 Polish M F Indian M F -Manag.
Prof.
Ass. Prof
Admin
Skilled
Personal Svs
Sales
Plant
Element Ass. Prof Admin Skilled Personal Svs Sales Plant Element February 2005 March Manag.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 796 AND 797 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the Minister. Perhaps before I move on to a supplementary question can I just confirm to the House that now that the hon Gentleman has taken over at Employment, he and I are continuing the process of providing and receiving information in relation to a number of the statistical questions that were habitually put in this House by way of written questions and answers, which I understand is also being provided to the House. In relation to Question No. 797 I am grateful for the repeat of the information from January to March 2000, I believe that when I put this question this time I actually put it for April to September, I do not know whether it is a gremlin in my system or in the House system, I am not going to visit any blame on the House since it is very likely to be in my system. Does the hon Gentleman have that information for April to September?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

There are a couple of points I would like to say on what the hon Member has just said. I confirm that we have agreed that the arrangements that were in place by my predecessor will continue, however, there was a comment made to me by members of the Employment Division to the effect that some of the questions that were being asked in this Question Time actually do repeat some of the questions that are ongoing and being submitted monthly. I have not had time to actually analyse what those comments meant but when the questions and answers came back there was a comment made to me to the effect that some of these answers were already covered in the monthly or quarterly information that is being sent. But as I say, if that is the case I will bring it to his attention when I send him the figures that are due to be sent to him any day now for that. I do happen to have the information in respect of the period April to September so I will now pass that on, it is not part of the original information but I did ask for it because I really wanted to see the trend in any case for my own information.

NO. 798 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 April to September 2005 receiving:

- (a) Unemployment Benefit;
- (b) Social Assistance;
- (c) No payments giving a further breakdown of sex in each age group?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The statistical information requested is being passed on to the hon Member in written format.

Schedule to Question 798

A. UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

2005	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	25+
April	28	29	57	14	43
May	26	30	56	16	40
June	24	21	45	19	26
July	30	29	59	19	40
August	34	34	68	28	40
September	45	31	76	26	50

B. SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

2005	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	25+
April	78	55	133	25	108
May	77	50	127	22	105
June	83	49	132	23	109
July	77	54	131	18	113
August	89	57	146	21	125
September	84	58	142	19	123

C. NO PAYMENTS

2005	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	18/25	25+
April	61	40	101	28	73
May	60	32	92	27	65
June	46	40	86	18	68
July	55	29	84	31	53
August	78	33	111	25	86
September	65	77	142	52	90

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 798 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I just take up one of the issues that the Minister was dealing with in relation to the written questions? This question which relates to employment was at some stages answered by the Minister for Social Services because it involved an element of Social Assistance payment and Unemployment Benefit, that is why it could not fall within the arrangement that I had with his predecessor. Now that he is answering it, if he is happy I am quite happy to put this as one of the written questions that I ask regularly.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do not think there is any problem with that.

HON F R PICARDO:

The number of unemployed Gibraltarian males receiving Unemployment Benefit is 28 in April and rises steadily to 45 by September, does the Minister have any indication of why that is the case? In particular, in the age group 18-25 they have exactly doubled between April and August from 14 to 28, 26 in September, is there any reason the Minister has been able to identify which relates to that?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

My experience in Employment is obviously very limited and short, however, I am told that this is the usual trend after the summer holidays and although I understand what he is saying that the trend is sort of rising over the six month period, if one analyses this over the year round it tends to increase after the summer. Why the sort of slight increase by months as from April I cannot really give him an explanation for that.

HON F R PICARDO:

I imagined that, certainly while the figure rises it also reduces because as people get to the end of the period when they can receive Unemployment Benefit they move from that schedule to the no payments schedule. But this seems to be not just the usual school leaver issue because at 18-25 we have got 14 but we have still got a lot of unexplained in August and September and it is a steady rise, it is not just an end of summer season when people might lose waitressing or seasonal jobs otherwise. There is nothing else which has been identified by the Ministry is there, in particular to this year?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, not that I am aware of but I will definitely take this on and enquire myself.

NO. 799 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

WORKS ABOARD THE ROTTERDAM

What further steps, if any, have Government taken since their last answer in this House to ensure that any works aboard the vessel Rotterdam continue to be carried out in a manner that is safe and in keeping with the Factories Ordinance and the Asbestos at Work Regulations and that further any asbestos removed from the vessel is disposed, stored (aboard or otherwise) or treated safely?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 933 of 2005.

NO. 800 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the distribution of average annual earnings as shown in Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report in respect of MOD employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 801 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 801 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the distribution of average annual earnings as shown in Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report in respect of Gibraltar Government employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 and 802 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 802 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the distribution of average annual earnings as shown in Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report in respect of private sector employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800, 801 and 803 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 803 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide a breakdown of the numbers in the £25,000 and over category of Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the numbers between £25,000 and £29,999 and those with earnings of £30,000 and over?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 802 and 804 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 804 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government list the public sector entities and Government owned and joint venture companies that are included in the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the industrial classification?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 803 and 805 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 805 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the information in Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report in respect of those public sector entities and Government owned joint venture companies included as part of the private sector?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 804 and 806 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 806 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government explain the reduction of male employees shown in Table 12 of the Employment Survey Report under "public administration" industry from 131 in October 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 805 and 807 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 807 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the distribution of average annual earnings as shown in Table 16 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report in respect of MOD employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 806 and 808 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 808 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the figure for part time employment in the Gibraltar Government in respect of Table 11 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 807 and 809 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 809 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the figure for full time employment in the Gibraltar Government in respect of Table 11 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 808 and 810 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 810 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the figure for part time employment in the MOD in respect of Table 11 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 809 and 811 to 813 of 2005.

NO. 811 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government provide the figure for full time employment in the MOD in respect of Table 11 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report showing the breakdown by industry, sex and nationality?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 810, 812 and 813 of 2005.

NO. 812 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?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 800 to 811 and 813 of 2005.

NO. 813 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?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought by the hon Member is submitted to him in written format. However, I draw the attention to Question Nos. 800 and 807 which are exactly the same, there seems to be a repetition of questions there.

Schedule to Question 813

The following tables are attached.

Q 800	Distribution of
	Distribution of average annual earnings in respect of MOD employment,
and 807	October 2004.
Q 801	Distribution of average annual earnings in respect of Gibraltar Government employment, October 2004.
Q 802	Distribution of average annual earnings in respect of private sector employment, October 2004.
Q 803	Distribution of average earnings for persons earning over £25,000 per annum, October 2004.
Q 804	Public sector entities and joint venture companies included in the October 2004 Employment Survey Report.
Q 805	Distribution of average earnings in public sector entities and joint venture companies, October 2004.
Q 808	Gibraltar Government part-time employment, October 2004.
Q 809	Gibraltar Government full-time employment, October 2004.
Q 810	MOD part-time employment, October 2004.
Q 811	MOD full-time employment, October 2004.
Q 812	Private Sector part-time employment, October 2004.
Q 813	Private sector full-time employment, October 2004.

The fall in male employee jobs at Table 12 of the Employment Survey Report of October 2004 from 131 to 104 jobs was mainly attributable to a decrease in 20 jobs within the Gibraltar Development Corporation.

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Cont....

Contd Answer to Question 813

	ALL EMPLOYEE JOBS	PLOYEE 3S		ALL MALE JOBS	E JOBS		ALL FEM,	ALL FEMALE JOBS	
4									
PER ANNUM									
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
666 - 0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
1,000 - 1,499	0	-	1	0		0		1	
1,500 - 1,999	0	2	2		-	-	0	1	
2,000 - 2,499	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
2,500 - 2,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3,000 - 3,999	_	-	2	-	0	-	0		
4,000 - 4,999	0	4	4	0	-	-	0	3	
5,000 - 5,999	0	0	0		0	0	0		
666'9 - 000'9	-	-	12		-	-	1	10	•
7,000 - 7,999	4	6	13	0		2	4		
8,000 - 8,999	2	6	11	1	2	9	1	7	
666'6 - 000'6	-	9	7	0		0	-	9	
10,000 - 10,999	3	7	4	-	0	_	2		
11,000 - 11,999	16		18	8	0	8		2	
12,000 - 12,999	94	0	98		0	51			
13,000 - 13,999	96	0	96		0	48	48		48
14,000 - 14,999	49	-	20		0	31			
15,000 - 17,499	141	-	142		-	86	44	0	44
17,500 - 19,999	136	4	140		0	89			
20,000 - 22,499	83	0	83	72	0	72	11	0	11
22,500 - 24,999	58	0	58		0	50	8		
25,000 and over	293	0	293	275	0	275	18		18
TOTAL	978	62	1 030	762	a	732	25.4	44	298

Cont....

Contd Answer to Question 813

	ALL EM	ALL EMPLOYEE JOBS		ALL MALE JOBS	E JOBS		ALL FEMALE JOBS	ALE JOBS	
cı									
PER ANNUM									
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time Part-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Full-Time Part-Time	Total
0 - 688	0	-	-	0	0	0		1	-
1.000 - 1.499	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	1	-
1	0		0	0	0	0	0		0
2,000 - 2,499	0	0	0		0	0		0	0
2,500 - 2,999	N		2		0	-	-		-
3,000 - 3,999	8		13	1	0	-	7		12
4,000 - 4,999	60		4	0	-	-	3		3
5,000 - 5,999			4		-	-	-		9
666'9 - 000'9	(7)		57		-	2			55
7,000 - 7,999	63		124		1	2			122
8,000 - 8,999	4		19		1	-			18
666'6 - 000'6			12		1	-	-		-
10,000 - 10,999	14		33			4			53
11,000 - 11,999	24		36			9			93
12,000 - 12,999	46		55			13		_	42
13,000 - 13,999	105		109			50			56
14,000 - 14,999	2		78			28			50
15,000 - 17,499	270	9	276	157	0	157	113	9	119
17,500 - 19,999			223			100			123
20,000 - 22,499	_		200			85			115
22,500 - 24,999			216			121			86
25,000 and over	1,	9	1,471	1,018		1,018			453
TOTAL	2,652	282	2,934	1,586	9	1,592	1,066	276	1,342

Contd Answer to Question 813

	ALL EM	ALL EMPLOYEE		ALL MALE JOBS	E JOBS		ALL FEM	ALL FEMALE JOBS	
	9	JOBS							
PER ANNUM									
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
0- 999	0		23			3			
1,000 - 1,499	0	24	24	0	מיי	ט ער		707	8 5
1,500 - 1,999	0		39			0			- 6
2,000 - 2,499	3		61			8	e e		2
2,500 - 2,999	42		269			20	29		21
3,000 - 3,999	29		382		98	123			25
4,000 - 4,999	108		541			332			20
5,000 - 5,999	39		248			61			18
2,000 - 6,999	130		311			74			23
666,7 - 000,7	254		398			134			26
8,000 - 8,999	999		782			337			44
9,000 - 9,999	558		645			282			36
10,000 - 10,999	604		663			374			28
12,000 - 11,999	029		657			441			21
12,000 - 12,999	834		868			615			25
13,000 - 13,999	610		646			423			22
14,000 - 14,999	603		625			387			23
15,000 - 17,499	1,171		1,206			710			49
17,000 - 18,888	826	17	843		3	518			32
20,000 - 22,499	265	6	601		4	411			19
22,500 - 24,999	496	2	498		-	352			14
zo,uuu and over	1,696	4	1,700	1,377	-	1,378			32
TOTAL	9,919	2,111	12.030	6 384	EAF	2 0 2	9 530	707.7	

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Contd Answer to Question 813

Question No: 803 - Distribution of Average Annual Earnings of All Employee Jobs. October 2004

			ю 0	2
, October 2004	FEMALE JOBS	Part-Time		
mployee Jobs	FEM	Full-Time	343 445	788
nings of All E		Part-Time	-0	-
e Annual Ear	MALE	Full-Time Part-Time	796 1,874	2,670
on of Averag		Part-Time	4 0	9
s - Distributi	ALL ALL	Full-Time Part-Time	1,139 2,319	3,458
Reserved NO: 803 - Distribution of Average Annual Earnings of All Employee Jobs, October 2004	£ DED ANN		25,000 - 29,999 30,000 and over	TOTAL

Contd Answer to Question 813

<u>Question No 804 – Public Sector Entities and Government Owned and Joint Venture</u> Companies

Elderly Care Agency
Europa Incinerator Ltd
Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation
Gibraltar Bus Company Ltd
Gibraltar Community Care
Gibraltar Community Projects
Gibraltar Development Corporation
Gibraltar Electricity Authority
Gibraltar Health Authority
Gibraltar Industrial Cleaners
Gibraltar Regulatory Authority
GJBS Ltd
Office of the Ombudsman
Social Services Agency

Health & Social Work
Other Services
Other Services
Transport & Communication
Real Estate & Business Activities
Construction
Public Administration & Defence
Electricity and Water Supply
Health & Social Work
Other Services
Public Administration & Defence
Construction
Real Estate & Business Activities
Health & Social Work

No details are provided by the organisations completing Employment Survey questionnaires in connection with their ownership status and the above list could consequently exclude enterprises that are public sector entities or Government owned and joint venture companies.

Contd Answer to Question 813

Question No: 805 - Distribution of Average Annual Earnings of All Employee Jobs in PSE's & JVC's, October 2004

																											Cont
	Total		C	•	0	0	0	0 0	σ	οα	7 0	, 5	Ş	5 5	2 5	33	20 20 20	3 2	ξ &	8 8	3 8	1 1	5 6	0	48	372	
MALE 3S	Part. Time		C	0	0		0 0	•	ο α	α	w	. 5	_	- «	9 4	+	۰ ،	1 (1	, -	- 0	4 +	- c	0	>	0	99	
ALL FEMALE JOBS	Full-		0	•	0	0	0 0	0 0	· -	· c	·	- c	o er	4	. 2	3.5	3	3 5	22	99	3 %	7,	5 &	2	48	312	
	Total		0	, -	- ^	٠.			232	7	. 4	٠ ،	10	1 6	4	. %	67	48	3.5	40	4	33	40	2	122	729	
E JOBS	Part-		0	· -		1 -	- ح	~	232	7	4	2	· -	4	0	2 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	0	257	7
ALL MALE JOBS	Full-		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	9	4	36	67	48	31	40	4	33	40	2 6	122	472	
	Total		0	-	2	۲-	0	-	241	15	1	13	12	20	21	2	92	82	29	108	76	48	28	7 (27	1,101	
PLOYEE 0BS	Part- Time	•	0	-	7	-	0	-	240	15	10	13	80	10	4	က	7	က	-	7	-	0	0	•	>	317	
ALL EMPLOYEE JOBS	Full-	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0	4	10	17	29	90	79	28	106	75	48	28	170	2	784	
ы	PER ANNUM	000	0 - 999	1,000 - 1,499	1,500 - 1,999	2,000 - 2,499	2,500 - 2,999	3,000 - 3,999	4,000 - 4,999	5,000 - 5,999	6,000 - 6,999	7,000 - 7,999	8,000 - 8,999	666'6 - 000'6	10,000 - 10,999	11,000 - 11,999	12,000 - 12,999	13,000 - 13,999	14,000 - 14,999	15,000 - 17,499	17,500 - 19,999	20,000 - 22,499	22,500 - 24,999	25 000 and over	20,000 alid 00el	TOTAL	

Contd Answer to Question 813

sqop						Sqof								
	ALL		GIBRALTARIAN	TARIAN	UK BRITISH	ITISH	MORO	MOROCCAN	SPANISH		OTH	OTHER EU	OTHER	
INDUSTRY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Construction	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trans/Comm.	0	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Admin.	1	21	1	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	-	165	-	165	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health/Social Wk.	2	78	-	70	0	2		0	0	2	0	-	0	0
Other Services	1	4	-	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	9	276	2	268	0	2	-	0	0	2	0	-	0	0
	_			_										

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Conta Answer to Question 813

	W.		GIBRALTARIAN	TARIAN	UK B	UK BRITISH	MORO	MOROCCAN	SPANISH		OTHE	OTHER EU	OTHER	
INDUSTRY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
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	145	4	141	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	251	17	221	17	2	0	24	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/Restrnts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trans/Comm.	87	25	88	25	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fin. Intermed.	ō	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Est./Bus.Ac.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Admin.	657	281	618	273	25	80	6	0	-	0	4	0	0	
Education	175	289	170	284	8	4	2		0	0	0	0	0	
Health/Social Wk.	229	432	172	343	8	74	8	0	12	10	-	4	7	
Other Services	41	19	39	18	-			0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	1,585	1,067	1,447	964	7.	87	39	-	15	10	9	4	7	

Contd Answer to Question 813

	Question	No: 811	- Full-T	ime Em	loyee J	obs by I	ndustry	, Sex an	Question No: 811 - Full-Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, MoD, October 2004	lity, MoL	octo	ber 200	4	
	ALL		GIBRALTARIAN	TARIAN	UK BRITISH	ITISH	MOROCCAN	\Box	SPANISH		OTH	OTHER EU	OTHER	
INDUSTRY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Public Admin.	724	254	654	238	6	12	22		9	8	0	0		0
TOTAL	724	254	654	238	6	12	25	1	9	8	0	0	1	0
	Ques	tion No:	810 - Par	-Time Er	пріоуев	yd sdol	Industry	Sex and	Question No: 810 - Part-Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, MoD, October 2004	v, MoD, (Octobe	r 2004		
	ALL		GIBRALTARIAN	TARIAN	UK BRITISH	HSITISH	MORO	MOROCCAN	SPANISH		OTH	OTHER EU	OTHER	
INDUSTRY	. Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Public Admin.	8	44	7	37	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
TOTAL	8	4	7	37	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0		0

Cont....

5

Contd Answer to Question 813

	Que	stion No:	812 - Part	-Time Em	oloyee Jo	pul kg sq	ustry, Sex	x and Nat	Question No: 812 - Part-Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, Private Sector, October 2004	ivate Sec	tor, Octo	ber 2004		
	ALL		GIBRALTARIAN	LARIAN	UK BRITISH	НЗП	MOROCCAN	CCAN	SPANISH		OTHER EU	REU	OTHER	
INDUSTRY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Shipbuilding	6	2	4	2		0	-	0	3	0	0	0	0	
Other Manuf.	9	19	2	9	-	4	-	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Elec/Wtr Supply	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	22	38	13	22	12	10	4	2	23	8	5	1	0	0
Whsle/Retail Tr.	85	443	36	266	0	æ	14	7	25	88	1	10	0	13
Hotels/Restrnts.	77	164	13	35	31	22	5	80	21	29	9	3	2	
Trans/Comm.	29	51	24	35	2	9	-	2	2	9	0		0	
Fin. Intermed.	20	158	10	125	7	24	0	0	2	7		2	0	0
Real Est/Bus.Ac.	289	301	262	224	41	23	3	8	9	4	2	2	2	2
Public Admin.	2	41	2	13	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Education	6	47	80	34	0	9	0	0	0	9	0	0	-	
Health/Social Wk.	4	73	6	52	0	8	0	-		6	0	8	0	0
Other Services	28	156	26	71	21	28	4	4	2	48	4	3	1	2
TOTAL	645	1,466	403	888	86	224	33	27	87	277	18	28	9	22

Cont....

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Contd Answer to Question 813

Male Male Female Male Question No: 813 - Full –Time Employee Jobs by Industry, Sex and Nationality, Private Sector, October 2004	ili –Time Employee Jok	Employee Jot	흿	os by Ir	ndustry,	Sex and N	Vationalit	v. Private	Sector, Octo	ober 2004						
Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Female Female Female Female Male Female Female Female Male Female Female Female Male Female Fem	ALL ALL		+	GIBRALTARIAN	TARIAN	UK BF	RITISH	MORO	CCAN	SPANISH		PT	ER EU	OTHER		
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	6,382 3,5	3,5	337	3,004	1,949	1,185	676	517	29	1,211	633	270	129	195	88	-

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 800 TO 813 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

In answer to Question No. 805 which gives the distribution of average annual earnings of all employees in the public sector and joint venture companies, I take it that those are the entities listed in answer to Question No. 804 where there is a footnote showing that they are not exclusive, there may be others.

ION J J HOLLIDAY:	
That is correct.	

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I just ask? In the schedule that I was provided by the Minister, Question No. 806 was not included.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

If one actually looks at the first page at the bottom it says that 'a fall in male employee jobs at Table 12, which I think is the contents of Question No. 806.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes I am grateful, it is just that the number was not there so I did not know.

NO. 814 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

TRANSPORT - VEHICLE EXAMINERS

Can Government state whether the dispute regarding the Examiners at the Motor Vehicle Licensing Department has now been resolved?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

No.

NO. 815 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 during the period April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 816 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 816 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GIBRALTAR BUS COMPANY LIMITED

Can Government state the quantity and value of diesel fuel and lubricant used by the Gibraltar Bus Company Limited fleet of trans-buses during the period April to September 2004 and April to September 2005, providing a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Government are a shareholder of the Gibraltar Bus Company Limited. It is not a Government Department. Accordingly Government are not accountable in this House for the day-to-day minutes of the conduct of the company's business. The Government have, voluntarily, extended their accountability in this House to Government-owned companies to which a Minister is a director. This is not the case with the Bus Company. I happen to know the information sought by the hon Member and I am happy to tell him personally outside this House how much the Bus Company spends on fuel each month rather than in answer to this Parliamentary Question.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 815 AND 816 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

This is a changed policy from the past where questions of this nature have been answered. Is the Minister talking just about diesel fuel and lubricant and not the number of passengers and the value of the fares collected?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, I am not aware what has been done in the past but I was under the belief that this was standard policy in this respect and that is why I have answered the question in this particular manner. I am happy to reconsider that if in fact this sort of information has been made available in the past. I have the information because I do happen to be responsible for overseeing the Bus Company. However, as it stands at this particular moment in time, I would rather keep to what I have said and I am happy to make the information available to him on a private basis but if the situation was to be different then I am quite happy to do as has happened in the past.

HON L A RANDALL:

I can assure the Minister that in answer to Question No. 170 of 2005, which is on page 249, there is a detailed breakdown of fares by class, revenue and count. Also a question that I asked as regards the number of employees and their salaries, that was also answered in great detail, so I would ask the Minister to reconsider the change of policy and allow me to continue to ask this type of questions and answer them in detail.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am quite happy to reconsider this matter in the light of what has been said and if that is the case I will make the information readily available to the hon Member.

NO. 817 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

TRANSPORT COMMISSION

Can Government state the days on which the Transport/Traffic Commission met between the 1st January 2004 and the 30 September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 833, 902, 917, 927 and 928 of 2005.

NO. 818 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

COALING ISLAND - BERTHS

Can Government confirm what fees are being charged for the new berths for boat owners at the Coaling Island site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 819 to 821 of 2005.

NO. 819 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

COALING ISLAND - BERTHS

Can Government confirm if preference for the allocation of berths for boat owners at the new Coaling Island site is being given to owners of boats at the Western Beach site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 818, 820 and 821 of 2005.

NO. 820 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

COALING ISLAND - BERTHS

Can the Government confirm if the new berths for Boat Owners are already being allocated?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 818, 819 and 821 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 821 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

(On behalf of the Hon Miss M I Montegriffo)

WESTERN BEACH - BERTHS

Can the Government state whether they are prepared to carry out the necessary works to berths at Western Beach in view that there are a number of boat owners who wish to keep their boats there?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The new berths at Coaling Island form part of a local small boat marina that the Government have built but will be operated by the Cormorant Camber Boat Owners Association, to replace the berths lost originally at the old Camber and latterly provided at Western Beach by the previous Government.

The Association has set the berthing fees in agreement with Government. The Association will also decide on criteria for eligibility to be allocated a berth and on actual allocation. However, all boat owners at Western Beach will be able to relocate to Coaling Island and the Association is aware that Government expect available berths in the future to be accessible to all bona fide small boat owners on a transparent and non discriminatory basis.

The Government have invested in the new Coaling Island Marina because Western Beach proved not to provide safe and suitable protection from the weather. Government therefore have no intention to continue to provide such berthing there once Coaling Island comes on stream.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 818 TO 821 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

In relation to the Western Beach boat owners that are currently there and do not want to move, is the Minister then confirming that nothing is going to be done for them, because apparently the fees are different from one marina because one is called a marina whilst the other is called the Western Beach Old Camber Boat Owners. What I am asking is that the Government are now confirming that nothing will be done at Western Beach to improve the situation for those who want to stay there?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

What I have said in my answer was that in an ideal situation there would not be any intention to continue that. However, what he described is actually correct, I have a meeting pending with the Committee of the Cormorant Camber Boat Owners before they actually start moving from one place to another and we need to consider all the relevant applications that have been submitted in order to see what number. if anv. are left behind from those that are currently at Western Beach and do not wish to move to the new facilities. I am aware that there will be some and therefore there will be some form of facilities that will have to continue there and that is something that I know but is not what I would prefer it to happen. Having said that we are looking at the Western Beach area in any case for a future project and we are looking at options that may include some form of berthing in that area as well, so there are still a lot of options that are being currently considered for the future. However, in an ideal situation I would love to see all the people that are currently at Western Beach move to Coaling Island. I think that that will not happen and therefore Government will need to address the situation depending on numbers involved and the magnitude of it. Having said that, Government are also aware that there are many people that would love to have a berth and buy small boats, so therefore this is why possible use of the area of Western Beach for the future is something that needs to be given close consideration and will be done at the right time.

HON S E LINARES:

As the Minister is aware, there are quite a number of boat owners currently at Western Beach who do not want to move, it is to do with the nature of the way that the new Coaling Island marina is going to be run, and therefore they feel that moving from Western Beach to the Coaling Island area is going to be detrimental to them, they cannot afford it for a start but the issue is that they are under the impression (those staying) that the Government will sort of improve the area for them. So it would be good for the Minister to totally clarify, not with a new project in the future or whatever, we are talking about in about two month's time when the weather gets really bad as we all know in that area and whether any damages to boats. Obviously the ones who are going to move are going to try and move as quickly as they can before the weather gets worse but those who are not going to move and want to stay there will need some reassurance from the Minister as to what is going to happen.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am totally aware of all the details that he has spelt out and I have actually met a number of boat owners who feel that they did not wish to move to Coaling Island. It is clear as well that the numbers are not going to be as significant as what he says but, as I said, it is only a matter of going through the process of application and berth allocation to realise what the end product is going to be. A lot of people say that they do not want to move but in the end they are playing with two sides to the story, they are saying that they are not moving but they have applications to move. So therefore one has to really see the end result when actually the facilities are put in place and the whole procedure and process is gone through. If one looks at the facilities at Western Beach they are well beyond expectations down there and there are certain parts of the facilities there which are totally unusable, so what we will have to do is assess the numbers and what part of the facilities are actually in fairly good condition and decide whether at least in the short term those boat owners will be able to stay there in areas where the facilities are safe. So it is a matter of a step by step

situation and although I know the options that are open to the Government, I do not feel that we can commit ourselves in one direction or another until we actually see what the problem is and what the details are of what we will have in front of us, but I am fully conscious of everything that he has said and I have given certain assurances to the boat owners in that respect in any case. So even in the short term their position will be protected, it is not just because people do not want to move for a variety of reasons, some of them actually like to be down there in preference to being in Coaling Island, apart from the fact that they feel that the cost may be disproportionate to what they can afford et cetera, there are people who feel that they want to remain there because they have now got accustomed to the area. Everybody has got their own taste in life but, as I said, the Government have an obligation to look after these people and they will be looked after. However, we will assess the problems and the options open to us when the time comes.

HON S E LINARES:

In relation to Western Beach again, does the Minister know whether the Port Authority who are the ones running Western Beach area are insured in any way for any claims of damages to boats that might occur in any period of time whilst they are there, and especially after the move of the boats which are going to move to the Coaling Island, after that, those staying behind are there any sort of insurance or any way in which any damages that might occur be entertained, any claims that might be entertained?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

My understanding is that every individual boat owner has an obligation to insure their own boat if they wish to have it insured. However, I know it is not an easy piece of insurance to obtain, some find it very difficult to do that. I know that in the case of Coaling Island I have insisted that there should be insurance as part of the facilities and, in fact, I believe that they are in the process of obtaining an insurance that covers the whole of the Club members rather than individuals, which I think is where the problem is. I would encourage the boat owners in Western Beach to do likewise, however, I do not think that they will find it easy to do even irrespective of cost. I know that I have been given an indication as to the cost issue, it is not a cost issue I think it is finding the insurance company that wishes to cover them.

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I just ask the Minister to explain to the House how it is that we find ourselves in a situation where the Government develop a site to put people who are in one particular area in that site, land and even sea now being at a premium in Gibraltar, we now find ourselves that a number of the people, my Colleague has said substantial and he says not as substantial, are now insisting in not moving? Did the Government not ensure before they did the new development that everybody was happy with what was happening and they were moving or take other steps to ensure that that land or sea would be available for the projects that the Minister has said might need to be put in that area in future? How do we find ourselves in this situation?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I think one has got to understand that not everybody in Western Beach wants to move in the first place. There will be a number of people that will be relocating there from other areas, for example the Watergardens area, and it may well be that what the people that are left over may all be able to fit into the Watergardens area and therefore Western Beach may have to disappear. The whole strategy will have to be decided on and finalised once we know numbers. We have estimates of numbers but we do not have firm numbers because the allocation of berths and the actual move has not yet been concluded.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the new facility that was intended from the beginning to be provided to the people who had been moved out of there, moved out of the Queensway area and taken to Western Beach, can the Minister say whether the people who were moved out of there are the ones who have priority or are there other people now that are taking up space which were not there in the first place?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am afraid I cannot give that information but I think that everybody in Western Beach have had the option to move if they had wanted to. Therefore those who have opted not to want to move have done so of their own free will, it is not that anybody else has taken their place instead of and not been given the option of by the fact that somebody has had preference one over the other. Everybody has been given the opportunity to move and there are just under 300 berths in Coaling Island and there are not 300 berths in Western Beach, so everybody could have moved if they had opted to go down that route. Some of them have not but I think that the numbers are not all that big. I am quite hopeful that a good majority of them will be able to move to the area of Watergardens, where obviously they will be safer and within a much more similar regime to where they are at the moment.

NO. 822 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EUROPA POINT

Can Government say how many tenders were received for the proposed demolition of the Du Farol Building and Signal Fog House, indicating the name of the successful tenderer, the amount bid, and whether the tender was awarded to the lowest bidder or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 823 of 2005.

NO. 823 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EUROPA POINT

Can Government give the cost of buying-out the owners of the Du Farol complex at Europa Point and explain whether any other property has been included in exchange as part of the deal?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The owners of the Du Farol complex were granted a new 99 year lease over the adjacent shop and dwelling in August 2003. The consideration for the granting of the new lease was payment to Government of a premium of £9,250 plus the surrender of the Du Farol Restaurant/Ex Goggles night club.

Four tenders were received for the proposed demolition of the Du Farol building and Signal Fog House at Europa Point. The successful tenderer was Gibraltar Joinery and Building Services Ltd in the overall sum of £67,355.15. This was the lowest fully compliant tender.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 822 AND 823 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister say when the demolition works are likely to start?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I could not give an exact date but it is now evident that this will happen fairly soon.

NO. 824 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GRAND PARADE

Can Government say whether there has been any change from the position at the last Question-Time in this House regarding the plans to construct an underground car park at Grand Parade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

No.

NO. 825 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MID-TOWN PROJECT

What advice have Government received from utilities, heritage, environmental, town planning and any other Government departments which may be relevant in respect of the Mid-Town project, including any advice which might relate to the height of the proposed tower and to the dome to be erected in respect of the leisure centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 826 to 829 of 2005.

NO. 826 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MID-TOWN PROJECT

Have there been any departures from the announced deal between the developers of the Mid-Town project and the Government and if so on what date were they agreed and what are they?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 825 and 827 to 829 of 2005.

NO. 827 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MID-TOWN PROJECT

Will the Government be carrying out or requiring the carrying out of an environmental impact assessment in relation to the Mid Town project, and what criteria has been established to determine whether or not the project comes within the "threshold of significance" which would require an EIA?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 825, 826, 828 and 829 of 2005.

NO. 828 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MID-TOWN PROJECT

Can Government say at what stage is the aeronautical study into the Mid-Town project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 825 to 827 and 829 of 2005.

NO. 829 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MID-TOWN PROJECT

Who has been commissioned to conduct the aeronautical study into the Mid-Town project and at what cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

There has been no departure from the announced deal with the developers of the Mid-Town project.

An environmental impact assessment of the project will not be required. In accordance with legislative requirements, the Town Planner submitted a Screening Report of the development. This was tabled before the Development and Planning Commission who were of the view that there was no need for an EIA. I endorsed the decision of the Commission.

The aeronautical study in connection with this development was commissioned by the developers at the request of the RAF and not the Government. Government are not aware of the cost of the study as this is a commercial matter for the developer alone. Government's interest is simply in the result of the study, namely that there should not be no negative impact on Gibraltar airport arising from the development. The Government understand that the study has been conducted by Halcrow Group Ltd.

It is not appropriate to give a public account or to give details to the hon Member of advice given by one Government department to another or by officials to Ministers.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 825 TO 829 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can Government confirm that the original outline planning permission included the demolition of the Generating Station itself?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The demolition of the King's Bastion area, which I think is what he referred to, is actually a Government project and not submitted to planning specifications or approval even though the information was submitted to the Commission for planning information basically or for the Commission's information. So there was no actual outline planning granted for that particular scheme and in fact the project, even though it has been approved in principle by the Commission, the outline planning has not yet been issued and signed by the Chairman because we are awaiting the aeronautical study which will cover obviously the impact on the airport, but the outline planning will actually cover those areas of the development that are for the developer's account, if it is understood what I mean and not for the Government side of the project which is the Leisure Centre, the park, schools et cetera.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can I clarify one point? When the Minister says that planning permission was not necessary for the demolition of the area of King's Bastion, is that the Generating Station or the demolition works inside the Bastion itself?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I think we need to be clear here, there are two issues. One is an outline planning requirement, which is not required for Government projects even though the Government did submit their intentions to the Commission for information purposes and then there is a demolition permit, and that has been issued. In other words, that is more of a technical, engineering method of demolition aspect which is put through the various building control departments which basically analyse the methodology and ways of what they intend or the project they intend to demolish and that does have the permission and even Government projects are subjected to that for approval before any demolition can take place, be it the Government or the private sector.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

We know that King's Bastion is a Category 'A' listed building under the Heritage Trust Ordinance, and under that Ordinance there is a requirement for a licence in order to occupy any specific parts of any Category 'A' listed building or structure, can the Government say when such a licence was issued and to whom?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

As far as I can recall, all that has been demolished in the King's Bastion area are non-historical aspects of the site. Therefore the issue which has been raised now in respect of requiring certain licences do actually apply if and when the project intervenes with any of the heritage sensitive buildings. Let me say that all through this process the Heritage Trust and the Heritage and Conservation Officer of the Government have been fully informed and they have been advising and recording all issues that are relevant to them as the progress of the demolition has taken place. I assume that as soon as we are in a position to require that licence, if we are going to have to touch or demolish any aspect of the heritage sensitive issue, that will be

complied with but my understanding is, it is not a licence that I issue firstly myself, but I am sure that if there is a requirement it would have been dealt with but I cannot give the information without having had prior notice of that.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I have the section of the Ordinance here in front of me and section 39 refers not to demolition but to occupation of the site which is listed as a Category 'A' listed building or fortification in this case, the actual quote is to occupy any specified parts of any such building, structure, site or land for any purpose specified in the licence. My understanding from what the Minister has said is that the demolition works taking place inside the Bastion is not of the historical parts of the Bastion, but certainly if the Ordinance refers to occupation and not to demolition and a licence is required for that.

HON F VINET:

Perhaps I can contribute in the sense that I can confirm that all the structures that have heritage value, as per the advice of the Heritage Trust, have been retained and they will not be demolished.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

My question is whether in order to enter the Bastion presumably occupied to demolish the structures which do not have a heritage value, whether the licence was obtained for that as specified in section 39 of the Ordinance?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I think it is debatable as to whether we are operating inside the Bastion or not. The actual courtyard there, I am not sure whether we are in the Bastion or not I would tend to say that we are outside the Bastion, the Bastion is more of the fortification and the wall which are not being touched at all. Let me say that we do have a group of experts looking at all this very closely and I doubt whether certain members of the Heritage Trust would allow any touching or occupation, whatever one wishes to call it, without having gone through the necessary loopholes and obtaining the relevant permission, authorities or licences but I cannot really give the confirmation that if any requirement that has been needed has been done.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Schedule 1 to the Heritage Trust Ordinance, which lists the Category 'A' listed buildings, includes King's Bastion and then it also includes, which presumably has also been listed, one 12.5 inch 38-ton gun and four 10 inch 18-ton guns. Does the Minister know what has happened to those? Are they still there or what is the position?

HON C BELTRAN:

I think I can answer that question. The guns are there in the upper part of the Bastion. As I recall I was connected to this project at the particular time when I was Minister for Heritage. I can confirm that the guns are up in the upper part of the Bastion.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is that the case now after the demolition works or was that the case at the time when he was Minister?

HON C BELTRAN:

The demolition has not touched the upper part or the inside of the Bastion at all, it is just the post Second World War structures in respect of the old Generating Station.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Moving on now to another question, this one relates to the environmental impact assessment on the whole project, can the Government confirm that the advice of the Planning Department or the Planning Officer was that an environmental impact assessment should in fact have been carried out on the Mid-Town project?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

There was definitely areas of concern which they thought ought to be considered by a possible environmental impact assessment and rather than saying, the screening opinion which is prepared by the Town Planning Department is never a screening opinion that says it is just an opinion and they basically highlight some of the points which the Commission ought to give consideration to and not actually says 'this has to be done' unless it is a particular type of project which falls into a certain type of category, like a power station or crematorium for example. These are projects where it is compulsory to have an environmental impact assessment under EU Regulation, other projects that are less possibly sensitive to the environment in the wider sense of the word, they give an opinion as to what they feel ought to be considered and these are discussed by the Commission and a view is taken at the end by the Commission, which basically is the advice that I as Chairman follow one way or the other. In this case the Commission decided that the overall, I do remember for example one of the issues that they recommended that we ought to consider was the traffic implication. That does not need an environmental impact assessment in the view of the Commission and so the end conclusion was that there was no need for an environmental impact assessment and that was the decision which I then adopted.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

While I realise that it is certainly not compulsory or obligatory to accept the recommendations made by the Planning Department, can the Government nevertheless confirm if it is normal practice for the Development and Planning

Commission to disregard the advice or the opinion in this respect of the Planning Officer or the Town Planner?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Not generally, I think that the advice given by the Town Planner is something that is very much taken on board and their opinion is usually quite sound. Let me say that in the Commission we have representatives of the Heritage Trust, we have representatives of GONHS as well, so therefore the views are quite wide and there is a general good widespread of opinion to be able to take a reasonable and sensible decision when these matters are brought before the Commission for consideration.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

While it is true to say, as the Minister has said, that there are non-governmental organisations of that type represented in the Trust, is it not the case that the professional input and the professional advice that the DPC receive comes from the Town Planner and the Town Planning Section? Even though there are non-governmental organisations represented in the DPC is it not the case that the professional advice comes from the Town Planner and the Town Planning Section?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes, and it is not just the Town Planning Section one has Technical Services represented there, there is Land Property Services, the Government architects are represented there, the MOD are represented so it is quite a wide forum of people with different expertise that each submit their views and normally there is quite healthy discussion, sometimes quite entertaining as well to follow, but I think at the end of the day decisions are taken on well-aired views across the board.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to Question No. 827 can he say as Minister responsible why he felt the threshold of significance which would require an EIA was not passed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, after carrying out the discussion process and inputs from the various members, there was a general view that an EIA was not required so therefore I adopted that view and took that view on board.

NO. 830 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

How many amendments to the draft Development Plan have been made following the draft Environmental Report by Land Use Consultants of Bristol?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 831 of 2005.

NO. 831 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

What was the cost of the Environmental Report into the draft Development Plan produced by Land Use Consultants of Bristol?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

No amendments have as yet been made to the draft Gibraltar Development Plan following the Strategic Environmental Assessment carried out by Land Use Consultants. The Consultants made a number of recommendations and these are being considered.

The cost of the Strategic Environmental Assessment was £12,543.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 830 AND 831 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Following this environmental assessment are the Government now in a position to say when they expect the Draft Development Plan to be ready and open for public comments?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, we are at a stage now when the draft is to be put for consideration by the Development and Planning Commission and it depends how long that takes to be concluded. At that point it will go out to public consultation before it is adopted as the Plan for Gibraltar.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister then confirm that the position is that the Development Plan might be ready at a time when all the different projects have been allocated and have been given planning permission and have been built, which somewhat seems to defeat the purpose of the exercise from our point of view?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

That would be applicable at any time. Whenever one issues the Development Plan there will always be a number of projects that are either going through the process or have only recently been authorised to proceed. We are still working on the target date of having the Development Plan in place by the end of the year, which I think is what I have informed before in this House.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Practically every year because obviously the target date seems to be shifting and changing all the time, but is it not the practice for these plans to be produced every ten years and that therefore this one is already four years out of date?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

We have already discussed that before, it is a reality that it is delayed, when I came into office in November 2003 and took responsibility for DTI and Planning I took it upon myself to address this issue as quickly as I have been able to and the development of a Gibraltar Development Plan is not something that one can do overnight. One has to go through a process but I think the hon Member will be pleasantly surprised when he sees the report, it is a vast improvement of anything he has seen before.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

We do not doubt for one moment we will end up with the best plan in the world, after all the developments have been constructed and put in place and approved.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Gibraltar will continue to develop after I publish the plan. I hope that the plan will not mean that there will be no more developments in Gibraltar.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can I ask the Minister if the Government are satisfied that all developments which are now in the pipeline comply with the 1991 Plan which is the existing plan that we have in place?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

We definitely do refer to that Plan when considering projects which could be sensitive in certain areas and I believe that the Commission has maintained its position as far as the 1991 Development Plan is concerned as much as possible, allowing for the fact that Gibraltar has moved on and the time that has elapsed there has to be an element of flexibility and criteria to be adopted in order to allow Gibraltar to progress without being held to ransom by the 1991 Development Plan.

NO. 832 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BONDED STORES

At what stage is the Government review of the bonded stores system?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND}}{\text{COMMUNICATIONS}}$

An internal review is still in process. It is not yet possible to say when this will be completed.

NO. 833 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 14 April 2005 and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 817, 902, 917, 927 and 928 of 2005.

NO. 834 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION

How many representations have been received by the Development and Planning Commission with respect to the application to construct a residential nursing home at the Old Junior Ranks Mess, Lathbury Barracks, and how many supported the project or were against it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 836, 838, 841, 843, 844, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 835 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

LATHBURY BARRACKS - OLD JUNIOR RANKS MESS

Has planning permission been granted in respect of the application to construct a residential nursing home at the Old Junior Ranks Mess, Lathbury Barracks, and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 837, 839, 840, 842, 845, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 836 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

RODGER'S ROAD

How many representations have been received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the application to construct two town houses at 10/12 Rodger's Road, how many supported the application and how many were against it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 838, 841, 843, 844, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 837 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

RODGER'S ROAD

Has planning permission been granted to Honeyfern Ltd in respect of the application to construct two town houses at 10/13 Rodger's Road?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 839, 840, 842, 845, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 838 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CREMATORIUM

How many representations have been received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the project to construct a Crematorium and Clinical Waste Incinerator at Devil's Bellows, Windmill Hill, how many supported or opposed the project and has planning permission been granted or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 841, 843, 844, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 839 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

LOQUAT HOUSE

Can Government say whether the Development and Planning Commission has approved the application for planning permission for the construction of a swimming pool at Loquat House, South Pavilion Road and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 840, 842, 845, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 840 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PLANNING PERMISSION BY OVP LTD

Can Government say whether the application for planning permission by OVP Ltd to construct commercial premises with apartments above at the site bounded by CP1301, 1301A to the East and CP1317 to the West has been granted and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 842, 845, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 841 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PLANNING PERMISSION BY OVP LTD

How many representations were received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the application by OVP Ltd to construct commercial premises with apartments above, and how many were in favour or against the project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 843, 844, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 842 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SUNRISE MOTEL

Can Government say whether the application for planning permission to the DPC by Andrews Kent and Stone (Engineers International) to construct two additional storeys to the Sunrise Motel has been granted and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 840, 845, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 843 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SUNRISE MOTEL

Can Government say how many representations were made to the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the proposed construction of two additional storeys to the Sunrise Motel, stating how many were in favour and how many were against the project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 841, 844, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 844 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NORTH MOLE - EX MOT CENTRE

How many representations were received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the application for planning permission by Longhorn Properties Ltd to construct an office block at CP1376 Ex MOT Centre, North Mole Road and how many were in favour or against the development?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 841, 843, 846, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 845 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NORTH MOLE - EX MOT CENTRE

Has planning permission been granted to Longhorn Properties Ltd in respect of the application to construct an office block at the Ex MOT Centre, North Mole Road, and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 840, 842, 847, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 846 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BUENA VISTA ROAD

How many representations were received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the application for planning permission to construct five houses at 2 Buena Vista Road, and how many were in favour or against the project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 841, 843, 844, 848, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 847 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BUENA VISTA ROAD

Has planning permission been granted to the proposed development of five houses at 2 Buena Vista Road, and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 840, 842, 845, 849, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 848 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SIR HERBERT MILES ROAD

How many representations have been received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the application to construct three detached houses with garages at Sir Herbert Miles Road south of the Caleta Hotel, stating how many supported the project and how many were against it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 841, 843, 844, 846, 851 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 849 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SIR HERBERT MILES ROAD

Can Government state whether planning permission has been granted in respect of the project to construct three detached houses with garages at Sir Herbert Miles Road, and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 840, 842, 845, 847, 850 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 850 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

QUEENSWAY QUAY CAMBER

Can Government say whether the application for planning permission to the DPC by Andrews, Kent and Stone (Engineers International) to construct 37 apartments at Queensway Quay Camber has been granted and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 835, 837, 839, 840, 842, 845, 847, 849 and 853 of 2005.

NO. 851 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

QUEENSWAY QUAY CAMBER

How many representations were received by the DPC in respect of the application for planning permission to construct 37 apartments at Queensway Quay Camber?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 834, 836, 838, 841, 843, 844, 846, 848 and 852 of 2005.

NO. 852 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

ELIOTT HOTEL

How many representations have been received by the Development and Planning Commission with regard to the application for planning permission to construct a multi-storey annexe to the Eliott Hotel, how many were in favour of the project and how many against?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Representations against these projects were received as follows:-

OVP Limited Project	1 objection
Crematorium and Clinical Waste Incinerator	2 objections
2 Buena Vista Road	16 objections
Queensway Quay Camber	56 objections
Eliott Hotel Annex	18 objections

No other representations were made in respect of any of the other projects.

Planning permission has not yet been granted to the Crematorium and Clinical Waste Incinerator project.

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 834, 836, 841, 843, 844, 846, 848, 851</u> <u>AND 852 OF 2005</u>

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to the Crematorium has planning permission not been granted because it has not been considered yet by the DPC or has it been considered and refused?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, the DPC has had a submission made to it but it will require an EIA and so therefore, until the EIA is done the Commission will not give consideration to the application. In this case it is a compulsory EIA, it is not something that the Commission can take a view on.

NO. 853 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

ELIOTT HOTEL

Has planning permission been granted for the construction of a multi-storey annexe to the Eliott Hotel?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Planning permission has not been granted in respect of any of the above projects, with the exception of the residential home at Lathbury Barracks. This last application has been approved by the Development and Planning Commission and the planning permit will shortly be signed.

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 835, 837, 839, 840, 842, 845, 847, 849, 850 AND 853 OF 2005</u>

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In respect of the projects for which planning permission has not been granted can the Minister say again whether this is because they have not discussed it yet or whether it has been discussed and rejected?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, in the list that is supplied there are some that have been discussed and rejected, there are others that have not been considered yet and others that have been discussed and will require further discussion. Basically, the whole list of projects that have been listed fall into those three categories.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister state which have been rejected?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I would not like to comment on the meeting we had yesterday afternoon, the minutes of which have yet not been done so therefore it would be inappropriate for me to comment on that, but it only actually affects only one project. One that has been rejected is the Caleta Hotel. The rest are on-going projects that are in the progress of going through discussion. One has to remember that decisions are not always taken in one particular meeting, there are times that we need to take matters forward for discussion, there are times when applications have to go back to the applicant for further information or clarification and therefore that means that it can take maybe one or two or three meetings when the applications are given consideration.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can I ask the Minister, in relation to the Eliott Hotel project is that one of the projects which is pending further information or further discussion?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, that was one of the projects that was discussed yesterday and therefore it is better for me not to comment, it would be unfair for me to comment because the applicant does not know as yet what the outcome is and so therefore it would be unfair for me to make it known in the House and for the applicant to find out through the media rather than through a proper notification.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is the Minister able to give any details at all on it? For example, we are not asking whether it has been rejected outright, whether perhaps it is going to be modified?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The only thing I can say is that the Commission were not satisfied with the project as presented and we took a decision yesterday on the way forward, I think, but there have been discussions with the developers on possible alterations and possible alternatives. The main issue is the height within the Town area which I think is something that the 1991 Development Plan actually clearly states has a restriction on the height within the City Walls.

NO. 854 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government list the projects which are not yet complete and which have been granted Development Aid as at 30 September 2005 giving the date when Development Aid was originally granted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 855 to 857 and 869 of 2005.

NO. 855 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government list the projects which are not yet complete and which have been granted Development Aid showing the original date by which the project was expected to be complete for the purposes of the Development Aid Ordinance?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 854, 856, 857 and 869 of 2005.

NO. 856 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government list the projects which are not yet complete and which have been granted Development Aid where extensions of time have also been granted for the purposes of the Development Aid Ordinance showing the project and the time extension?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 854, 855, 857 and 869 of 2005.

NO. 857 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government list the projects which are not yet complete and which have been granted Development Aid giving details of each development?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 854 to 856 and 869 of 2005.

NO. 858 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid in respect of the project by Souwest Developments Ltd (Licence No 4 of 1999)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 859 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 859 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say why the Development Aid Licence No 7 of 2003 which was issued to Queensway Quay Development Ltd was cancelled on 28 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858, 860 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 860 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid in respect of the project known as Gun and Ordnance Wharf by Queensway Quay Development Company Ltd (Licence No 4 of 2003)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858, 859, 861 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 861 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid in respect of the project known as Cormorant Wharf by Queensway Quay Development Company Ltd (Licence No 3 of 2003)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 860, 862 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 862 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid in respect of the project by Slop Oil Reception and Treatment Ltd (Licence No 2 of 2003)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 861, 863 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 863 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works in respect of the project above 39 Glacis Road as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 862, 864 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 864 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say whether the construction project by Sand Key Properties Ltd above 39 Glacis Road which was granted Development Aid Licence No 6 of 2004 was completed by 12 months after commencement as stipulated in the licence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 863, 865 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 865 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid, of the project for which Silverlake Ltd was granted Licence No 5 of 2003 as amended on 28 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 864, 866 to 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 866 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say whether the project by Silverlake Ltd, for which Development Aid Licence No 5 of 2003 was amended extending the date of completion to 31st March 2005, has now been completed as stipulated in the amended licence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 865, 867, 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 867 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works in respect of the project by Taylor Woodrow, for which Development Aid Licence No 3 of 2004 was granted and amended on 28 February 2005, as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 866, 868, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 868 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say whether the project by Taylor Woodrow at Sandpits Vaults for which Development Aid Licence No 3 of 2004 was amended extending the date of completion to 30 June 2005 has now been completed as stipulated in the amended licence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 867, 870 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 869 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the original completion date for the project by Gala Casino (Gibraltar) Ltd which was subject to Development Aid Licence No 4 of 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought in these questions are being handed over in written format.

Answer to Question 869

DEVELOPMENT AID

Project	Project Completion Date	Date of Development Aid Licence	Completion date Extended Until	Date when Extension of Licence Granted
Construction of a six-storey office building at site of	31/12/05	01/07/03	30/06/06	05/11/04
55 Line Wall Road Construction of 157 units with 272 car park spaces at Plot A Europort to be known as Europlaza	30/09/05	01/07/03	30/09/06	05/09/05
Conversion of the former Barrack building at Town Range into 11 houses, offices, garages and car parking spaces	31/07/06	01/07/03	N/A	N/A
Upgrading of Gibtelecom network to be able to offer 2G and GPRS	30/09/03	01/07/03	31/12/05	05/09/05
Construction above the showroom at 39 Glacis road of 18 Flats on 3 floors	31/07/05	06/07/04	31/12/06	10/01/05
Construction at Sandpits Vaults of 4 houses plus external works	31/12/04	02/08/04	30/06/05	28/02/05
Construction of 19 luxury houses on reclaimed land to be known as The Island	27/07/06	02/08/04	N/A	N/A
Construction of 20 apartments, swimming, & external works at Europa Road (adjacent to Rock Hotel)	31/12/06	06/07/04	N/A	N/A
Essential structural repairs and internal	18/03/05	02/08/04	31/03/06	23/05/05

Cont...

Contd Answer to Question 869

Project	Project Completion Date	Date of Development Aid Licence	Completion date Extended Until	Date when Extension of Licence Granted
alterations to the				
International Casino				17/2
Construction of 4	31/12/06	10/01/05	N/A	N/A
houses, 39				1
apartments,				}
swimming pool and				1
external works at				
the site of				Į.
Building A Royal				
Naval Hospital,		1		
Europa Road	15/01/06	10/01/05	N/A	N/A
Construction of	15/01/06	10/01/03	N/A	11/11
office				
accommodation at				
the building situated at 85 Main				
Street Street				
Street				
Canatawatian on the	31/12/16	28/02/05	N/A	N/A
Construction on the Eastside	31/12/16	20,02,03	11/15	/
reclamation of a				
small cruise				
terminal, hotel,				
marina, car parks,				
affordable and				
luxury housing,				
offices, shopping				
precinct, cinemas,				
nightclubs				
Construction at the	30/06/06	28/02/05	N/A	N/A
Ex Mackley Yard				i
Europa Road of 11				
residential units,		}		
23 carpark spaces,				
11 domestic stores,				
gymnasium and				
associated				
amenities. To be			1	
known as Genista	1	1		
House			20/5:/22	05/00/05
Construction, at	31/10/07	28/02/05	30/04/08	05/09/05
the site south of				
the Caleta Hotel,		1	1	
of 2 Studio				
Apartments/Suites,	1	1		
29 One bedroom				
Apartments/Suites,				1
3 Penthouse Suites		(1	1
each with small				
private swimming				1
pool, 16 internal	1	1		
car park spaces and	1	1	1	1
15 external car	1			
park spaces		l		

2 Cont...

Contd Answer to Question 869

Project	Project Completion Date	Date of Development Aid Licence	Completion date Extended Until	Date when Extension of Licence Granted
Construction, at Marina Bay of Eighty-one apartments and six	31/12/08	23/05/05	N/A	N/A
commercial units plus external works and swimming pool				
Construction, at the site of the former Sheppard's Marina, of 132 residential apartments and 1,700m of commercial space, including the beautification of the area with plantations, boardwalks, new promenades, piers, pontoons, walking and relaxation areas including some 40,000 sq ft of plants, pools and gardens	31/03/07	23/05/05	N/A	N/A
Construction of 12 Town Houses at 4 Rodger's Road	31/05/05	23/05/05	31/12/05	05/09/05
Construction at 13/21 John Mackintosh Square of a new building, adjacent to the Treasury Building and City Hall	30/06/07	23/05/05	N/A	N/A

NO. 870 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say whether the project at Lord Napier Mews which was granted Development Aid Licence No 8 of 2005 was completed before 31 May 2005 as stipulated in the Licence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 858 to 868 and 871 of 2005.

NO. 871 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID

Can Government say what was the cost of the works in respect of the project at Lord Napier Mews as determined by the Financial and Development Secretary in his discretion for the purposes of Development Aid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Accounts have not yet been submitted by the developer in respect of any of the developments, so the Financial and Development Secretary has been unable to quantify the cost of the works for the purposes of development aid.

No request has been made for a further extension of the licence granted to Silverlake Ltd beyond 31st March 2005, or to the Sandpits Vaults project beyond 30th June 2005.

The development aid licence granted to Lord Napier Mews was extended to 31st December, 2005, and that granted to Sand Key Properties Ltd to 31st December, 2006.

In relation to Development Aid licence 7 of 2003, the applicant sought material changes to the project and a fresh application for development aid was made for the larger project. This was approved, and at that stage licence 7 of 2003 was cancelled.

NO. 872 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SANDY BAY

Can Government give the dates when Sandy Bay has been cleaned since 31 May 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 873, 874 and 877 of 2005.

NO. 873 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAMP BAY

Can Government give the dates when the pools at Camp Bay have been closed or out of action this summer season?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND}}{\text{COMMUNICATIONS}}$

Answered together with Question Nos. 872, 874 and 877 of 2005.

NO. 874 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAMP BAY

Can Government say whether the maintenance of the pools at Camp Bay were contracted to a private firm for a time period and if so when and what firm was it?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND}}{\text{COMMUNICATIONS}}$

Answered together with Question Nos. 872, 873 and 877 of 2005.

NO. 875 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAMP BAY

Have Government received any complaints against diving schools from across the border diving from Camp Bay during the official bathing season before 6 pm?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 876 of 2005.

NO. 876 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DIVING IN GIBRALTAR WATERS

Can Government confirm whether the Mancomunidad de Municipios have raised the issue of diving in Gibraltar waters at any level?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The issue of diving in Gibraltar waters was raised tangentially at a port-related meeting at which the President of the Mancomunidad de Municipios was present, simply to obtain clarification on the Government's position. This continues unchanged, and in simple terms, there is no discrimination in Gibraltar between individuals of whatever nationality who wish to enjoy diving as a leisure pursuit.

The only complaint received with regard to diving at Camp Bay was contained in the petition from Camp Bay users that was sent to the Gibraltar Tourist Board, I think it was some time in late August.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 875 AND 876 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

When the Mancomunidad raised this issue in the meeting between Gibraltar and Algeciras ports were they raising the points of individuals diving in Gibraltar waters or was it companies organising excursions for diving in Gibraltar waters?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, the issue was raised by the President of the Mancomunidad and myself as we were walking from the meeting room to another location and he raised the issue of what the Government's position was in respect of individuals diving in Gibraltar, which is what I have answered in the letter. I know there are issues in respect of companies coming into Gibraltar but the issue that was raised was with respect to individuals.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

What response was given to the Camp Bay users who complained that these companies were coming into the beach, on occasions driving down to the seashore itself and diving in the waters of Camp Bay before 6.00 pm during the Official Bathing Season?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

In the letter that the Gibraltar Tourist Board sent the Camp Bay users it said 'I confirm that divers are allowed on the beach as long as their equipment is not left unattended and they do not have spear guns'.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is it the policy of the Government then that diving companies based in foreign countries have the right to come into Gibraltar and dive from Gibraltar beaches at any time, day or night, as long as they do not leave their equipment lying around and do not use spear guns?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I know that this is a sensitive issue in respect of the fact that there are local diving schools that obviously feel undermined by this. However, it is very difficult for us to be able to differentiate between an individual or a group of friends coming to dive and somebody coming with a group of a diving school outside. Let me say that we try to discourage companies or diving companies from across the border to come through and dive in Gibraltar, however, the policing of that is very difficult to justify.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Does the Minister not accept that far from being difficult to distinguish between individuals and companies it is actually very easy because in most cases they come in huge vans with either the name of the hotel on the side or the name of the diving company and the phone number, and that they are visible in the beaches including Camp Bay, or indeed coming in through the border?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

As he has just described, foreign visitors coming in to dive will have come through the border with their equipment and the fact that they come in a van with signs and everything, paraphernalia on it, does not actually make them any different to anybody coming with their own cars. It is very difficult to police. It is something that I have discussed with Customs, with Police, to see whether anything can be done in this respect, however, it is difficult to actually take any possible action against them.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are the Government aware that as a result of these activities there are established businesses in Gibraltar, who obviously pay tax and employ people here, that are virtually being pushed out of business and out of existence because of this, and what action are they prepared to take to remedy the situation?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am aware that some of the local diving schools, which I think I have pointed out earlier on in my answer, have expressed concern to me about the matter. The fact that they are out of business, I think they are targeting completely different markets and that diving schools in Gibraltar actually have their own customer base, which is mainly the UK, that come in and dive in Gibraltar. I think the bigger problem is the fact that they are restricted to a particular area and so therefore they find that when they wish to turn up with their own customers they find that there are individuals using them, which they claim to be from a diving school across the Bay or across the border and that obviously is not something that they particularly like, but it is not easy to solve or find a solution to it.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Minister has identified the problem, it is not that they are being driven out of business because the diving schools from Spain are stealing their customers, because as he says they are different customers. They are being driven out of business in terms of the limited diving sites that exist around Gibraltar and that is a serious problem and it is there that action is needed from the Government. From what I hear really it serves as scant consolation to these locally established firms.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

It is something that is being actively pursued, it is not something that has been allowed to be left unattended, but a proper solution in order to regulate operators is not something that has as yet been able to be found.

NO. 877 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAMP BAY

Have Government responded to the complaints made by Camp Bay users in August about issues affecting the beach and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Sandy Bay was cleaned daily during the Bathing Season, from 11th June to 12th September 2005 inclusive. The beach was also cleaned during the weekend 3rd to 5th June, and on 8th October.

The pools at Camp Bay were unavailable to the public on seven days during the whole of the bathing season. The actual dates when the pools were closed were not recorded.

Maintenance of the pools was not contracted to a private firm.

The Gibraltar Tourist Board responded to the complaints made by Camp Bay users on 13th September 2005.

NO. 878 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BEACH CONCESSIONS

Can Government list the successful tenderers in respect of the Beach Concessions Kiosks for the official Bathing Season 2005, indicating the name of the successful tenderer and its location, the amount bid by each successful tenderer, and how many tenderers there were in respect of each site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 879 to 882 of 2005.

NO. 879 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BEACH CONCESSIONS

Was the kiosk in the area of Western Beach included in the tender for beach concessions for the summer season 2005?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND}}{\text{COMMUNICATIONS}}$

Answered together with Question Nos. 878 and 880 to 882 of 2005.

NO. 880 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BEACH CONCESSIONS

Can Government list the successful tenderers for Beach Concessions for the Bathing Season 2005 showing the successful tenderer, the location, the nature of the concession and the amount bid in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 878, 879, 881 and 882 of 2005.

NO. 881 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BEACH CONCESSIONS

Can Government confirm that the tender for beach concessions were awarded in all cases to the highest bidders?

ANSWER

$\frac{\text{THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND}}{\text{COMMUNICATIONS}}$

Answered together with Question Nos. 878 to 880 and 882 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 882 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

WESTERN BEACH

Can Government confirm whether the land access for the general public to Western Beach this summer has been through a hole in the fence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought is on the attached schedule.

Schedule to Question 882

The persons who successfully tendered for Beach Concessions and Kiosks for the 2005 bathing season were:

(a) Beach Concessions:

Eastern Beach - Mr J Ellul

Hire of sunbeds and beach umbrellas.

(b) Kiosks

Eastern Beach - Mr M Sene and Mr P Parody

Sunrise Kiosk, at south end of beach.

Western Beach - Mr C Chichon

Kiosk at south end of beach.

Camp Bay - Mr A Debono

Willy's Return Kiosk, Camp Bay south promenade.

Little Bay - Mr A Debono

Sunset Kiosk, north end Little Bay.

There were three tenders for a Western Beach Kiosk, and only one tender for each of the other concessions.

Persons allocated a beach concession pay a weekly licence fee to Government of £25 for each of the 13 weeks of the official bathing season. No premium is charged for the grant of a beach or kiosk concession.

Access to Western Beach was not through a broken fence.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 878 TO 882 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Minister says in the written reply, I do not understand why it has been bundled in with other questions which are perhaps more voluminous in their reply, that access to Western Beach was not through a broken fence. Can the Minister say what was the land access to Western Beach this past summer season, through where did people have to go through?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Access to Western Beach is through the area where the Western Beach boat owners are, where there used to be a fence not so long ago, there used to be a hole through the fence where people used to go through and get into Western Beach when the MOD would not allow us access to Western Beach through there, that fence has been removed and there is a gap. There is no fence there anywhere apart from the side so there has been a distinctive entrance made to the beach. One now arrives in style.

NO. 883 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

ROCK APES

Have the Moroccan authorities now indicated whether they are willing to receive Rock apes from Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

No they have not. Discussions are continuing and a reply from the Moroccan authorities is still awaited.

NO. 884 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - UPPER ROCK

Can Government list what remains to be done in the development of Hay's Level and Princess Caroline's Battery before the contract for tours of the area is put out to tender?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The work consists primarily of three areas of work:-

- providing adequate toilet facilities for the area, which will also service the Great Siege Tunnels;
- completing the pedestrian link from the Middle Galleries via the Lower Union Communication to Casemates Square; and
- constructing the entry/exit point to the visitor attraction in the area of Casemates.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 884 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister indicate which of these three requirements are now complete or which of them have now started the road to completion?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, none of the three have been started. This is an EU-funded project which will commence in the next financial year.

NO. 885 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MINISTERS' OVERSEAS VISITS

Can the Minister with responsibility for Tourism give the dates when he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business since 8 March 2005 to date, 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 not been away from Gibraltar in my capacity as Minister for Tourism since 8th March 2005, to attend any event or function.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 885 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister say whether he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business in any other capacity?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes, but I have not got the details here with me, but on very few occasions.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Would the Minister supply the information in writing?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes of course.

NO. 886 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - TOURISM SUB-COMMITTEE

Have there been any meetings of the tourism sub-committee which was set up between Gibraltar and the Mancomunidad and if so on what dates has the sub-committee met?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

There has been one meeting on the 15th April, 2005.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 886 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister say what the purpose or the agenda for the meeting was?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

It has been a long time since that happened but I believe that the agenda at the time was to consider joint marketing initiatives and possible joint product sales in order to promote people to the area, visiting both Gibraltar and the hinterland. Let me say that although there has been this such meeting of the sub-committee, there is ongoing communications and for example they attended the Workshop that we did in Madrid and recently they attended the one in Barcelona as well, which I think is in the order of questions as well later on in the Order Paper. So there is on-going contact but there has not been formal meetings.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Does the joint marketing include the use by conference centres in the neighbouring town of the Rock of Gibraltar as a marketing image on their posters? I recall that happened recently with the Boxing Conference which was organised in La Linea.

HON J J HOLIDAY:

No it is not but I actually welcome it, I thought it was excellent international publicity for us, especially to have the Union Jack quite prominently on the poster itself as well. So it is not something that is an initiative of this committee but quite a welcome move without being involved.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

It would have been a welcome move if the conference had taken place in Gibraltar and not in La Linea. I also seem to recall that it was not only the Union Jack that was displayed but most of the flags of the participating countries were displayed in a sort of banner across the top around the Rock. Certainly I think it conveyed a misleading impression that this conference was taking place here and that the Rock was used as a marketing tool by people from across the border.

NO. 887 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of Gibraltar's participation in the first international Hunting, Fishing and Tourism Fair held in Los Barrios from $16^{th}-18^{th}$ September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 888 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 888 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

Who made up the official Gibraltar delegation at the International Hunting, Fishing and Tourism Fair held in Los Barrios in September?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887, 889 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 889 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

How many exhibitors participated in the International Hunting, Fishing and Tourism Fair held in Los Barrios and who were they?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887, 888, 890 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 890 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of Gibraltar's participation in a destination exhibition and workshop in Barcelona on Wednesday 5 October and who made up the official Gibraltar delegation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 889, 891 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 891 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

How many members of the Gibraltar travel trade participated in the destination exhibition and workshop in Barcelona on 5 October and who did they represent?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 890, 892 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 892 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the contribution made by the Mancomunidad de Municipios in exchange for being allowed to host a table at a workshop during Gibraltar's participation in a destination exhibition and workshop in Barcelona on 5 October?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 891, 893 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 893 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of organising and attending the destination exhibition and workshop hosted at the Hotel Melia Madrid Princesa on Wednesday 20 April 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 892, 894 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 894 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

How many members of Gibraltar's travel and tourism industry attended the destination exhibition and workshop at the Hotel Melia Madrid Princesa on 20 April and who did they represent?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 893, 895 to 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 895 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

How many Spanish travel agents and representatives of the Spanish media were invited to attend the destination exhibition and workshop at the Hotel Melia Madrid Princesa, how many actually attended and who did they represent?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 894, 896, 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 896 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the cost with a breakdown and what were the results of the Joint Tourism Workshop between Gibraltar and the Mancomunidad that took place at the John Mackintosh Hall in May?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 895, 897 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 897 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

How many businesses from Gibraltar and how many from the Campo participated in the joint tourism workshop that took place at the John Mackintosh Hall in May and who were they?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 887 to 896 and 929 of 2005.

NO. 898 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR

Has the vacancy for the post of Marketing Co-ordinator in the Gibraltar Office in Madrid now been filled?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 899 of 2005.

NO. 899 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR

How many persons applied for the post of Marketing Co-ordinator at the Gibraltar Office in Madrid when it was re-advertised and how many were Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The vacancy has not been filled as yet.

Three persons have applied for the post including one Gibraltarian and one British citizen of Gibraltarian descent.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 898 AND 899 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I noted that the vacancy was advertised in March and then it was re-advertised again in June, is it because nobody applied in March?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, there were no applicants in June. The first time round those that applied did not meet the bill. The second time round nobody applied and now there was another advert, I think, that went out some time in September and interviews have just been conducted and recommendations have already been made to the Government for a decision to be taken.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Minister said one person was a Gibraltarian and one was a British citizen of Gibraltarian descent, can he say what the nationality of the third person was?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do not know because the third person has not been recommended, he was not interviewed, so I am afraid that the third person was not interviewed because he did not meet the relevant requirements.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Gibraltar Marketing Coordinator in the Office in Madrid is something which we have debated in this House many times, it has obviously now been vacant for many months, can the Minister say who is manning the Gibraltar Office in all this time or has the office closed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, the office is open there is an administrative coordinator there and so the office has been run by one person with some assistance from Gibraltar, and there is one of the managers who visits Madrid every month for two or three days just to keep an eye on some of the areas which traditionally have been looked after by the Marketing Coordinator, which is not in post at the moment.

NO. 900 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 April 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

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

Schedule to Question 900

Tourism Revenue

(a) Coach Park Fees

<u>2005</u>	Amount (£)
April	9,220
May	8,820
June	8,160
July	6,550
August	6,670
September	9,780

(b) Upper Rock Fees

2005	Amount (£)
April	219,650
May	271,999
June	226,761
July	267,882
August	313,137
September	301,438

(c) Gibraltar Museum Fees

2005	Amount (£)			
April	1,534			
May	1,522			
June	1,220			
July	1,285			
August	2,881			
September	1,435			

NO. 901 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 February 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 requested is set out in the attached schedule.

Schedule to Question 901

Place of Interview Number of Interviews Stayed at Hotel

	Total No Interviews	Stayed at Hotel	Airport	Average Length of stay	Frontier	Average Length of stay	Elsewhere	Average Length of stay
Feb 05	1,485	5	5	7.5	-	-		-
Mar 05	1,316	15	14	5.9	1	14.0	-	-
Apr 05	1,562	27	27	4.3			-	-
May 05	1,604	29	28	6.8		-	1	7.0
Jun 05	1,746	26	26	6.3		-	-	-
Jul 05	1,714	13	13	4.6		-	-	-

Place of Interview Interviews Not Stayed at Hotel

	Total Interviews Not Stayed at Hotel	Airport	Port	Frontier	Waterport	Marina	Coach
Feb 05	1,480	27		1,298	-	2	153
Mar 05	1,301	14	14	1,076	-	-	197
Apr 05	1,535	30	173	1,046	1	22	263
May 05	1,570	70	171	1,220		5	109
Jun 05	1,720	16	60	1,535	-	-	109
Jul 05	1,701	7	38	1,574	-	3	79

The information from August 2005 is not yet available.

NO. 902 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

How often and on what dates has the Tourism Advisory Committee met since 25 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 817, 833, 917, 927 and 928 of 2005.

NO. 903 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - IBERRAIL

What steps have Government taken to monitor how many visitors have come to Gibraltar as a result of the inclusion of Gibraltar in the Iberrail brochure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

It is difficult to quantify how many persons come to Gibraltar as a result of the inclusion of Gibraltar in the Iberrail brochure.

Feedback obtained from hotels indicate that there have been some bookings to date but the exact number is not known as hotels are unaware if guests have responded to the Iberrail brochure or not.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 903 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is it not possible for the Government to monitor this in their surveys or by asking the hotels to take a note of how guests actually arrive at Gibraltar?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

This is why I have said that some feedback that we have obtained from hotels indicate that there have been some bookings, however, it is not an exact figure. I cannot give him an exact figure because hotels do not monitor this sort of source of their clients. In fact some customers or some guests object to giving information as to why they have come to Gibraltar, so therefore the answer is that there has been some bookings but the exact number is not known.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

What is the rough or approximate number that we are talking about?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I really would not like to commit myself because it could be 50 it could be 100, I do not know is the answer. The feedback that we have had is that the hotels have said, 'yes I have had some bookings of people', but if one asks people they cannot really quantify because mainly the information is as a result of verbal interaction between the customer and the hotelier rather than a form or an actual survey that is conducted.

NO. 904 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 April 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought is being handed over in written format. However, what I wish to add is that Gibraltar has never enjoyed as many flights as it receives today. This summer has seen an average of 123 flight arrivals per month. The number of arriving passengers is at an all time high and the final figures for air arrivals for this year are expected to be an all time record.

Schedule to Question 904

Flights timetabled for the period April to September 2005:

	April	May	June	July	August	September
London Gatwick	30	45	43	44	44	43
London Heathrow	30	31	30	31	31	30
London Luton	30	31	30	31	31	30
Manchester	17	18	17	18	18	17

There were no flight cancellations during this period.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 904 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I am tempted to respond to the Minister's party political broadcast, unsolicited information but there are two things which can be said to that. The first is that never has so much money been spent in the actual marketing area, and secondly, the number of destinations are still less than when they took office in 1996 when we had five, and there are still no flights to Morocco, but I will not bother to say all that.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, I am disappointed that he gets hurt when he hears some good news but I am sure that he should no longer be concerned as he normally starts his press releases when issues of this nature arise, but I am pleased the way things are progressing in this particular area and so he should be as well.

NO. 905 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - AIRLINES

Can Government say whether there has been any progress in their discussions with Easy Jet and Thomson Flying to fly to and from Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 906 of 2005.

NO. 906 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - AIRLINES

Are any new airlines in discussion with the Government about flying to and from Gibraltar in addition to the two that were interested at the last Question-Time in this House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

There are presently no new airlines in discussion with the Government.

Discussions continue with Thompson Fly and Easy Jet, but it is not yet possible to say what their outcome will be.

NO. 907 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - AIR TERMINAL

Can Government say what steps have been taken to install emergency lighting at the Air Terminal for use when there is a power cut?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

This matter has been brought to the Government's attention recently and discussions have commenced with the MOD to see if it is possible to switch to the MOD electricity supply if the normal electricity supply for the Air Terminal is interrupted as a result of a power cut.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 907 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The Minister has said that this has been brought to the attention of the Government recently, is it that there used to be a back up system before and now there is not one, or is it that they just did not know this was happening?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, there has not been a back up system ever before. The only reason is that some months back we had a situation where we had some power cuts on quite a regular basis and we found that in this day and age where computers and security screening and luggage handling et cetera is all very much computerised and obviously dependent on electricity, we found that the situation could not really be allowed to continue and so we looked at the possibility of having our own alternative supply but the cost is actually quite high. So in discussions with the MOD we discussed with them the possibility of linking us up to their system and vice versa if they found themselves in a situation, and the logistics of that is currently being given consideration by the relevant technical people on either side.

NO. 908 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

What were the issues of co-operation, collaboration and co-ordination discussed between the Ports of Algeciras and Gibraltar in their meeting in May?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 909, 910 and 911 of 2005.

NO. 909 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

Has there been any more contact between the Port of Algeciras and Gibraltar following the meeting in May and if so when, at what level, and over what issue?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 908, 910 and 911 of 2005.

NO. 910 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

Has a date been set for a meeting in Gibraltar between the Gibraltar and Algeciras Port authorities, and if so when is it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 908, 909 and 911 of 2005.

NO. 911 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

What does the invitation extended to the Port of Gibraltar to participate in the Algeciras Port centenary celebrations in 2006 entail?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The meeting between the ports of Gibraltar and Algeciras in May 2005 was an initial meeting aimed at mapping out an agenda for a closer relationship between both ports. It was agreed that two specialist working groups be created to deal with specific issues referred to as the working groups. One working group deals with Maritime Authority issues, the other with Port Authority issues.

The May meeting did not discuss issues, it set an agenda for issues to be considered at a technical level, and for reports from the specialist working groups to be referred to the Government and the Algeciras Port Authority respectively, for further discussion at a future plenary meeting. A date for this meeting is still to be agreed.

The specialist working group met in Gibraltar on 27th September, 2005. This meeting was at the level of officials from both ports. The issues that were discussed were prevention of maritime pollution; the response to a pollution incident or a maritime accident; marketing and promotion of both ports; interchange of information on both ports; exchange of experience in relation to port infrastructure developments; and control of maritime traffic in the Bay of Gibraltar.

Insofar as the Algeciras Port centenary celebrations for 2006 are concerned, Algeciras simply indicated that it will be organising a series of events to mark its centenary and the port of Gibraltar was invited to participate in the celebration. The programme for the Algeciras centenary has yet to be finalised.

NO. 912 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

Have any commercial entities submitted proposals, formally or informally, for a direct ferry link between the Ports of Gibraltar and Algeciras?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 913 and 914 of 2005.

NO. 913 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

Which are the commercial entities interested in a direct ferry link between the Ports of Gibraltar and Algeciras?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 912 and 914 of 2005.

NO. 914 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - PORT OF ALGECIRAS

Who are the "appropriate relevant authorities" to whom entities interested in a direct ferry link between Gibraltar and Algeciras have to submit proposals for consideration and approval and are any such proposals currently under consideration?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A formal proposal has been submitted to the Government for restoring an Algeciras-Gibraltar ferry service from a consortium of Gibraltar and Spanish businessmen. An informal proposal has also been made from a Gibraltar Company. It is not possible to give details of the persons expressing an interest in this possible service until formal applications are made to the Government to license the service.

The Government are the appropriate relevant authority to approve an application for the Gibraltar side of a ferry operation. It is for an intended operator to establish from the Algeciras Port Authority to whom an application needs to be submitted to obtain Spanish approval for the service.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 912 TO 914 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

If I understood the Minister correctly he said that a formal proposal has been submitted to the Government by Gibraltar and Spanish businessmen and there is also an informal Gibraltar proposal, can he say when these were made?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The formal proposal was submitted possibly in early summer, possibly the month of June then an informal proposal was made to me possibly during the month of August. However, even though one is formal in the sense that they wrote a proposal and actually submitted a proposal to the Government, and the other one was informal in the terms of a meeting where they said 'I would like to look at the possibility, what do I need to do?', nobody has yet come up with an application and said 'I want to do this'. Therefore, that is why I am differentiating the formal and informal proposal from

the need to submit an application and we are hopeful that that will be forthcoming soon.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

What indications does the Minister have that an application made to the Port of Algeciras would be considered and approved?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well from the meeting that I had with them, the indications were that they were very much in favour of re-establishing that service. However, they were clear to me that they would need clearance from Madrid in respect of the re-establishment of that maritime link. However, we are aware that they have carried out an assessment on the logistics of actually operating or allowing such a service to operate in the Port of Algeciras and they have submitted their requirements to Madrid in order for them to be fully conversant of all the facts, because obviously a ferry link between Gibraltar and Algeciras would mean that the Port of Algeciras would need to have immigration and customs et cetera available and possibly additional resources would have to be made available for the port to be able to police the service.

NO. 915 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT STATE CONTROL INSPECTIONS

Can Government say how many Port State Control inspections were carried out by the Gibraltar authorities within our territorial waters in the year 2004 and in 2005 to date, providing a breakdown showing the name of the inspected vessel and the date of the inspection?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

Schedule(1) to Question 915

PSC INSPECTION OF VESSELS IN GIBRALTAR, 2004

NAME OF VESSEL	IMO No.	FLAG	INSPECTION DATE	DEFICIENCIES	DETAINED?
HERA	7017375	ST. VINCENT & GREN	31st DECEMBER 2004	YES	YES
URSUS	8100105	ST. VINCENT & GREN	22nd DECEMBER 2004	YES	NO
OCEAN BOOMER	6525131	PANAMA	30th NOVEMBER 2004	YES	YES
VEMAOIL VI	8125600	MALTA	25th NOVEMBER 2004	NO	NO
HARLAN	7369168	PANAMA	13th NOVEMBER 2004	YES	YES
VEMAOIL XXV	9087867	MALTA	7th NOVEMBER 2004	YES	ON
NIGO	8108121	DENMARK	1st NOVEMBER 2004	NO	NO
VEMAOIL XX	9005613	MALTA	13th OCTOBER 2004	YES	NO
VEMAOIL IX	8410665	MALTA	6th OCTOBER 2004	YES	NO
VAN GOGH	7359400	ST. VINCENT & GREN	26th SEPTEMBER 2004	YES	ON
VEMAOIL VI	8125600	MALTA	20th SEPTEMBER 2004	YES	ON.
VEMABALTIC	8325066	MALTA	8th SEPTEMBER 2004	YES	ON.
VEMAOCEAN	8325078	MALTA	7th SEPTEMBER 2004	YES	ON
FAIAL	7521194	MONGOLIA	31st AUGUST 2004	YES	Q.
PARAGON	7639927	CYPRUS	24th AUGUST 2004	YES	ON
ANGEL ACCORD	9266152	PANAMA	24th AUGUST 2004	YES	Q
CHRISTOS	7620457	GEORGIA	13th AUGUST 2004	YES	Q
NORDICA	7928627	CYPRUS	28th JULY 2004	YES	YES (BANNED)
DAPENGHAI	9251860	CHINA	21st MAY 2004	YES	YES
SUN	8220163	MALTA	21st MAY 2004	YES	Q

Centd Answer to Question 915

ILKNUR II	7806180	TURKEY	12th MAY 2004	YES	YES (BANNED)
ELENAB	7721330	ST. VINCENT & GREN	10th MAY 2004	YES	N _O
GRETA	9191747	NETHERLANDS ANTILLES	7th MAY 2004	YES	NO.
HUMBOLDT CURRENT	7819943	ST. VINCENT & GREN	4th MAY 2004	YES	YES
OPDR CARTAGENA	9155432	CANARY ISLANDS	22nd APRIL 2004	YES	Ñ
YESIL RIZE I	7505786	TURKEY	13th APRIL 2004	YES	S.
PORTHOS	7639616	ST. VINCENT & GREN	01st APRIL 2004	YES	Q.
ONEGA	9021083	RUSSIA	01st APRIL 2004	YES	Ñ
QUO VADIS	8314287	NETHERLANDS ANTILLES	01st APRIL 2004	YES	£
VEMAOIL VIII	8223268	MALTA	23rd MARCH 2004	YES	YES
RADIANT JEWEL	9005211	LIBERIA	17th MARCH 2004	YES	ON.
ATASOYLAR II	9001150	TURKEY	15th MARCH 2004	YES	ON.
KAIROS	6908864	ST. VINCENT & GREN	19th FEBRUARY 2004	YES	Q
VEMAOIL IX	8410665	MALTA	6th FEBRUARY 2004	YES	O.
VEMAOIL XXV	9087867	MALTA	2nd FEBRUARY 2004	NO.	ON.

Contd Auswer to Westion 915 Schedule (2) to Question 915

PSC INSPECTION OF VESSELS IN GIBRALTAR, 2005

NAME OF VESSEL	INO No	0415			
DANICANI	0.00,00	257	INSPECTION DATE	DEFICIENCIES	DETAINED?
NASANA	9318943	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	17-Jan-05	2	CN
VEMAOIL XI	9036868	MALTA	24-Jan-05	VEG	
TANGER JET	9127758	MOROCCO	04-Fah-05	22.0	2 3
VEMAOIL XXV	9087867	MALTA	04 Eab 05	201	ON
DANIEL	9148104	THE NETHERLANDS	00 50 00	TES	Q.
AMUR	8721521	RUSSIA	20 1-00 1-00	YES	ON N
MELFI ITALIA II	9235622	ANTICIA O O LICITAR	CO-CO-LOCA	YES	ON.
MAGNIFIC	0011400	THE STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF	23-Feb-05	YES	YES (PREV.)
VEMACILIAIII	2641106	I HE NEI HEKLANDS	09-Mar-05	YES	NO
ACIMACIL VIII	8223268	MALTA	23-Mar-05	YES	ON
ROKO BAY	7427154	PANAMA	23-Mar-05	YES	2
MIDLAND 21	8002793	MALTA	30-Mar-05	2	2 9
CATALYST	7122560	PANAMA	04 A-4 OF	2	2
ARIANA	8710687	FRANCE	CO-198-20	YES	YES
DINTELSTROOM	8433291	THE NETUED! ANDS	no-Apr-us	YES	2
ZEELFELIW	7418038	THE MENTANDS	15-Apr-05	YES	2
1004	1410020	I HE NEI HERLANDS	22-Apr-05	YES	QV.
AKION	6419057	PORTUGAL	13-May-05	YES	Ç
CALIFORNIA	7404889	PANAMA	23-Mav-05	VEC	2 5
MONTECRUZ	7710276	PANAMA	20 Mar. 05	3	2
SEAILEX	8807208	VIVA O	CO-ABM-OZ	YES	Q.
· ////		CARCARC	13-Jun-05	YES	YES (PREV.)
GLENBANKA	7915620	MALTA	15-Jun-05	YES	2

3

Contd Answer to Question 915

8024014	CYPRUS	26-Jun-05	YES	Q
8325066	MALTA	30-Jun-05	YES	9
7430943	SPAIN	06-Jul-05	YES	2
8401781	THAILAND	13-Jul-05	YES	YES
7301245	PANAMA	13-Jul-05	YES	Q
9080687	THE NETHERLANDS	20-Jul-05	YES	YES
9088108	MALTA	04-Aug-05	YES	Q
8305781	PORTUGAL	15-Aug-05	YES	Q
7402453	HOLLAND	25-Aug-05	YES	9
9221023	HONG KONG	27-Aug-05	YES	2
8513625	MALTA	31-Aug-05	YES	YES
7822495	DENMARK	50-deS-70	YES	ON.
9130456	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	07-Sep-05	YES	ð
9156474	MARSHALL ISLANDS	22-Sep-05	YES	Q.

NO. 916 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT - SHIP VISITS

How many ships have called at Gibraltar since April 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

The information requested is set out in the schedule attached.

Schedule to Question 916

The following numbers of ships called at Gibraltar since April 2005 inclusive on a monthly basis for: -

Month	Bunkering	Cargo	Repairs
April	443	2	12
May	501	1	8
June	520	1	8
July	514	2	3
August	478	1	5

The following tonnes of bunker fuel were sold each month during the same period: -

Month	Bunkers
8	Sold
April	304,484
May	370,350
June	362,596
July	349,969
August	347,698

NO. 917 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT ADVISORY COUNCIL

How often and on what dates has the Port Advisory Council met since 11 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 817, 833, 902, 927 and 928 of 2005.

NO. 918 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT - BUNKERING LICENCES

Have any new applications for a bunkering licence been made since the last Question-Time in this House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

No.

NO. 919 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR YACHT REGISTRY

What is the total number of yachts on the Gibraltar Yacht registry as at 31 August 2005 and can Government supply a list showing the name of each yacht?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information requested is set out in the attached schedule.

Schedule to Question 919

LIST OF PLEASURE YACHTS

The attached is a list of the pleasure yachts registered as at 31st August 2005.

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Cont...

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

ort_Number	Name	Official_Number	+
1989056	NIÑA	715633	ZDBX9
2003054	"EUROS"	736740	ZDFV4
1996077	7 ROSES	728009	
2003051	7TH HEAVEN	736723	ZDFV2
1993010	AAA	716480	
1985071	ABY	708577	ZDAE2
	AD LE FORT	723276	1
2001099		734667	
	ADHARA	720663	ZDFK2
	ADRIANA OF SARK	715144	ZDBT8
1996080	ADVANTAGE	727958	1
1981001		384538	ZOWR
2005062		GIB-0165	ĺ
2002061	!	735366	ZDFF5
2005036	l .	GIB-0141	ZDGV4
2005046		GIB-0153	ZDGV8
2003128		GIB-0030	ZDGE3
	AKAI SANGO	731435	
1999048	i	731488	ZDDU8
	ALBATROS	735317	ZDFA7
2000076	:	733638	
2004011	}	GIB-0043	ZDGF6
2004048		GIB-0064	ZDGI6
2000015		732144	
	ALEXANDER	736329	ZDF07
1991019		716486	ZDCK5
2002002		734679	ZDEZ4
2004058	1	GIB-0071	ZDGH7
1998045	1	731423	
	ALL THE WAY	732116	
	ALLISON	GIB-0176	ZDGZ9
	ALPENPIOSE	GIB-0100	ZDGOB
2004070		GIB-0079	ZDGK7
1995015	l	724834	
	AMABILE II	GIB-0078	ZDGOS
	AMANDA JAYNE	734678	ZDEV6
	AMARIA	735336	
	AMARULA	735303	ZDEY6
	AMIKARO	720692	
	ANATOLIA	734044	
	ANATOLIE	734643	ZDFQ7
	ANDIAMO	733624	ZDEF8
2002089		736279	
1997087		730125	-
	ANNA CATHERINA	702568	ZDTY
1303043		i	
1006012	ANNABELLE	721936	(

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LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port Number	Name	Official Number	Signal Letters
Port_Number		Official_Number	Signal_Letters
2003129	ARCTIC PRINCESS	GIB-0027	7050
		736271	ZDFI2
2004103		GIB-0105	ZDGP9
	ARKAS STAR	GIB-0168	ZDGY8
	ARROGANCE	731470	ZDDR9
1990094		716122	
	ASTERIX	385190	
	ASTRAEA	736725	ZDGH2
	ASTRIDULON	720676	ZDCUB
	ASTRONESTES	GIB-0052	
	ATHINA OF THE AEGEAN	735338	ZDFD6
	ATLANTEAN	724766	
	ATLANTIA	734668	
2002057		735368	
2002021		735329	ZDFB9
}	AZZURRA	GIB-0111	ZDGQ6
2003090		736763	ZDFZ2
	BABY ELEPHANT	723228	
	BACELOT	710664	ZDAV3
	BACHERA III	GIB-0002	ZDFX9
1998107		712151	
	BAGUETELLE OF TENBY	728012	
2005068		GIB-0169	ZDGY9
1997029		728033	
1988039		711370	ZDBQ3
1	BALSAMO	732155	ZDEB7
1	BAMBOLERO	720612	
	BAMBOULA	730119	
1	BARBARELLA	735379	ZDFJ4
	BARCAROLE OF RHU	377799	ZDCW2
	BARCHETTA	716465	ZDCM3
2004027		GIB-0055	ZDGH9
	BARRAONDA	732076	
	BARTHON QUEEN	733613	ZDEE7
1998110		731475	ZDD\$7
	BEAUCOUP FISH	732126	
	BEEFEATER BABY	720680	
2001034		724758	
	BELLA MILENA	706864	zouo
	BELLA NAVETTA	GIB-0089	ZDGP8
1996069		727995	ZDEF6
2005054		GIB-0148	ZDGW8
2001013		733690	ZDEL8
2002087	BERNARD	735325	ZDF17
1999039 E	BERNIE	732069	ZDFA2
1989106 E	1	715681	ZDCQ6
1995120 E	BIANCA NEVE	724787	ZDDE8

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Por	t_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1	21 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	BIG BLACK ONE	724836	
ì	2005087		GIB-0185	
į	1985076		708597	ZDAE8
	1996021		727953	
1		BINZIYAD	903755	ZDGL3
1		BLACK DRAGON-FLY	710658	ZDAT4
1		BLACK MARLIN	716135	LOAIT
1	2003136		722554	
	1999026		731497	
		BLUE BOAT	336413	
		BLUE CLIPPER	733618	ZDEP2
1		BLUE MOON OF EAST	724770	ZDCZ8
		BLUE PEGASUS	716499	202
		BLUE PENNANT	731499	
İ		BLUE WATERS	730136	ZDDM9
1		BODYLINE	722039	
İ		BOLD ADVENTURE	716055	1
1		BON VIVANT	736316	ZDFN5
	1996043	BON VOYAGE	726990	
	2003081	BONITA	736764	ZDFX6
:	:	BOUGAINVILLE	730181	
į	1997086	BUCANNERO	730144	1
	1994045	BUENAS NOTICIAS	724776	1
;	1993108	BUGA	723298	1
1	1999101	BULL	732120	
İ	1999108	BURKANA	732127	
;	1996093	BYRION	728019	
1	2003100	C'EST LA VIE	GIB-0007	ZDFY3
ĺ	2003095	CACHAÇA	900872	ZDFY8
İ	1995105	CACOS	727007	ZDD14
	2001040	CALDERON	733671	ZDE05
	2005055	CALICO	GIB-0158	ZDGW3
	2001046	CALVIN	734618	ZDEP3
1	1995009	CALYPSO	724806	
1	1981023	CAMARA	385092	zcws
1	1998030	CANITO	730177	
200	1997054	CAPTAINE NÉMO	730121	ZD0Z8
	2005012	CAPE ROSE	GIB-0126	ZDGR5
	2002084	CAPRICHO II	736272	ZDFI3
	1989072	CARA ROSITA	715639	ZDBZ2
1	1989082	CARELEN OF ATHENS	715602	ZDBZ9
i :	2001081	CARMA	734627	ZDEQ9
	1990031	CASADOR	715632	ZDCY4
	2001103	CASCU II	733663	!
i	1989080	CASPIAN	715650	ļ
	2001080	CAT EYE	734653	
	2000039	ATALINA	733605	ZDED4

4

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1992078	CAYUCO	720674	
2000009	CAZOU	732146	
1993106	CEDAR SEA II	710070	ZDCY7
1993011	CELANDINE	723230	ZDCV3
1986125	CHANTALOU	710696	ZDAY4
2004091	CHASEY	GIB-0104	ZDGP4
2004024	CHECHI	GIB-0048	
1993089	CHELSEA	723304	ZDDR5
1995111	CHERHEITO II	727033	ZDDH8
1989031	CHIHIPO	715604	
1995006	CHOU-CHOU OF HAMBURG	724804	
1986015	CHRIS-GO	710420	ZDAK9
2001052	CHRISTIAN	734594	
1998015	CHRISTIANIA	728024	ZDFZ3
1991041	CIGON	716512	ZDCL8
1993102	CINTA	723257	
2001118	CLADITS	734681	
2000043	CLASSIC	733612	ZDED9
1996052	CLETINA	727963	
1997037	CLEVER CLIPPER	730104	ZDDL7
1993059	CLIFTONEER	723278	
1995019	СОСНЕЯЛТО	724840	
1993081	COMMANDANT LELIEVRE	723253	
2001005	CONDORII	733667	ZDEK8
2004096	CONFIANZA	GIB-0103	ZDG07
1993060	CORAL DREAM	723268	ZDCX2
2002108	CORAL DREAMS OF GIBRALTAR	736297	
2005034	CORFU	GIB-0142	
2004097	CRIMEAN STAR	GIB-0106	ZDGM9
1995054	CROSSROADS	726970	ZDDJ3
2004062	CUCUL	GIB-0076	ZDGM7
2001065	CURIO	734634	
1997019	CYGNUS II	728020	
2000012		718538	
	D AND SEVEN	733634	ZDEP2
	DANNY BOY	716543	
2001020		733599	ZDEM6
	DE-JAVU	734601	ZDEN4
	DEEP BLUE SEA	734685	ZDEV8
	DEFIANCE	735295	ZDEW6
	DESERT SNAKE	718584	ZDEI4
	DESERT STAR	GIB-0031	ZDGC7
2004032		GIB-0049	ZDGG6
	DI TERRA	736277	ZDFL6
1995078	DILARA UNO	726946	
1996089		728017	ZDDL5
2005088	DJADO III	GIB-0184	

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
2001127	DON ESTEBAN II	735292	ZDEW3
2002093	DORIS	735322	ZDFJ5
2002052	DRAGONFLY OF GIBRALTAR	735350	ZDFF4
1983056	DRAKKAR	702571	ZDUI
2003067	DREAM CHASER	736755	ZDFV3
1995052	DREAMLINK	726958	ZDDE9
1998064	DREAMTIME	731433	ZDDQ6
1991014	DREAMWAVE	716492	ZDCJ8
1991025		716495	ZDCK9
1988074	DUCKY DUCK	715106	ZDBQ6
	DURLINDANA	702580	ZDRD
	EIRMAR IV	726972	
	ELCONDOR	GIB-0042	ZDGF2
1978020		373615	ZDHW
	ELEPHANT	723294	ĺ
	ELEUTHERA	GIB-0028	ZDGA8
	ELLIE ACTUALLY	736323	ZDFO4
1982023	EMERAUDE	399738	ZDOF
2004068	ЕММА	GIB-0084	ZDGM2
1992027	ENANIT	720635	ZDES3
2001028	ENTERPRISE	734593	ZDEO7
1998009	EPERONA	730168	
2005050	EQUALITY	GIB-0143	ZDGW7
1999060	EQUATEUR IX	732086	
2003124	EQUILIBRIUM	GIB-0011	ZDFZ7
2005003	ESPRITE	GIB-0119	ZDGS6
1997031	ESTRELLA	730099	
2002065	ETAMIN STAR	735374	ZDFG5
2001075	ETESIAN	734645	ZDET7
1999100	ETOILE DE MERS	732124	
2003035	EXILE	736721	
1999109	EXILTANTE	732129	ZDEI8
2005064	EXPRESSION II	GIB-0167	ZDGW6
1994070	FAIRY	724811	ZDDB5
1981015	FALCON OF HORNET	385096	
1997038	FANCY NANCY	730102	
1971009	FARAD	343893	ZCWG
1999097	FARR AWAY	732115	
1999080	FARR NIENTE	732104	ZDDW6
1999086	FEARLESS	732109	
2003012	FEDERSH	736347	ZDFQ8
2000011	FELICITA 1	732135	ZDEA6
1985102	FERONIA	708602	ZDAH7
2003068	FIDEL	736746	ZDFW4
2003098	FLEMINGO	GIB-0010	ZDGC4
2002101	FLY	736291	ZDFK4
2001132	FLYING FOX	734683	ZDEX2

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

			
	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1989112	FLYING LADY	716044	ZDCC2
1999004	FOOTLOOSE	731474	ZDDU5
2005045	FOOTLOOSE & FANCY FREE	GIB-0118	
1993050	FOR ME	723265	ZDCX3
2000021	FOR THE GOOD TIMES	732153	ZDEB6
1998056	FOUR SISTERS	730187	1
1995068	FRANCE	726982	ZD0Z2
2000088	FRANZTOO	733654	ZDE12
1997025	FREEBORN	708776	
2000001	FREE SPIRIT	732071	ZDDY9
1998073	FREEDOM	731438	ZDDR3
1996062	FREELANCE II	727993	
2002119	FREEWHEEL.	736306	ZDFN7
	FULL MOON	GIB-0025	ZDGB9
1999050	FULL MOON LADY	732081	
1999065		732089	1
2002006		727773	1
1996029		722079	
	G. CINQUANTA	733650	
1998026		730184	
	GALAPAGO	732094	ZDEP6
1989113	GALAXSEA NOVA	716041	
2002001		734686	ZDEZ3
2000062		732100	
2000052	GENISTA	733616	
	GEOPAR II	706867	ZEPL
	GETSMART	731458	
1992017	GIBCATCH	720605	
1979020	GIBRALTAR TADPOLE	373610	
2003116		GIB-0020	ZDGB5
1	GLENHEATH	GIB-0074	ZDGL6
1	GLORIA OF GRENADA	728014	ZDDN4
2003080		736762	ZDFX4
	GOD'S BEAUTY	716525	ZDDS9
2000026		733595	ZDEC2
1	GRAIN DE SEL	730164	
	GRAND CRU	GIB-0177	ZDGZ6
	GRAND GOUSIER	708355	ZEIP
	GRAND JACQUES	720618	ZDCV6
	GREAT WHITE	719299	ZDDO5
1	GREEN TURTLE	726974	ZDDF3
	GUERNSEY ROSE	734620	
	GUERRILLA TRADER	736289	
	GWENDALINA DIII	730289	
1		308126	
	HAM SURVEY		
1991064		716537	3DD\2
1995097	HANNAH ROSE	727018	ZDDY2

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Dad Number	Name	Official Number	Cianal Latters
Port_Number		Official_Number	Signal_Letters
	HAPPY DAZE	723299	ZDCX5
!	HAPPY HOUR	GIB-0147	ZDGV3
	HAPPY MOLLY II	GIB-0145	ZDGU6
2004063		GIB-0082	ZDGM8
	HEAVEN CAN WAIT	GIB-0085	ZDGN6
1999014	HELIOS-RE	731491	
2001110		708607	
1996047		727983	
1985055	HESPERIA PRIMA	708575	ZDAC3
2002054	HOA	735344	
1998077	HOUSTON	731455	ZDDR4
2004065	HUSH HUSH	GIB-0072	ZDGM5
1998078	ICEBERG	731444	
1995106	ILIOS	727026	ZDDH7
1993036	IMHABBA	723248	ZDEK7
1990068	NDEPENDENCE	716107	ZDCF6
1989108	INDIAN	715655	1
1980005	INVICTA	384502	ZDPR
1985078	IOANNA A	708587	ZDAF3
2001048	IRRATIONAL EXUBERANCE	734616	ZDEP5
1997085	ITACO	730145	İ
1999089	IWI	732061	
1988043	JACKELLA	711362	ZDBR4
2005028	JAGANAR	GIB-0137	ZDGU2
2004073	JALAN JALAN	GIB-0075	ZDGL4
2004042	JAMAĪ	GIB-0067	ZDGJ2
2003077	JAMES COOK	736741	ZDFU6
2005066	JANNIXA	GIB-0146	ZDGV6
2003092	JANTAR	GIB-0008	ZDFZ5
2005053	JARK	GIB-0155	ZDGR7
1992020	JASON	720625	ZDCQ2
1993023	JAVAN	723247	
2001134	JAWARI	734690	ZDEX9
1990048	JEK	716074	ZDCE6
2003083	JENA-ROSE	736766	
2000049	JOACHIM	733604	ZDEE8
1992039	JODIE	720656	ZDCR2
2005051	JOELLE II	GIB-0152	ZDGW9
2003032	JOHANNA	736368	ZDFS8
1981094	JOIE DE VIVRE	399624	ZDJF
2002075	JOLLY WORLD	735372	ZDFH6
2000087	JOVIC	733652	ZDEH9
1990106	JOY GING	716451	ZDCH4
1999087	JUANJO	732102	
1983090	JULIA AF FAABORG	702576	ZDWO
1998046	JULIA M	731424	ZDDQ2
!	K SERA SERA	GIB-0096	

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
	KAMALA	720803	ZDCO9
1997014	KAOS	727945	ZDDN8
2005083	KARDIN	GIB-0180	ZDHA2
2002058	KARIN	735359	
1980017	KARREK VEN	384529	ZDAI9
1999111	KATINKA	732132	
2001042	KC'S DREAM	734607	ZDEO8
2005017	KEMBUSQUIN	GIB-0130	ZDGT5
1988071	KERKYRA	710870	ZDBQ7
2002066	KIKIRIKI	735375	ZDFG7
2001115	KIMOSABI	734680	ZDEV4
2005030	KINGFISHER	GIB-0135	
2004046	KLOSTERS	GIB-0066	ZDGJ5
1993074	KOBOLD	723295	
1985082		708600	ZDAF6
1988045		711388	ZDBO3
1997081		730140	ļ
2003133	KORALLE	GIB-0032	ZDGC6
2005060	KRISTIN	GIB-0164	ZDGX9
1998032	KROBY	730189	
2005081	KUMAK II	GIB-0179	
	KUNDUN II	734658	
1993003		723224	İ
	L'ESPRIT DU VIGNEMALE	736750	ZDFV8
i .	L'INCONNU	734671	
	LA DESIRADE III	734666	ZDEU3
1	LA GAVIOTA OF SKYE	732073	
	LA GITANE	378294	
	LA GOULUE	720689	
	LA LEGION	734682	ZDEV5
1991071		716538	ZDCN4
	LA MYETTE	GIB-0044	1
	LA NIÑA TONTA	730186	
1	LA PRIME	728035	ZDDL3
!	LA PRIMERA	GIB-0158	
	LA RONDINE	733651	ZDE13
	LA SOIRÉE	705989	ZDEW9
:	LA TAOS BRETT	308715	ZDUN
	LA VILAINE	731501	ZDDTB
	LA VOGLIA OF SARK	715126	
1	LABAMBALA	736327	
	LADY ANNE IV	GIB-0060	ZDEA8
}		710458	ZDAR8
	LADY CREOLE	736735	ZDFZ6
2003097	l .		ZDFO2
1	LADY DOLORES II	736325	
:	LADY FLO	736363	ZDFS6
2002009	LADY KIS	711590	ZDFA5

9

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
	LADY M OF THE SEA		
		733611	ZDEE4
	LADY MARELLA	731449	
	LADY MICHELLE	GIB-0015	
	LADY NATALIE	734648	ZDES9
	LADY NEVINE	731443	ZDDQ6
	LADY OF NJORD	GIB-0056	
2002014		735315	ZDFA8
2000059	LADY ROSE	733622	ZDEF4
2005093	LADY SPRING	734373	ZDHB3
2002123	LADY SUN	735337	ZDFM7
1989086	LADYNU	715631	ZDCA5
1996037	LAGUNA	727969	
1990045	LAKKA IV	363796	1
1999057	LAMARIE	732064	ZDDV7
1997021	LAUREN H	728037	
1999069	LEDODO	732082	1
2003050	LEAMAR	736738	ZDFU9
2001109	LEENA	734676	ZDEU9
2004018	LEONARDO	GIB-0045	ZDGF9
1998109	LEOPARD	731471	
1993004	LERIKA	723220	ZDCU9
1971017	LEVANTE	343900	ZDAY
1988107	LIA DE BAHIA	711348	ZDBJ8
2003071	LIBRA	736745	ZDFV6
1995086	LIGHT ME	726999	ZDGB7
2001144	LINAKA	735308	ZDEZ2
1993042	LINARYAH	723252	ZDCW5
1998086	LINE CARVER	731464	
2004095	LIQUID ROCK	GIB-0102	ZDGP2
1995059	LISMORE	300115	ZDDF4
1999041	LITTLE ONE	388023	ZDDV5
1993053	LIVET	723269	
2001062	LIZ	734632	ZDER2
2005091	LOLAE	GIB-0186	ZDHA4
2004066	LOOKOUT	GIB-0080	ZDGL9
!	LOOSEGOOSE	736344	
1986068		365479	ZDAR7
1996010		726965	
	LOS CÉFIROS	730103	
2001058		734626	ZDEQ7
1	LOUIS-THEODORE	732090	
	LOW PROFILE	GIB-0174	
20040711		GIB-0081	
20000201		732136	ZDEB8
1999088 L		732112	
	LUCKY STRIKE	736757	ZDFX2
1994007 L	UNETU	724742	ZDCY9

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1994038	MACTONY	724763	ZDDA5
1996038	MADAME Y	716463	
1993001	MAEVA CHIQUI	723218	
2000054	MAEVA STAR II	713982	ZDEE8
1991061	MAFFY BLUE	716531	ZDDA4
1981037	MAFIGA	335332	
2004072	MAGGIE MAE	GIB-0087	ZDGN8
1997044	MAGIC I	730109	
2003058	MAGNUM MARINE	736748	
2000010	MAHUINI	901835	ZDEA5
2000033	MAIA	732151	}
2003005	MALDIMARE	736301	ZDFP9
1996081	MALIN	728011	ZDOK2
1991051	MAMA MIA	716517	ZDCM4
1996065	MAMA TEINA	360783	
1998084	MANA	731461	
2002085	MANGU	735390	ZDFI4
2003072	MANUNU	736754	ZDFW7
1974017	MARAITE	356362	
1998089	MARASQUENO II	731431	ZDER7
2000107	MARCO POLO II	733627	ZDEK5
2002103	MAREN DI PONZA	736284	ZDFK6
1991047	MARIA ANNA	716516	ZDCN3
2002035	MARIGOT BLUE	735318	ZDFC7
2001014	MARLYN - GXF	377825	ZDEY4
1985041	MARMIC	708398	ZDAA7
1981060	MARSCHALLIN	399603	ZDET
1980010	MARTA P	384516	ZDPX
2002018	MARTINE	735314	ZDFB5
2005070	MARY	GIB-0166	ZDGY6
2001047	MARY-ELIZA	734613	ZDEP4
1998092	MARZAKA	710443	
1997043	MAS	358121	ZDDL9
1991042	MASSANA	386765	
2002032	MASTERCAT	735339	
2005080	MATCH ONE	GIB-0178	ZDGZ7
1998022	MAVANA	730159	ZDDP6
2002078	MAXIMUS	735387	
1996070	MAYFAIR	727999	ZDD19
1998059	MAZBAC	727985	ZDDJ8
1992044	MCLAREN	720654	
1999007	ME-LISSA	731485	
2001114	MEDITERRANEAN PEARL	734677	
1998085	MEDIUM RARE	731463	
1993009	MEHDI III	720687	
2004092	MELINA B	GIB-0068	ZDGJ3
	MENISCO ROTO	724756	

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal Latters
	MERMAIDS WHISPER	736332	Oignal_Letters
	MESHACH	715136	ZDBZ5
	METHEXIS	736728	ZDFU8
			20108
	MIDNIGHT MERLIN	715670	
	MIDNIGHT STROLLER	731466	
	MIDNIGHT SUN I	731427	
	MIKADO OF SARK	399126	ZDEC3
	MIKRI MARIANNA	GIB-0047	ZDGH3
2004052		718913	ZDGH8
1995018		724810	ZDDD9
:	MISS ANNA II	GIB-0120	ZDGS8
	MISSION 2 B	734672	
	MISTRAL	730175	
!	MISTRAL BLUE	710665	ZDAT7
	MISTY SEA	723235	
2005056		GIB-0159	ZDGX4
1997059		730126	
	MONA LISA	730143	ZDDR7
2003057	MONTANA	736724	ZDFV7
1995049	MOONBEAM	726956	ZDDE5
2004093	MOONDANCE	GIB-0094	ZDGQ8
2004040	MOONSHINE	GIB - 0062	ZDG19
2005039	MOUN	GIB-0098	
1999062	MOZART	732091	
2002102	MULTI PARTNERS	736293	ZDFK5
2003042	MY ISLAND	736730	ZDGG8
2000019	MY SUNFISH	732154	ZDEB3
2000092	MYDREAMS	901503	ZDEI5
1981008	N.P.TUNA	385093	ZDBM
2005072	NADIR A	GIB-0171	ZDGY2
1987018	NADS	710844	ZDBA9
2003064	NAFSIKA	736747	ZDFW8
1997069	NAGUAL	730134	
1996090	NATADE	728016	ZDDK6
1999059	NAIVASHA	732088	
2005077	NAMOUSSA VIII	GIB-0175	ZDGZ4
1997098	NARMM.B	730158	ZDDO8
1999049	NASVA	731456	
2005014	NATALIA	GIB-0127	ZDGT3
1996007	NATHAPE	727037	ZDFR7
2003043	NAUSIKAA	736732	
1996076	NAUTICUS	727960	
2003076	NAUTIQUE	736370	
2005073		GIB-0170	ZDGZ3
	NAUTY 40'S	715686	ZDCC7
	NAVY GUYS	716050	
2004074		GIB-0073	ZDGK2
2307017			

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1993064	NEEVEEN VI	723280	ZDDG9
2004104	NEPTUNE	GIB-0093	ZDGQ3
1998051	NEWPORT	731429	ZDDQ3
1983096	NIBAMA II	706859	ZDWW
2002076	NIC NAC	735385	
2004043	NICE 'N' EASY	GIB-0061	ZDGJ9
1996005	NIMO	727039	
1998081	NIRIIS	731442	
2004013	NO PROBLEM	GIB-0036	ZDGD7
2004037	NO SMOKER	GIB-0059	ZDGX3
2000048	NON	733614	ZDEE5
1999076		379057	
	NON STOP	730165	
	NORDLYSET	708589	ZDAE4
	NOUNCUCHE	724786	
1991050		716514	
	OCEAN DREAMS	733678	Ì
	OCEAN LADY	735294	ZDEW7
	OCEAN ODYSSEY	GIB-0086	ZDGM6
	OCEANOFLOVE	GIB-0091	ZDGJ7
	OCEAN OF PEACE	GIB-0083	ZDGZ8
	OCEAN REALITY	716481	ZDFS4
	OCTOPUSSY	723254	
	OFF THE HOOK	GIB-0108	ZDGM3
	OFF THE HOOK II	GIB-0092	ZDGM4
1998079		731452	
2005044	1	GIB-0151	
	OLD SAM	726989	
	OLYMPIA	734602	
	ONCEMORE	GIB-0069	
		736752	ZDFW6
	ONE 4 US ONLY NOMANIE	720694	ZDCW4
	ORP A LOT	735384	
	OSAN-MOE	726977	
1982043		399717	ZDQA
	PALADIN	724830	
	PAM EXPRESS	717620	ZDGI3
	PANDORA II	727005	
		734652	ZDET2
	PAPILLON	708586	ZDAE3
	PARIS A	736345	
	PATEKA		
	PATJY II	730146	ZDGS3
2004118		GIB-0117	2000
	PATOYOU	724829	70EI 16
	PAVANNE	734641	ZDEU6
	PAX ROMANA	733598	ZDEC5
1993043	PEARL OF SEA MORE	723250	ZDCW6

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1996097	PENELOPE	373138	ZDEE3
1988075	PERLA BIANCA	377127	ZDBP4
2003112	PERSISTENT	GIB-0014	ZDGA2
1989107	PESCE	715614	ZDCB8
1999037	PETALINA	732068	1
1999070	PETER PAN	732085	ZDDV9
2003055	PHAEDRE	736743	ZDFV5
1999033	PHILOFAST	731489	
	PHILYOMAR III	731419	1
2000025	PICKLE OF THE ROCK	733596	ZDEB9
1988088	PICKWICK	715105	ZDBR6
1982013	PINEAPPLE	399715	
2003007	PINK CHAMPAGNE	736334	ZDFQ4
	PINTA DEL SUR	723307	
	PIXI & DIXI	GIB-0183	ĺ
	PLANADO	736299	ZDFT7
1997009	POKERI	714377	ZDCZ9
2004047	POLARIS	GIB-0065	ZDGI5
1976043	POLITA II	373217	ZDFK
1994047	PONGO	724774	ZDDA8
1998040	POSEIDON	731417	ZDDQ4
2004017	PRINCESS AYESHA	712430	ZDGF8
1986093	PRINCESS ELAYNE	710653	ZDAU4
1991021	PRINCESSE YANOUCHKA	716470	
2000041	PRINCIPESSA	732157	ZDED8
1997060	PRIVILEGE V	730128	ZDDM6
2001138	PROGRESSION	735306	ZDEY5
1998007	PROLIFIC OSPREY	730149	1
2004115	PROPOSITION	724817	
1999085	PROTOTYPE	732106	
1989002	PULSAR UN	715133	
2004002	PYXIS	GIB-0004	ZDGE9
1999044	QUEST	732072	
	RA'I ATEA	726996	ZDDG6
2002051	RACHEL CHRISTINA	735357	ZDFF2
1983058	RACHELE	702332	ZDUK
2000014	RACLETTE	732139	ZDEA9
1999043	RADHA	732074	
2003138	RAIKA	GIB-0024	
2004039	RAMBUS	734342	ZDGH4
1998076	RAPA NUI	731454	ZDDS6
1994074	RATBAG II	724794	ZDD87
2005006	RAW PRAWN	GIB-0122	ZDHA3
1997049	REBELDE	730108	
1992026	RED ANGELINA	720634	
	RED PEPPER	733661	ZDEJ8
1983029	REGINA CAELIS	702313	ZDSU

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
2003134	RESCATOR	GIB-0034	ZDGC9
1990005	RICSAN CREST	703209	1
2004105	RIVERBEN	726389	ZDGL2
1986073	ROCKO	710654	ZDAS7
1	ROMANCES	716459	ZDCI7
	ROOSTER	GIB-0114	
	ROSES DE COEUR	736759	
1996096		728021	
	ROTUMA	727951	ZDDX6
1994078		716932	ZDDB8
1997062		730123	ZDDN3
	RUBY'S RASCAL	360604	ZDEF
1	RUSALKA	731118	ZDFY9
	RUSSENOIR	724820	
	SAGARTXO III	708212	ZEOP
	SAGITARIUS	730171	
1	SAINT-POURÇAIN	736340	ZDFP8
	SALAMAT	722279	ZDEY8
1998013		730173	ZDDP3
1991046		716508	
!	SALOMON	735340	ZDFA3
1983053	SAMARANG	702549	ZDUG
2000060	SAMARANG II	733626	ZDEF7
2002118	SAMATHA	736305	ZDFM3
2003019	SAMIOPOULA	736351	ZDFR4
2001053	SAN FRANCISCO	734610	ZDEP8
1995064	SAN MARTIN	723261	
2003070	SAN PEDRO	736756	ZDGB4
1988053	SAPPHIRE	397900	ZDBP3
1997058	SARA	730122	ZDDM5
1992098	SARABINA	720696	
2005092	SARATOGA	717358	ZDHB5
1997080	SARAVA	730142	
1997063	SARAY	730098	
2002011	SAYONARA	735302	ZDFA6
1993063	SCAMPOLO	723258	
1998043	SCARABAJO	731422	
1996060	SCARLETT GRACE	727992	
1986005	SCORPIOS	708624	ZDAJ7
1986006	SCORPIOS II	708625	ZDAJ8
1986008	SCORPIOS IV	708627	ZDAK2
1986013	SCORPIOS IX	710402	ZDAK7
1986009	SCORPIOS V	708628	ZDAK3
1986010	SCORPIOS VI	708629	ZDAK4
1986011	SCORPIOS VII	708630	ZDAK5
1986012	SCORPIOS VIII	710401	ZDAK6
1986014	SCORPIOS X	710403	ZDAK8

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
	SEA HARMONY	735351	
	SEA JAY	GIB-0113	ZDGR2
	SEA SAM	712056	
i	SEAHAWK	731460	ZDDR6
	SEAHORSE	GIB-0161	ZDGX6
		736311	ZDFM6
1	SEARENITY	726967	ZDDF2
!	SEE U LATER SWITZERLAND		ZDFE9
!	SENATOR CRU	735345	
1	SENSATION	731432	ZDDL4
1997020		728039	ZDDP8
	SERAPH	731420	20076
[SERENA	384966	705 17
2000100		732152	ZDEJ7
1	SERENITY	GIB-0038	ZDGE2
1988100	1	715138	ZDBS6
	SHADOWFAX	GIB-0154	ZDGK8
	SHALIMAR	733602	ZDED5
1	SHAMWARI	GIB-0172	ZDGY5
	SHIRIAN	716115	770
1	SHOOTIN' THE BREEZE	356169	ZDKD
	SIBELLE II	702572	ZDUR
	SILVER FROG	716458	
1990079	SILVERLOVE	716106	ZDGV5
2000067		733635	ZDEG3
2002044	SIMPLY BRILLIANT	723591	
2000056	SKIJAN	733619	
2005020	SKOOKUM	GIB-0131	
2005075	SKY BLUE	GIB-0099	
1994069	SLEEPER	387508	
1987060	SLY PUSS	710904	ZDCM2
1988108		715107	ZDBT3
2005005	SNOW DROP OF GIBRALTAR	GIB-0121	
2003039	SOLEA	736298	ZDFT8
2001003	SOLITAIRE	733677	
2002016	SOLTANA	735320	ZDFA9
2003060	SOÑADOR	736749	ZDFW3
1987066	SPARTAN A	710880	ZDBF4
1998052	SPECTRA OF BENALMADINA	706576	
2003030	SPIDERWEB II	736365	ZDFT2
1990088	SPIRIT OF ANNA MARIA	716079	
2001064	SPIRIT OF AQUARIUS	734633	ZDER3
2000086	SPIRIT OF HOPE	733645	ZDGN3
1993015	SPIRIT OF LA BAMBA	716621	
1996011	SPIRIT OF VAYU DOOT	727031	l
1989038	SPITZBUBE	715176	ZDBW8
2003114	STAINLESS	GIB-0021	
1996036	STARGAZER	727971	

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
1997100	STARLIGHT EXPRESS	730160	ZDDO4
1991016	STAY LUCKY	716493	ZDCK3
2002113	STELLAR OF GIBRALTAR	736304	ZDFL7
1984061	STEPHAN	708233	ZERV
1998049	STRIPPTEASE	731426	
1992080	STRUTON	720678	ZDCU2
:	SUEÑO IV	736354	ZDF716
i	SUMBISH	732099	
	SUMMERTIME BLUES	720691	ZDCU4
2001077		734609	ZDES4
	SUNARROW	724795	
	SUNDAY II	729499	ZDEV7
	SUNPHIL LLL	723242	
	SUNSPRAY	317952	zooc
1989114		715675	
1	SURPRISE	734670	ZDEV3
2003091		GIB-0009	
	SUSANNAH	GIB-0017	
	SUTHERSEA	715697	
	SUVRETTA III	735330	
1990064		716105	ZDCF3
	SWIFT GIBRALTAR	736355	ZDFT4
	SYNERGY	GIB-0149	ZDGV7
	T.J. SUNSHINE	731467	ZDDS4
2001057		733617	ZDEQ6
	T/T KLOSTERS	GIB-0128	ZDGS7
:	TABARIYA	734659	ZDET4
2002074		735381	ZDF1-14
	TAMATA	733659	ZDEJ5
2001028	TAN TAN	733675	ZDEN3
1996001	TAOS	727022	ZDDH4
	TARTIFLETTE	GIB-0129	ZDGT6
2001096	TATU	734665	ZDEU2
2001018	TAYA	733685	ZDEM4
1	TEMPTATION	GIB-0136	ZDGU9
2004079		GIB-0097	ZDGO4
	THE JOKER	732133	
	THE MOUSE	736742	ZDFU7
1	THE RETREAT	373009	ZDEQ8
	THE ROCK	736369	ZDFS9
!	THEOMITOR	359163	ZEPIM
!	THIS ONE	384513	ZDCW3
1	THOROUGHBRED	GIB-0124	
	THREE NAILS	727008	ZDDH3
2004025		GIB-0051	ZDGH6
2000066		733628	ZDEG2
!	TIMAIOS III	GIB-0107	ZDGP6

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
2001041	TIME FLIES	734612	ZDEO8
2001043	TIME OUT	734617	ZDEO9
1997053	TIMELESS	730120	20008
1994050	TIMOTHY	724783	1
	TINTO DE VERANO	GIB-0037	ZDGD8
1990034	TOBA	716071	ZDEX8
2003137	тодо	GIB-0035	
1988061	TOI ET MOI	715111	ZDBP6
1999052	TORJAN	732077	
1999081	TOUKY	732105	ZDDX7
1999029	TRESIA I	731508	
1999095	TROPICS	732107	
1	TRUDY IV	724815	
1	TRUMPETER OF THE ROCK	728462	
!	TUBINGEN	732087	ZDDW5
2003010	TUNA FISHER	736343	
1997097	TURQUOISE DREAMS	730157	ZDDP5
2005031	TUTTI COLORI	GIB-0138	ZDGU7
1992043	OWT	720658	
2004035	TWO FORTY SEVEN	728217	ZDGI2
1997036	TZAR	730100	
2004099	UNREPENTANT	901103	ZDGP7
1991009	USTWO	716477	
2002110	VAGABOND PRINCE	736303	ZDFL4
2003087	VALYUSHA	GIB-0001	ZDFY2
2002067	VANESSA STAR II	735376	ZDFG8
2004078	VANILA	GIB-0095	ZDGK6
1988042	VAYU	711384	ZDBN9
2003094	VEGEFA	907640	ZDFZ4
2001081	VENI, VIDI, VICI	734650	ZDES8
1985030	VENUS-STAR	708392	ZEUX
2001032	VENUTAR	733684	ZDEN7
2005019	VICTORIANA	GIB-0125	ZDGR6
2003026	VIKING	736346	ZDCM5
1990084	VINLAND	716114	ZDCJ6
1987061	VINTAN	710908	ZDBE8
2005086	VITÓRIA	GIB-0181	ZDGZ2
2005029	VIVE LA VIE	GIB-0139	ZDGX7
1977014	VIVILENA	373305	ZDGP
2001019	WAGGIS	734591	
1997007	WATOO	728028	ZDET6
1998036	WELLDONE	731412	
1995048	WET LIZARD	726960	
1985101	WETNOSE	708616	ZDAH6
1998094	WHITE ARROW	727364	}
1987055	WHITE FRIAR	386412	
2002031	WHITE MOON	716137	

LIST OF ACTIVE PLEASURE YACHTS AS AT 31/08/05

Port_Number	Name	Official_Number	Signal_Letters
2004055	WICKED TOO	GIB-0053	
1991001	WICKED WAY	716076	
2001001	WIKANI	733672	ZDEK6
2001073	WILD SALMON	734635	ZDES2
1989017	WILLIE PICCONE	715608	ZDBZ4
2004086	WINDANCER	GIB-0090	ZDGI8
1989001	WINDPOCKE	715159	ZDBV4
2003066	WINDY-DRACO	736733	ZDFW9
1997066	WINGS OF FREEDOM	730117	
1999008	WIZARD	731479	ZDDT4
1984038	WOODFIELD II	708220	ZECIX
1995026	WURTH	726942	ZDDC9
1999098	WYLY WAY	732119	
1994023	XENIOS	724757	ZDDD6
1997091	XTASEA	726994	ZDEJ4
2004061	Y-KNOT	731507	ZDGW4
1997041	YAKAMOZ	730107	
2003082	YAMILOU VII	736753	ZDGA4
2002088	YOLANDA JOSE	736276	
2001128	YOTO III	735291	ZDEW5
2005090	YOULIA	GIB-0182	ZDGZ5
1998098	ZAIDA	731430	
1997039	ZANTAC	730105	ZDDL8
2002080	ZAURAQ	735389	ZDFH9
1982015	ZED ZED	399736	ZDOA
2003084	ZENEZE	736767	ZDFX8
1992030	ZORA II OF PALMARES	720643	
1996057		723753	ZDDY6
2004084	ZULU BRAVO	GIE-0101	ZDGJ6

NO. 920 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS - COMPUTERS

What was the value and number of computer items imported into Gibraltar since March 2005 inclusive on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The value of computer hardware imported into Gibraltar on a monthly basis since March 2005 was as follows:

	Value of Computers
	(£)
March 2005	300,947
April 2005	339,242
May 2005	362,960
June 2005	257,364
July 2005	579,457
August 2005	425,277

Government are unable to provide a figure for the number of computers imported into Gibraltar as it is the individual components that are imported and not fully assembled computers.

The Government do not have figures for the number of computer items.

NO. 921 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TOBACCO LICENCES

Can Government state how many licences for trading in tobacco were extant in each year since 2000 to date giving a breakdown between retail and wholesale licences?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The number of licences for trading in tobacco are as follows:-

	<u>Wholesale</u>	<u>Retail</u>
2000	18	193
2001	17	179
2002	16	178
2003	16	171
2004	17	169
2005	21	161

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 921 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

There was a directive issued to the Trade Licensing Authority in the days when his predecessor, Mr Azopardi as I recall, where no more licences were being issued to trade in tobacco, no more wholesale licences. The number of wholesale licences has now gone up, has there been a change in policy?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, there has not been a change of policy but there have been circumstances when the Trade Licensing Authority has had to give consideration to applications which have made them take the decision to grant licences.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister expand on what these considerations are?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do not know whether it is appropriate for me to comment on decisions of the Trade Licensing Authority. The Government have the ability to be able to inform the Trade Licensing Authority of Government policy but at the end of the day it is a statutory body which has to consider its decisions based on circumstances. I can tell him that I can at least recall one circumstance, one situation where the granting of an additional licence was something that I thought was a reasonable decision to take and therefore meant an additional licence, but the policy of the Government has not changed in this respect.

NO. 922 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS - GOODS VEHICLES

What was the number and value of goods vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers

on a monthly basis since March 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 923 of 2005.

NO. 923 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS - PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES

What was the number and value of private motor vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers

on a monthly basis since March 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information requested is set out in the attached schedule.

Answer to Question 923

Schedule to Question 922

Goods vehicles imported by individuals

Goods vehicles imported by licensed dealers

	Number	Value (£ thousands)	Number	Value (£ thousands)	
March 2005	-	-	10	34	
April 2005	1	1	5	29	
May 2005	2	11	5	35	
June 2005	2	1	4	8	
July 2005	3	9	4	14	
August 2005	3	10	1	6	

Schedule to Question 923

Private motor vehicles imported by individuals

Private motor vehicles imported by licensed dealers

	Number	Value (£ thousands)	Number	Value (£ millions)
March 2005	18	44.4	535	6.9
April 2005	24	102.8	567	6.3
May 2005	22	40.9	480	6.4
June 2005	25	67.0	496	5.9
July 2005	15	45.2	447	6.6
August 2005	39	120.2	459	4.8

NO. 924 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 April 2005 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 925 of 2005.

NO. 925 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORT DUTY

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 April 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 925

Schedule to Question 924

The amount of import duty paid on building materials on a monthly basis since April 2005 inclusive is as follows:-

2005	£
April	31,140
May	36,150
June	62,768
July	75,815
August	72,913
September	174,865

Schedule to Question 925

The import duty collected from persons entering Gibraltar through the non-commercial gate at the land frontier on a monthly basis from April 2005 inclusive, is as follows:-

2005	£
April	14,803
May	16,453
June	15,235
July	13,119
August	14,732
September	12,111

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 924 AND 925 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

There is a huge rise in the import duty paid on building materials in September, can the Minister identify the reason for this?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I assume that there have been more building materials imported in the month of September.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Yes, but other than the obvious is it a particular project?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, I am not aware of any particular reason why this should be the case. I can only assume it is to do with what I have just said, more materials must have been imported during that month.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Minister say whether the materials imported for land reclamation will pay import duty?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I was just thinking that myself actually because I was trying to see whether there is an explanation. I know that there has been quite a substantial amount of activity in building materials with the Island Project so that may well justify. I would assume that they do, they are subjected to import duty but I would not be able to confirm that but I would say that there would be. I see no reason why they should be exempt, whether building materials are for reclamation or used on land I think that the importation has been done. In fact, I can confirm that they have paid duty because I remember them applying to me to see whether under the social and economic interests of Gibraltar I would exempt them from duty, and it was rejected.

NO. 926 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Can Government list the conferences that they have assisted with, sponsored or cosponsored in Gibraltar since the answer to Question 263 of 2005, showing the dates of the conferences in question, 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.

NO. 927 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

E-BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

How often and on what dates has the E-Business Advisory Council met since 2 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 817, 833, 902, 917 and 928 of 2005.

NO. 928 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

How often and on what dates has the Business Advisory Council met since 17 February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information sought is being handed over in written format.

Schedule to Question 928

(a) Meetings of Transport Commission, 01/01/04 – 30/09/05.

9th February 2004 11th May 2005 6th April 2004 10th June 2005 14th July 2004 9th August 2005 18th April 2005 19th September 2005 27th April 2005

(b) Meetings of Traffic Commission, 01/01/04 – 30/09/05.

21st January 2004 9th February 2005 4th February 2004 7th March 2005 10th March 2004 9th June 2005 19th May 2004 24th August 2005 22nd September 2004 27th October 2004 8th December 2004

(c) Meetings of the Development and Planning Commission, 14/04/05 – 30/09/05.

4th May 2005 7th July 2005 12th May 2005 29th July 2005 9th June 2005 1st September 2005

(d) Meetings of the Tourism Advisory Council, 25/02/05 – 30/09/05.

10th June 2005 22nd September 2005

(e) Meetings of the Port Advisory Council, 11/02/05 – 30/09/05.

12th May 2005 8th September 2005

(f) Meetings of the E-Business Adv isory Council, 03/02/05 – 30/09/05.

5th May 2005 1st September 2005

(g) Meetings of the Business Advisory Council, 17/02/05 – 30/09/05.

7th July 2005 15th September 2005

<u>SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 817, 833, 902, 917, 927 AND 928 OF</u> 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Is there any particular reason why the Transport Commission did not meet between 14th July 2004 and 18th April 2005? It seems to be a very protracted period of time.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I cannot really give an answer because I was not the Chairman of the Transport Commission during that time, it was the Hon Fabian Vinet who is not in the House to give an explanation. The Commission meets at least on a monthly basis and if there are issues that need to be dealt with more urgently then we make arrangements for the Commission to meet. I assume each Chairman has different policies on how to conduct their business, I can only really be answerable since the Ministerial reshuffle in early July and in fact I have already met about four times since then, but I cannot really give an explanation in respect of the previous period but maybe my Colleague may be able to do so later during this Question Time.

HON L A RANDALL:

I appreciate that and if to make things easier the Minister could investigate and come back in writing at a later stage.

NO. 929 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CONFERENCES

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the Government's participation at the AMRIE meeting which took place in Malta in May?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

Schedule to Question 929

International Hunting, Fishing & Tourism Fair

Official delegation:

Mr Dylan Ferrar - GTB Sales & Marketing Co-ordinator Mrs Maria Gloria Macedo - GTB Sales & Marketing Officer

Cost:

```
\begin{array}{c} \text{Mileage allowance } \text{f. 83} \\ \text{Subsistence} & \frac{\text{£210}}{\text{£293}} \end{array}
```

The Government does not have details of all the exhibitors at this event, that was not organised by the Gibraltar Tourist Board.

Barcelona destination exhibition and workshop

Official delegation:

```
Mr Peter Canessa - Chief Executive, GTB
Mr Nicky Guerrero - GTB Sales & Marketing Manager
Mr Dylan Ferrar - GTB Sales & Marketing Co-ordinator
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Cost:

Hire of hall and refreshments	£4,002
Flights	376
Hotel expenses	303
Transport expenses	153
Subsistence	242
Insurance	15
Courier	100
Promotional material	147
	£5,338

Gibraltar travel trade participants:

Company	No. of	Representatives
Bland Limited		1
Cable Car		. 1
Calypso Tours		1
Emile Youth Hostel		2
Gibraltar Taxi Associat	ion	2
International Casino Cl	ub	1
Parodytur		1
Rock & Fortress		1

No contribution was sought from the Mancomunidad de Municipios del Campo de Gibraltar for attending this event.

1

Cont..

Contd Answer to Question 929 Madrid destination exhibition and workshop

Cost:

Hire of hall and refreshments	£3,706
Flights	87
Hotel expenses	409
Transport expenses	113
Subsistence	331
Insurance	30
Courier	100
Promotional nature, etc	320
	£5,096

Gibraltar travel trade participants:

Company	No. of Representatives
	1
Bland Travel	1
Calypso Travel	1
Caleta Hotel	1
Eliott Hotel	1
GB Airways	1
Gibraltar Taxi Association	2
Herald Travel	2
International Casino Club	2
Parodytur	1

780 invitations to this event issued. 63 travel agents and 12 journalists/media representatives attended the workshop, as per the list at Annex A.

Joint Tourism Workshop, Gibraltar

The workshop was organised by the Mancomunidad, who met all costs. The Government is not aware of the costs incurred by the Mancomunidad. It was not a joint workshop: it was a showcase for the Mancomunidad tourism industry.

There were no Gibraltar exhibitors at the event. There were representatives from the seven Campo de Gibraltar municipalities.

The results of this event cannot be quantified against meaningful targets. It is not possible to say if the event met expectations as it was not organised by the Government.

AMRIE High Level Conference

Cost:

Flights	£325
Hotel accommodation	£347
Subsistence	£251
Travel expenses	£ 52
_	£975

2

Cont...

Contd Answer to Question 929 Annex A

Buscard

Turisticas

Agency	Participant
Viajes Eroski	Carmen Munoz Infante
Viajes Ananta	Pilar Criado Garcia
Viajes Ausventura	Angel Tendero
-	Eva Alonso
Viajes Abora	Mari Cruz de los Reyes
Viajes Abora	Por Confirmar nombre
Viajes Abora	
Abayac Viajes	Pilar Arroyo
Akhana Viajes	Mar Rodriguez de Vicente
Abayac Viajes	Carlos Barona
Viajes Fray Escoba	Juan Rodriguez
Viajes Fray Escoba	Trinidad Moreno
Viajes Eroski	Cristina Chacartegui
IBS Viajes	Jose Maria Redondo
IBS Viajes	Marisol Granados
En Clave Rural	Israel Sanchez Fernandez
Formula 98 Viajes	Laura Santiago Calvo
Viajes Haciendo Huella	Alfonso Monge
Formula 98 Viajes	Raquel Pastor Ramirez
Convenco Incentive Solutions	Manuel Alvarez
Andy Tours	Antonio Diaz
Andy Tours	Monica Torres
Viajes Iberia	Belen de Espona
Viajes Iberia	Aurora Gonzalez
Bus Card Booking Service	Mario Sanchez
Viajes Arizona	Manuel Hernandez Rodriguez
Capriccio Tours	Natalya Atamas
Capriccio Tours	Sandra Manrique
Viajes Iberia	Antonio Viejo
La Ruta de la Seda Viajes	Ana Rodera
Viajes Universal San Luis	Monica Lopez
Viajes Universal San Luis	Marta Caso
Quo Viajes	Beatriz Navarro Lozano
Quo Viajes	Juan Manuel Borges
Quo Viajes	Raquel Lopez
Neoturismo Viajes	Andres Martin
Viajes Bola del Mundo	Javier Carrillo
Viajes Alcatour	Carlos Cocera de Juana
central	
Viajes Alcatour	Pablo Arias Hernandez
Barcelo Viajes	Carmen Avila
Barcelo Viajes	Patricia Espiga
Soluzion Viajes	Yolanda Acebron
Soluzion Viajes	Miguel Quiles
Terra Viajes	Carmen Fernandez
Terra Viajes	Aurora Moncalvillo
Viajes los Pontones	Sin especificar nombre
Viajes los Pontones	Ana Maria Gil Asenjo
Viajes los Pontones	Sin especificar nombre
Viajes Universal San Luis	Monica Lopez
Viajes Universal San Luis	Marta Caso
Durana d	Dalema Camunas Fernandes

Cont...

Responsibility
Responsable de
Directora Comercial

Directora Oficina Jefe de Ventas Directora Ventas

Encargado Agencia

Jefa de Agencia Director

Director Gerente Directora Agencia

Agente de Viajes Directora Ventas Directora Dpto Ventas Jefe de Oficina Asesora de Viajes Asesor de Viajes Asesora de Viajes Director Commercial

Director de Producto

Responsible Sucursal Agente de mostrador Agente de mostrador

Directora Oficina Agente de Ventas Agente de Ventas Agente de Ventas Agente de Ventas

Jefe de Oficina

Promociones

Director Ventas

Director Director Jefa de Grupos Vendedora Director Ventas

Ventas Gerente

Ventas Ventas

Dpto Ventas

Director Responsible de

Gerente Gerente

Ventas

Paloma Camunas Fernandez

Contd Answer to Question 929

Viajes Aguamar Viajes Aguamar Viajes Vincit Grupos

Galapagos Otras Rutas Viajes Goya, S.A.

Gullivers Travel Associates

Mundiespana Mindiespana Euroclub Tours Viajes 2001 Cultural Link Viajes

Cultural Link Viajes Viajes Abrantes Periodico Equinoccio

TAT Interiores Moneda Unica Europa Press Traveller Traveller AirClasse Travesias TMG News Nexotur

Boletin Ecocharly

Jose Antonio Terron Elvira Terron Felisa Vela

Ana Belen Barbero Francisco Javier Sanchez Inmaculada Moreno Patricia Dekert Veronica Puentes Luis Javier Araque Belloso Jose Miguel Garcinuno Alvaro Ventas Sabina Saturno

Rosa Rodriguez Miguel Nasser Idola Bahon Ma Fernanda Fernandez Lydia de Miquel

Esmeralda Gayan Javier Carron Adelaida Gutierrez Almudena Garcia Virtudes Rodrigo Fernando Garcia Jorge Diez Gomez Esther Munoz Murillo Susana Gomez

Jefe de Ventas Directora Dpto Receptive

Ventas

Ventas Directora Agente Agente Vicepresidente Gerente Ventas Director Directora Subdirectora Publicadad Redaccion Jefe Redaccion Jefe Publicidad Redaccion Redaccion Director Publicadad Jefe Marketing

Redactora

4

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 887 TO 897 AND 929 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to the Barcelona destination exhibition and workshop the answer given is that no contribution was sought from the Mancomunidad de Municipios for attending this event. In other words, they participated, the event cost the Gibraltar Tourist Board £5,300 and the Mancomunidad participated for free, is that the position?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

That is the position but I think one has to understand that this is a Gibraltar event at which the Mancomunidad is allowed to set up a little table or stall in the same way as we have a number of local trade operators from Gibraltar who actually attend and sell their wares from there. In the same way as when we were invited to participate in the International Hunting Fish and Tourism Fair, we had our own little stand there and we were not charged anything for being there. It is a matter of swings and roundabouts in this so in the same way as we do not charge any of the local operators who attend these fairs, the hon Member will see in the list I have supplied that there are a number of companies from the local trade who participated and have their own little stands there, they only contribute in the form of paying their own air fares and hotels or whatever is required but actually the cost of participating in the actual workshop is not something that we charge for.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I think there is a difference between not charging members of the local tourist trade and the various companies that attended and having these people go for free. As I say, it is not quite the same as having the Mancomunidad participating in the event for free, and by point of observation perhaps not a question, I think it is not the same to go to a Tourism Fair in Barcelona for free, which is what happened to the Mancomunidad than for Gibraltar to attend one in Los Barrios. I do not think there is any comparison in that. Perhaps to phrase it as a question I can ask the Minister if he does not agree?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Obviously it is far more effective for them to go to Barcelona than it is for us to exhibit in Los Barrios. Having said that I think that the cost of this is really very insignificant for us to be debating this in the House.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to the question on the AMRIE conference in Malta, the Minister supplied me with a breakdown and the cost which is £975, can I ask for how many people that was and for how many days?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

There is a Gibraltar Government representative in AMRIE and that is Mr Richard Garcia and he was the one who attended the conference in Malta on his own.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

For how many days?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I think the conference was two or three days.

NO. 930 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU FUNDING

Can Government say how often and on what dates the following have met since 18 April 2005:

- (a) the Objective 2 Appraisal Sub-Committee/Small Grant Scheme Committee:
- (b) the Objective 3 Appraisal Sub-Committee?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 931 and 932 of 2005.

NO. 931 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 purpose for which it was intended, listing those applications that have been successful, that have been unsuccessful, and those applications that are still pending?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 930 and 932 of 2005.

NO. 932 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU FUNDING

Can Government say what has been Gibraltar's contribution to date in respect of the Interreg III-B SUDOE architectural project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The information requested is set out in the attached schedule.

Schedule to Question 932

(a) Meeting of Objective 2 Appraisal Sub-Group

25 May 2005

(b) Meeting of Small Grant Scheme Committee

9 May 2005 23 June 2005 18 July 2005 26 July 2005

(c) Meeting of Objective 3 Appraisal Sub-Group

27 May 2005 14 September 2005

(d) Parties applied for EU funding

The parties who applied for funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) are at Annex 1. No applications are pending, and all were successful.

The parties who applied for funding from the European Social Fund (ESF) are at Annex 2.

Two applications are pending, the remainder were successful.

(e) The cost of Gibraltar's participation in the ARQ SXX project to date is £2,100, 50% of which is payable by the EU.

1.

Cont ...

ERDF PROJECTS

Project No.	Sponsor	Status	ERDF	GOG	Purpose of Grant
81	The Gibraltar Echo (Publishing Ltd)	Withdrawn	£ 2,736 (15%)	£ 2,736 (15%)	Purchase of equipment, security camera, office furniture, signage, installation of air- conditioning, promotion and marketing
82	Let's Go Ltd	Active	£ 5,000 (13.99%)	£ 5,000 (13.99%)	Transport and logistics,
83	Radicals	Active	£ 4,942 (15%)	£ 4,942 (15%)	Building & renovation works.
84	Gibraltar Chronicle Ltd	Active	£35,032 (14.5%)	£35,032 (14.5%)	Purchase of equipment and payment of Import Duty.
85	Auto Mechanical Services	Active	£ 3,035 (15%)	£ 3,035 (15%)	Rent subsidy scheme, purchase of diagnostic machine and equipment.
86	J & J Baitson	Active	£ 4,585 (15%)	£ 4,585 (15%)	Building and renovation works, rent and rates subsidy scheme, purchase of equipment, payment of freight, import duty and marketing.
87	Barrow Hills Ltd	Active	£ 1,974 (15%)	£ 1,974 (15%)	Purchase of equipment, import duty and civil works.
88	Fotoart	Active	£ 3,025 (15%)	£ 3,025 (15%)	Purchase of equipment, work bench and rent and rates subsidy scheme.
89	Alborak Co Ltd	Active	£ 2,827 (15%)	£ 2,827 (15%)	Construction of Terrace, erection of safety verandah, rent & rates subsidy scheme.
90	Ming Ming Enterprises Ltd	Active	£ 3,145 (15%)	£ 3,145 (15%)	Purchase of equipment, building works and signage, rent and rates, marketing and the purchase of two delivery motor bikes.
91	Department of Transport	Active	£116,000 (50%)	£116,000 (50%)	Internal renovation of main office block, extending roof, roller shutter doors, painting, booth, main toilet and garage.

2

Cont ...

ESF PROJECTS

Project No.	Name	Sponsor	Status	ESF	GOG	Private Sector	Purpose of Project
38	Deliverex	Department of Trade & Industry	Approved	£7,200 (45%)	£8,800 (55%)	-	Technical assistance for delivery and implementation of the Objective 3 Programme
39	Publicitex	Department of Trade & Industry	Approved	£ 2,700 (45%)	£ 3,300 (55%)	-	Technical assistance for the dissemination & awareness of ESF
40	ETTS 2005	Department of Education & Training	Approved	£178,173 (45%)	£ 59,392 (15%)	£158,376 (40%)	Apprenticeship programme leading towards NVQ's in engineering disciplines.
41	Focus 5505	Employment Service	Pending	£35,775 (45%)	£43,725 (55%)	-	Employment support measure for registered unemployed, ex- offenders or those recovering from an addiction.
42	CTC Intake 12	Department of Education & Training	Pending	£102,325 (45%)	£125,064 (55%)	-	3 year training scheme leading towards NVQ Level 2 in the construction disciplines.

ORAL

NO. 933 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

WORKS ABOARD THE ROTTERDAM

Can the Government confirm, given their previous public statements in respect of this matter, that the works at Cammell Laird shipyard on the vessel Rotterdam are in fact continuing and, if so, what has given rise to such a delay in the expected completion of works which were originally stated to be due for completion by September this year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The works to remove asbestos were completed on 31st March 2005, as stated by my colleague the Hon Bernard Linares, then Minister with responsibility for Employment, at the time of the meeting of this House in April 2005 in answer to supplementary questions consequent on Question No. 187 of 2005. The asbestos is stored aboard the ship in accordance with the relevant legal provisions. The asbestos will be safely removed for disposal when it next arrives at its port of origin in the Netherlands.

At present no works are being carried out on the Rotterdam as a result of the vessel having changed ownership for the second time since its arrival in Gibraltar. Government understand that Cammell Laird are awaiting instructions from the new owners, which they are expecting to receive shortly.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 799 AND 933 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

The Minister did say, and he is right, that his predecessor said that the works were completed on 31st March but I think that a reading of the rest of the Hansard suggests that there might still have been things to be done, hence the question again in relation to the asbestos, and the revelation at the time that in fact the asbestos, although we were talking about removal works, it is not actually being totally removed from the vessel. It is being removed from those parts of the vessel which carry asbestos and being stored elsewhere on the vessel. The Minister has clarified that that is not going to be taken out of the vessel until it arrives at Amsterdam. The question of the Rotterdam was one which when the vessel arrived in Gibraltar was highlighted as one of the great things that was going to happen at Cammell Laird and one of the things that would create employment, in fact that is how the Government have dealt with the issue when we have asked questions and supplementaries on the

subject. Is the Minister therefore concerned that the delay in the works will have some effect on employment levels at Cammell Laird et cetera, or has he received assurances from the shipyard that this is not going to have an adverse effect on their ability to continue with having those people employed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do not think that the delay is actually having any effect on the employment levels at Cammell Laird. However, Cammell Laird are uncertain as to what the new owners will want done with the vessel, and I am led to understand that they are currently awaiting final instructions from them which will actually enable them to complete the works that they first came to Gibraltar to be undertaken to be able then to return back to the Netherlands, which is what the initial objective was when the vessel first came to Gibraltar.

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I take it from the various answers that we have had, this is just to clarify, that all works aboard the vessel are now stopped because the removal of asbestos was completed and because of the present change of ownership and the lack of clarity from the new owners as to what they wish? There is nothing going on aboard the vessel at the moment?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

There is definitely nothing going on in respect of works on asbestos, the work in respect of asbestos is finished. My understanding is that there are some minor works on-going on the vessel but not in relation to any issue which should be of concern about a health and safety issue.

NO. 934 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

LOAN TO BELL HOTEL LTD

Can Government state whether and if so which loans for the purpose of funding investments have been approved by the Minister so as to make the interest payable exempt from tax for each tax year since 1996/1997?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Only one such loan has been approved by me under the Income Tax Ordinance. The loan in question was a loan from the ACC Bank in Dublin to Bell Hotel Limited. I approved this on 3rd June 2005 that this loan should qualify for exemption under the provisions of section 3(35) of the Income Tax (Allowances, Deductions and Exemption) Rules 1992.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 934 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is this in fact the only request that was made under that particular section and were there others that were rejected?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

This has been the only request since my time as Minister for Trade and Industry. During my time there have not been any rejected and I do not think that there has been a rejection before either, because on trying to find out there was very little knowledge whether any of these had actually been granted.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can the Minister say what was the amount?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes, the amount was for £2.85 million and it was in respect of the current refurbishments that are currently being undertaken at the Eliott Hotel.

NO. 935 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government say whether the Town Planning Department has now issued a scoping opinion setting out the areas of study and assessment to be covered in the EIA in respect of the East Side project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 936 to 938 of 2005.

NO. 936 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government say who will conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment into the East Side project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 935, 937 and 938 of 2005.

NO. 937 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

How many representations were received by the Development and Planning Commission in respect of the proposed East Side project, how many supported the project and how many were against it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 935, 936 and 938 of 2005.

NO. 938 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Has planning permission been granted to the East Side project and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Planning permission has not yet been granted to the East Side project.

The Town Planner has issued a scoping opinion for the project, setting out the issues to be addressed in an Environmental Impact Assessment. Responsibility for carrying out the EIA lies with the developer of the project. The Government understand that Halcrow has been appointed to carry out the EIA.

Three representations against the project were received.

NO. 939 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT - BETTING INDUSTRY

Can Government provide a breakdown by sex and nationality and full-time and parttime employment of the 284 increase in numbers of employees in the gambling and betting sub-industry in the October 2004 Employment Survey Report?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 940 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 940 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT - BETTING INDUSTRY

Can Government provide a breakdown by sex and nationality and full-time and parttime employment of the 21 firms employing 840 persons in October 2003 and the 31 firms employing 1124 persons in October 2004 in the gambling and betting activity sub-industry according to the October 2004 Employment Survey Report?

<u>ANSWER</u>

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Details which could identify the returns of individual private sector firms cannot be provided under the provisions of the Statistics Ordinance. I will, however, provide now to the hon Member a schedule setting out all the other information that he has requested but not broken down by firm, because that would be a breach of the Statistics Ordinance under which these surveys are conducted.

However, I would refer the hon Member, as he considers this information, to the footnote to Table 1 in the 2004 Employment Survey when analysing these figures. That footnote cautions that the nationality split as between UK British and Gibraltarian presents problems of accuracy. Some employers classify all their British employees, including Gibraltarians, under the UK British Category and since no personal details are provided in the form it is not possible to differentiate between the two categories. This results in an understatement of the Gibraltarians in employment, and of course that is not something that affects just this answer but indeed he will find it as a footnote in Table 1 of the Survey and it is a problem of analysis affecting the table in the survey as well.

Answer to Question 940 of 2005 Answer to Question 939

GAMBLING AND BETTING ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 2004

Nationality	Male		Female		
	Full-time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	TOTAL
Gibraltarian	142	12	113	31	298
UK British	293	18	171	20	502
Moroccan	8	0	4	1	13
Spanish	35	0	30	23	88
Other E.U.	70	2	44	1	117
Other	66	0	40	0	106
TOTAL	614	32	402	76	1,124

OCTOBER 2003

Nationality	Male		Female		
	Full-time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	TOTAL
Gibraltarian	143	19	108	34	304
UK British	173	13	107	16	309
Moroccan	8	0	3	2	13
Spanish	32	2	18	12	64
Other E.U.	38	4	25	1	68
Other	46	0	35	1	82
TOTAL	440	38	296	66	840
Difference:	+174	- 6	+106	+10	+284

Note:- This data must be read in the context of the footnote to Table 1 in the 2004 Employment Survey Report.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 939 AND 940 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

As regards the caution, presumably this is not something that is changing so therefore it would apply the same one year as the next, there is no reason to indicate that more people are either putting them as Gibraltarians or putting them as UK, so one could assume that whatever bias is there is a bias that is not changing, that it is the same year in year out, is that not the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think one can assume that, one could speculate that, that is not an impossible position but it would be speculation. We have no way of knowing whether employers are consistent, indeed whether new employers are consistent as they come onto the market, we do not know. I think the preferable thing would be for the Statistics people to inform all these employers about the importance, from the point of view of statistical analysis, of the importance of answering the question accurately. Of course I suppose some of them would say that they are not immigration or status specialists and that how they establish the exact status, presumably a Gibraltarian is somebody that is registered under the Gibraltarian Status Ordinance. These are the sort of issues that I think lead personnel managers and private firms not to look at the questions legalistically, what can be done to produce statistics that enables us more carefully to see. For example, which I suppose is the hon Member's interest in this question, how many of these additional jobs are taken up by locals regardless of whether they were there to take them up in the first place or not, that is simply a matter of analysis, and how many are being taken up by labour coming in from outside just to take up these jobs. I agree that both types of jobs are economically valuable, one has a greater sociological value than the other and it would be interesting, but we have to be careful to bear this statistical collation difficulty in mind when we analyse these things but we will try to improve.

NO. 941 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT - FRONTIER WORKERS

Can Government state how many of the 3416 frontier workers in the private sector shown in Table 5 of the October 2004 Employment Survey Report were employed in public sector entities?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Of the 3,416 frontier workers in the private sector shown in Table 5 of the Employment Survey Report 2004, 73 were employed in the public sector entities as detailed in answer to Question No. 804 of 2005.

ORAL

NO. 942 OF 2005

THE HON S E LINARES

LEISURE CENTRE - KING'S BASTION

Can Government state whether any feasibility studies have been carried out in relation to the Leisure Centre at King's Bastion and if so, what were the results?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Feasibility studies are studies undertaken to see whether something is possible at a reasonable cost. When the feasibility of something is not in question there is obviously no need for a feasibility study. The feasibility of converting King's Bastion into a leisure centre at reasonable cost has never been in question.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 942 OF 2005

HON S E LINARES:

Have the Government then conducted a feasibility study into the management and the running of the leisure centre?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think that issue was addressed in questions in this House yesterday when I understand that my hon Colleague the Minister for these matters, the Hon Mr Vinet, said that both options were still possible options under consideration by the Government. Namely, that it could be done as Casemates was done, in other words, Government develop it but then dispose of the operations of it by either leases, or licensing or granting concessions to private sector operators or that Government could run it as a sports and leisure centre facility. Both those options are still open and no, it has not been the subject matter of a decision or of a feasibility study because at the end of the day it is not a question of feasibility but whether it is something that the Government want to do in-house or would prefer to outsource. Indeed, if the hon Member's interest is still on the subject that presumably was discussed yesterday at length, I should perhaps add that different parts of the leisure centre may lend themselves to different treatments in that regard. The leisure centre will contain many and varied activities in it, some of them may be appropriate for the Sports and Leisure Authority to run and others may not so they may be differently dealt with.

HON S E LINARES:

Yes, I actually mentioned that myself whether it could be done both as in commercially parts and other parts by the Sports and Leisure Authority. My question is more on the need of the facilities that are going to be built. For example, the tenpin bowling, have the Government seen that there is a need for these facilities? Of all the facilities that are being provided there have the Government made any study as to which is preferable from the other? For example, do we want ten-pin bowling or do we want another facility? Have the Government studied this and the needs for the community?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

If the hon Member means have we conducted a sort of questionnaire/referendum amongst every member of the community to see what facilities they would like to see in it, the answer is no. On the other hand, it is not rocket science and we are not exactly pioneers in Gibraltar in this respect, I think the concept of leisure centres both in the United Kingdom and in Spain, and in most other countries in Europe, is an established concept and the sort of things that go in them subject to a narrow range of variety tends to be a cross-section of leisure activities, at least one or more of which will attract or appeal to as many members of the community as possible. I happen to think that a bowling alley would be very popular indeed, because it is one of those things that provides family entertainment, that is to say, entertainment for the whole family, adults and children alike. So, no, we have not done a feasibility study to see if there is a huge demand in Gibraltar for a bowling alley but judging by the number of Gibraltarians that I have seen in the bowling alley near the Carrefour in Los Barrios when I have been there with my children, I would guess that it is going to be very popular indeed.

NO. 943 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

TERCENTENARY EVENT

Can Government provide a breakdown of the Government-owned companies that contributed £620,000 to the costs of the 2004 Tercentenary expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

In fact it was only one, the contribution was made by Gibraltar Land (Holdings) Ltd.

NO. 944 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 final year 2003/2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I am informed that 34 residential units were added in the financial year 2003/2004 and 30 residential units were removed in the same year.

NO. 945 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS

Can the Government give a breakdown of the cost of all travel by the Chief Minister on official business since 1st April 2005 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. 946 and 947 of 2005.

NO. 946 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS

What was the cost of the attendance by the Chief Minister at the Conservative Party Conference 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 945 and 947 of 2005.

NO. 947 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CM'S VISITS OVERSEAS

What was the cost of the attendance by the Chief Minister at the Labour Party Conference 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Invoices in relation to my attendance at the Labour Party Conference and the Conservative Party Conference have not yet been received. Therefore those that control this head of expenditure do not yet know what the exact cost of that was. I now hand the hon Member a schedule of the information requested in connection with my travel from 1st April 2005 to date. It is quite informative. Of course, I cannot guarantee that it contains details of every single person that the Chief Minister "met" on each of the journeys undertaken. For example, I do not see any reference to the name of the chauffeur or people that I might have bumped into but I suppose the hon Member means the person for meeting which I travelled in the first place rather than everybody and that information is set out in the schedule.

Answer to Q947/2005

Chief Minister's travel on official business from 1 April 2005 to date

Purpose	Persons	Met with	Chief	Chief Minister's Travel Costs	Costs
	travelling		Air fares	Air fares Accomodation Other	Other
			& travel		
			41	41	3
		Foreign Office and Cabinet			
		Office officials and advisers,			
		and Dept of Works and			
10-May-2005 Spanish Pensions C	CM/ Chief Secretary/ Michael Llamas Pensions	Pensions	806	334	100
3-Jun-2005 Committee of 24	CM/ CS/ Media Director/ M Llamas	Addressed C24	2,350	295	45
		Jose Pons, Director General			
		for Europe of the Spanish			
17-Jun-2005 Pre-Trilateral meeting C	CM/ Assistant Chief Secretary	Ministry of Foreigh Affairs	33		30
	CM/ CS/ MD/ ACS/ Senior Personal				
8-Jul-2005 Trilateral Talks - Faro	Secretary/ Driver/ Bodyguards	Spanish & British delegations	7	6,038	4,636
g's		Dominic Chilcott/ Douglas			
21-Jul-2005 Bastion/ Minister for Europe	CM/ CS/ Private Secretary (Projects)	Alexander/ Nigel Pardo	1,025	376	63
MoD/		HM Treasury	2,320	502	132
		Bernardino de Leon,			
		Secretary of state at the			
22-Aug-2005 Pre-Trilateral meeting	CM/ CS	Spanish Foreign Ministry	33		
Labour Party Conference 2005 -					
26-Sep-2005 Brighton	CM/ Private Secretary (Projects)			Not yet invoiced	
		Jose Pons, Director General			
		for Europe of the Spanish			
29-Sep-2005 Pre-Trilateral meeting - Malaga	CM/ CS	Ministry of Foreigh Affairs	33		
Conservative Party Conference 2005					
3-Oct-2005 Blackpool	CM/ PS(Legal)			Not yet invoiced	
3	CM/ Minister for Trade, Industry,	Addressed 4th Committee on			
3-Oct-2005 UN 4th Committee - New York	Employment & Communications/ MD Decolonisation	Decolonisation		Not vet invoiced	

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 945 TO 947 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

I assume that there is an error in relation to the entry for 3rd June, is that correct? Could the Chief Minister confirm that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Certainly if he means did Mr Llamas accompany me to the United Nations, the answer is that he did not, if that is what he spotted. Nor by the way, is the £6,000 shown against the trilateral talks at Faro, the Chief Minister's travel costs, in other words, that must have been the cost of organising the conference itself, all the costs, but obviously I travelled to Faro by car and therefore it cannot have cost £6,000.

HON F R PICARDO:

There is a reference to a meeting with one particular individual in relation to the 21st July as a result of travel who is a local individual, is that a meeting by chance in London or was there a need to travel to London to meet this individual?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Some of these meetings are for more than one purpose and whilst I am in London, from memory that trip was for meetings in the Foreign Office with the first two gentlemen mentioned, the other thing relates to a meeting that I had in London at that same trip in relation to the leisure centre, with the architects and things of that sort.

HON F R PICARDO:

It is the architects and not this gentleman?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, he was there but he was part of my team in contacts with the architects. I mean, he was not in the meeting at the Foreign Office and therefore missing from that list are sort of the people that I met, in fact the meeting was at the Gibraltar Government Office, but yes there was an architect.

NO. 948 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 2003-4 and 2004-5?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information is set out in the schedule attached.

Answer to Question 948 of 2005

The breakdown of amounts paid to each law firm (or Barrister) in respect of civil legal assistance and criminal legal aid in each of the financial years 2003-4 and 2004-5 is as follows:-

CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND CRIMINAL LEGAL AID PAID TO LAW FIRMS AND BARRISTERS - FINANCIAL YEAR 2003/04

LAW FIRM/BARRISTER	LEGAL ASSISTANCE (CIVIL CASES)	LEGAL AID (CRIMINAL)
Attias & Levy	£14,557.00	
Budhrani & Co		£900.00
C A Gomez & Co	£21,299.22	
David Pannick QC	£63,000.00	
Gold Law	£1,784.50	
Hassans	£31,166.11	
HLB Perez/Rodriguez	£94,202.67	£2,551.00
Hodgson Bilton	£70,225.51	
Isola & Isola	£672.84	£1,126.00
J Leighton Williams	£5,000.00	
J Evans	£123,583.95	
Marrache & Co	£3,731.60	£2,387.00
Matthias Kelly QC	£14,085.00	
Phillips & Co	£255,791.38	£4,211.00
Radcliffes le Brasseur	£15,145.47	
Ray Pilley	£156,987.25	£3,968.00
S Bullock & Co	£5,648.80	
S R Bossino	£9,737.70	£6,734.75
Triay & Triay	£19,192.07	
Triay Stagnetto Neish		£2,192.50
	£905,811.07	£24,070.25

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 948 of 2005

CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND CRIMINAL LEGAL AID PAID TO LAW FIRMS AND BARRISTERS - FINANCIAL YEAR 2004/05

LAW FIRWBARRISTER	LEGAL ASSISTANCE (CIVIL CASES)	LEGAL AID (CRIMINAL)
A MacDonald	£23,969.80	
A Nicol QC	£1,500.00	
Attias & Levy	£4,114.93	£6,899.00
Budhrani & Co		£1,332.00
C A Gomez & Co	£46,599.73	
ECElul & Co	£38,845.71	
Gold Law	£18,478.04	
Hassans	£136,236.71	
HLB Perez/Rodriguez	£29,623.60	
Isola & Isola	£69,584.58	£1,800.00
J Evans	£120,757.72	
Marrache & Co	£91,964.43	£1,082.00
R Pilley	£12,623.29	£1,200.00
S Bullock & Co	£9,829.00	£1,968.00
S Bossino	£9,992.16	£11,794.75
Triay & Triay	£110,361.38	
	£724,481.08	£26,075.75

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 948 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

It is very illuminating and I am grateful to the Chief Minister for providing it because he knows this has been an issue highlighted by both sides of the House during the Budget Session. Can I ask him whether I am right in saying, and I think it will also be a source of concern for both sides of the House, these figures are not actually identical to the figure that we have seen in the actual figure in the Estimates for those years which I think we had all seen had gone well beyond £1 million, this is simmering just below the £1 million but I think we have seen the trend that had taken the figure beyond the £1 million. Can I ask whether those figures we have seen in the budget still require adjustment or these figures have some element of them missing?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not recall the exact figures, I certainly remember complaining that they had grown very high and it may well be that they are not the same as this. If they are not, I cannot tell him why the difference, it may be just the exact wording that he has used in his question but I am speculating I am not suggesting that as reliable. He asked, 'can Government give a breakdown of the amounts paid to each law firm in respect of civil legal aid and assistance in each of the financial years?', it might be that the question has been read literally, I would not have read it that way, but it may be that it has been read literally by the person who has produced the answer to mean paid in respect of legal aid cases that year, rather than paid in that year even if it referred to earlier years. In other words, that they have left out the payments that inevitably get made at the beginning of one financial year in respect of cases of the last. But look, that explanation is pure speculation on my part but I will certainly find out and let him know whether that is the reason.

NO. 949 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB - US SPECIAL REPORT

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of the Gibraltar supplement in US News that coincided with Gibraltar's appearance before the UN Committee of 24 in June?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Gibraltar Tourist Board and the Finance Centre Departments took out advertising in the US Special Report published on 30^{th} May 2005 at a cost of £14,289.54 and £14,512.33 respectively. If I could just add, there is no cost in publication but cost was incurred in advertising in it.

NO. 950 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TECHNOLOGICAL PARK - LOS BARRIOS

Can Government confirm that they have been involved in attracting an international company to locate a technological park in Los Barrios?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government have met with representatives of a company wishing to set up a venture in Los Barrios. Such meeting was to explore what corporate facilities could be set up in Gibraltar to complement and enhance the Los Barrios venture. To what extent this contributed to any decision to set up the facility in Los Barrios the Government cannot say.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 950 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Was the initial contact with this company made with the Government of Gibraltar or with the administration of the Mayor of Los Barrios?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know but certainly it was one of those projects that went through the MERCOMED project, which is a joint venture company between Los Barrios and Gibraltar, with a view to helping each other set up business either in one place or the other or in both. Hence the attempt in this case to see whether part of the operation, I do not think the project has yet by the way materialised in Los Barrios, but if it does hence the attempt to see what part of it could be located in Gibraltar. The underlying industrial activity is not one that could have been set up in Gibraltar so Gibraltar is delighted to be able to assist neighbouring Ayuntamientos to attract investment to them for the benefit of their economic and social development when it is not an activity that we can accommodate in Gibraltar, and that is precisely the sort of cooperation that I think is good for both of us.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Government say, according to the reports that appeared at the time about 700 new jobs were expected to be created by this industrial development on that side of the border, do the Government know what the number of jobs that will be created in Gibraltar is expected to be?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, first of all it is by no means clear that this project is going ahead in Spain, it relies on very heavy funding from Andalucian Objective I EU funding, which I do not know if it is going to be forthcoming or not so the question is entirely speculative. Of course Gibraltar would have no chance of hosting an activity which included 700 manual jobs, we would not have the space, we would not have the labour force and so where Gibraltar was contemplating the possibility of a participation is on the corporate side as opposed to on the industrial side which is what this economy is much more geared up to participate through.

NO. 951 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Can Government say who was the successful tenderer and in what amount and how many tenders there were in total in respect of the following:

- (a) Provision of Port and Terminal Operators Liability Insurance;
- (b) Provision of Airport Liability Insurance;

indicating whether the successful tenderer was the lowest bid?

<u>ANSWER</u>

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Tenders were invited locally for both of these insurances on 2nd June, 2005. Only one tender was received for both the provision of Port and Terminal Operators Liability Insurance and Airport Liability Insurance.

Callaghan Insurance Brokers Ltd were awarded both tenders, at a lower cost than that tendered since some amendments were found necessary to the overall cover required.

The provision of Port and Terminal Operators Liability Insurance (including Terrorism Liability cover) was awarded for an annual premium of £66,500.

The provision of Airport Liability Insurance (including Terrorism Liability cover) was awarded for an annual premium of £47,500.

NO. 952 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

FREIGHT FORWARDING SERVICES

Has the tender for the provision of freight forwarding services to Government departments and agencies now been awarded and if so can Government indicate the name of the successful company and the amount bid, the total number of tenderers and whether the tender was awarded to the lowest bid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The tender has not yet been awarded and remains under consideration.

NO. 953 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW HARBOURS INDUSTRIAL PARK

Have Government now completed their consideration of the proposal they received regarding the New Harbours Industrial Park and has a policy decision been taken to proceed with it or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

It would not be appropriate to give publicly details or an account of transactions of a commercial nature before they were completed. However, no offer capable of acceptance or of being proceeded with has been received by the Government from the tenants of the park.

NO. 954 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

MAJOR INCIDENT & EMERGENCY ADVISORY BOOKLET

What further progress, if any has been made on the envisaged Government publication and circulation of information on what procedures citizens should follow in the event of an environmental emergency?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Gibraltar Major Incident and Emergency Advisory booklet will be distributed to all households in Gibraltar during October, in fact I think it is scheduled to take place the weekend after next. The Advisory booklet will also be available in the Gibraltar Government website, and although the copy to be distributed will be the English version there is also a stock of the booklet in Spanish in case any household prefers it in that language.

NO. 955 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

POLICE & CRIMINAL EVIDENCE ACT 1984

Have the Government now received the further information they requested in respect of the reports submitted to them in relation to the possibility of implementation in Gibraltar of the whole or parts of the Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The report in question, the one that was still awaited, related to the financial implications to Government of adopting parts of PACE and that report on those financial implications have been submitted to my office earlier this week but I have not yet had an opportunity to consider them.

NO. 956 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 957 of 2005.

NO. 957 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information requested by the hon Member is on the schedule that I hand over to him.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 957/2005

ANSWER TO QUESTION 956/2005

Persons employed in the banking sector in Gibraltar, giving a breakdown by nationality.

	_	_	_	_	_	_
Other Non-EEC	3	6		0 6	0	0 80
Other EEC	50	48	49	49	53	56
Moroccan	2	2	2	2	2	2
Spanish	36	36	36	36	34	34
Other British	112	113	116	112	116	114
gip	483	476	485	485	483	487
No. of Employees	686	829	691	687	691	969
No. of Employers	15	15	15	15	15	15
Month	April-05	May-05	June-05	July-05	August-05	September-05

ANSWER TO QUESTION 957/2005

Persons employed in the insurance industry in Gibraltar, giving a breakdown by nationality.

_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Other Non-EEC		2	7	*	4	4		7
Other EEC		22	V		4	7	8	6
Spanish Moroccan		0			0	0	c	0
Spanish		15	15		2	15	15	14
Other British		80	79	10	0	28	78	81
Gib		132	134	125	200	138	141	139
No. of	Employees	234	236	226	2024	239	241	241
٥٠	Employers	31	31	3.4	3	31	31	31
Month		April-05	May-05	50-enril.	200	July-05	August-05	September-05

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 956 AND 957 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful. This is a question that is answered at every House, should I take the figure in relation to Gibraltarians to be caveated in the same way that the Chief Minister has told the Leader of the Opposition in relation to the Employment Survey aspects of British and Gibraltarian entries?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot tell him that, the previous answer comes straight from the Statistics Department and out of the official statutory survey. I believe that this information may come directly from the industry and therefore it may be that the Finance Centre Department has a more direct liaison, it is not just contained in surveys, so it may be but it may not be and I will confirm that to him.

NO. 958 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 applications to operate an electronic money institution have been received and therefore no licences have yet been granted.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 958 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

We noted that the rules in relation to the cost of operating a money institution have risen in the last Gazette, or penultimate Gazette, is that because it is envisaged that there may be applications and this may be an opportunity to raise revenue from a sector that would not blink when it came to a cost of that sort for a licence?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, the grant of these licences is a matter for the Financial Services Commission and the licence fee goes to them and not to the Government, so if it were a revenue-raising measure it is a revenue-raising measure by the Financial Services Commission and not the Government. I do not think the reason for it is that here is a sector that can be stung with disproportionate fees, the FSC proposes these structures to the Government, the Government consults before approving them, for example, if the FSC were to suggest to the Government an increase in the Banking Licence fees we would not just say 'yes', we would consult the banking industry. After all the level of the fees is a governmental decision not an FSC decision. In this area it is difficult to consult because there are not any yet so we assume that these fees have been suggested by reference to some sensible criteria, perhaps comparison with competitor jurisdictions, I do not know. But the Government approved them because they had no reason not to and we will see, if they turn out to be too high presumably applications will not materialise.

NO. 959 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

IMF ANNUAL WORKSHOP

Can Government state what has been the cost of organising the IMF Annual Workshop for National Compilers for the Co-ordinated Portfolio Investment Survey for Small Economies with International Financial Centres (3-5 May)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 960 and 961 of 2005.

NO. 960 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

FINANCIAL JOURNALISTS VISIT

Can Government state what was the cost of organising the annual financial journalists visit to Gibraltar (28-30 June)?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 959 and 961 of 2005.

NO. 961 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

FINANCIAL SERVICES - CONFERENCES

Can Government give the cost, with a breakdown, of attendance at all and any conferences which related or were considered to relate to financial services in the months of April to the end of September 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

Answer to Question 959

The IMF Annual Workshop for National Compilers for the Coordinated Portfolio Investment Survey for Small Economies with International Financial Centres (3-5 May) is entirely funded each year by the Government of Japan. Gibraltar volunteered and was accepted to host this year's Workshop. The only cost to the Government, given that it was all financed by Japan wherever it takes place, was £656 for a reception which the Government of Gibraltar hosted for the participants on 3 May 2005 at a local hotel.

Answer to Question 960

The cost of organising the annual financial journalists' visit to Gibraltar (28-30 June) is as follows – 15 journalists attended:

5
5
0
0
(

The Finance Centre attended four conferences related to financial services in the months of April to the end of September 2005. Details of these are set out in the schedule that I hand to the hon Member.

Answer to Question 961

RIMS (Risk & Insurance Management Society) - Philadelphia, USA 18 - 20 April 2005

Attended by: Mr James Tipping - Finance Centre Director

Mr Joseph Macano – Director Licensing Unit Mr Chris Collins – Insurance Supervisor (FSC)

Flights & Accommodation £7,375.00

Exhibition fees £4,269.36

Expenses £1,101.23

TOTAL: £12,745.59

London Rendez-Vous Insurance Conference 12-13 May 2005

Attended by: Mr James Tipping – Finance Centre Director Mr Francis Sanchez – Executive Officer

Flights & Accommodation £1,402.00

*Exhibition fees £2,500.00

Expenses £ 593.86

TOTAL: £4,495.86

IBC Wealth Management Congress 25-26 May 2005

Attended by: Mr James Tipping - Finance Centre Director

Mr Joseph Macano - Director Licensing Unit

Flights & Accommodation £1,484.00

Expenses £ 609.26

TOTAL: £2,093.26

Cont....

^{*}We have not yet been invoiced for exhibiting at the London Rendez-Vous, but the contracted price was £2,500.

Cont'd Answer to Question 961

The Finance Centre attended four (4) conferences related to financial services in the months of April to the end of September 2005. Details of these are set out in the schedule that I now hand to the hon Member.

AIRMIC (Association of Insurance & Risk Managers), Brighton 13-15 June 2005

Attended by: Mr Joseph Macano – Director Licensing Unit
Mr Francis Sanchez – Executive Officer

£

Flights & Accommodation 1,683.90

Exhibition Fees 6,461.86

Expenses 480.00

TOTAL: 8,626.16

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 959 TO 961 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

The schedule shows that attendance at the Risk and Insurance Management Society cost in the region of £12,700 but one of the parties attending was Mr Chris Collins, the Insurance Supervisor of the FSC, do these costs also relate to his attendance and was his attendance financed by the Government or was his attendance financed separately by the FSC?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot be absolutely certain of the answer to that supplementary and I do not have that information here but I think that it is not paid for by the FSC on the grounds that they come in support of the Government's marketing efforts, which is not strictly speaking something that their funds can be statutorily applied to because it is not one of their statutory functions. I believe that that is the position but I cannot be absolutely certain.

NO. 962 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 April 2005 to the end of September 2005 which remain pending consideration or which have been rejected?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 963 and 967 of 2005.

NO. 963 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 962 and 967 of 2005.

NO. 964 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 965 and 966 of 2005.

NO. 965 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

COMPANIES REGISTER

How many companies have been removed from the companies register in the months of April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 964 and 966 of 2005.

NO. 966 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

COMPANIES REGISTER

Can Government list the companies formed in Gibraltar in the months of April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information the hon Member has requested is on the attached schedule.

Answer to Question 966

Answer to Question 964/2005

The following companies have lodged applications for consent to re-domicile out of Gibraltar in the months from April to September 2005.

The Registrar gives consent 30 days after the notice is issued and consent is given almost without exception.

April 15

May 28

June 25

July 38

August 19

September 22

Answer to Question 965/2005

The following were removed from the companies register in the months of April to September 2005.

April 183

May 160

June 275

July 328

August 148

September 196

Cont.....

Contd Answer to Question 966

Answer to Question 966/2005

The following companies were formed in the months of April to September 2005:

April 142

May 143

June 104

July 160

August 143

September 140

NO. 967 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

BANKING LICENCES

Can Government state whether any new banking licences have been issued in the months of April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No applications to form a Protected Cell Company have been submitted in the months of April to September 2005 which remain pending consideration, nor have been rejected.

White Rock Insurance (Europe) PCC Limited was licensed on 29th June 2005. That being the second company now on the register.

No new banking licences have been issued in the months of April to September 2005.

NO. 968 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

EXEMPT COMPANIES

Can Government state how many companies have, since April 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

Answered together with Question Nos. 969 and 970 of 2005.

NO. 969 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 968 and 970 of 2005.

NO. 970 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question 968

Since April 2005, a total of 178 applications have been received for tax exempt status. Out of these, eight companies have been prioritised for the granting of tax exempt status on the basis of the 'economic benefit' to Gibraltar criteria that I think we have discussed in this House before. The remaining 170 are awaiting the granting of exempt status based on the availability of slots.

Answer to Question 969

The number of tax exempt companies which have terminated their tax exempt certificates come to a total of 335. This figure is made up as follows:

TOTAL	335
September	48
August	40
July	54
June	40
May	65
April	88

[&]quot;Terminated their tax exemption" is interpreted by the Finance Centre Department as companies which have returned their certificates and no longer require exempt status.

There were 14 tax exempt certificates issued in the months of April to September. These have been issued on the basis of 'economic benefit' to Gibraltar.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 968 TO 970 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

Just in trying to determine the difference between the eight in the 178 of the Chief Minister's first answer and the 14 of his final answer, would the remaining six applied for before April but granted after also with those eight, is that the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I assume that that is the distinction. The question No. 968 asked 'can Government state how many companies have since April 2005 applied to this office?', Question No. 970 says, 'can Government state how many tax exempt certificates have been issued in the months of April to September?' – so one question relates to the date of application, another to the date of issue, so logically that would explain the difference.

HON F R PICARDO:

Although we have got this de-glossing exercise going on we see that 335 certificates have gone and we have 170 non prioritised applicants waiting. Is there an average time that those non prioritised applicants may have to wait or is it impossible to say at this time?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think it is impossible to say. I think that there was a hiatus at the start of this whole system where applications were all delayed when the quota system first bit. I think that now is out of the system and it is just a question of managing the stock and this is done by the Finance Centre Department in accordance with a range of Government criteria, the foremost of which is this economic benefit as opposed to the brass plate use of the exempt companies, but once those are attended they apply this and there is no time that can be prognosticated. There are times of the year when a large number are surrendered, usually coinciding with the time of the year when the tax is payable. Then the numbers that are surrendered during the year is a matter of dribs and drabs and there is no way of assessing how those are going to be, so those people in the queue have to wait. The system is, as he knows, temporary and transitional and hopefully the need for these things will have diminished of late anyway for reasons of which he is aware.

NO. 971 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 972, 973 and 974 of 2005.

NO. 972 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 April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 971, 973 and 974 of 2005.

NO. 973 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

CATEGORY 3 STATUS

Can Government state whether any Qualifying Category 3 individuals have had their certificates renewed for a further period and if so when and in which cases?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 971, 972 and 974 of 2005.

NO. 974 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 of April to September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question 971

In the months of April to September 2005 the following number of individuals joined the register of people with Category 2 status:-

April	4
May	0
June	1
July	0
August	2
September	4

Answer to Question 972

In the months of April to September 2005 the following number of individuals joined the register of people with Category 3 status:-

April	3
May	0
June	17
July	5
August	2
September	5

Answer to Question 973

No Category 3 individuals have had their certificates renewed for a further period under the Qualifying (Category 3) Individuals (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2005.

Answer to Question 974

In the months of April to September 2005 the following number of individuals joined the register of people with Category 4 status:-

April	5
May	0
June	1
July	2
August	1
September	1

From which we can deduce that May is not a popular month for any of the statuses.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 971 TO 974 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

What can we deduce from the spike in the grant of Category 3 status in June, where 17 certificates were granted, is there anything that the Chief Minister can tell the House about that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Not on the basis of any specific information available to me here. If I was obliged to offer a guess or possibility it would be that one of the more recent gaming companies continues to expand their labour force, and this can only really be that.

NO. 975 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

BANKING LICENCES

Has the Chief Minister now met with the Financial Services Commissioner and clarified with him the issue of the FSC providing information on the number of pending applications for banking licences, and if he has, when was the meeting held and what was the outcome of those discussions?

<u>ANSWER</u>

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No meeting on this subject has taken place between me and the Financial Services Commissioner. However, finance centre department officials have raised this issue with him and appear to have resolved it since some of the answers that I have just given give information about whether there are any licences pending. The position appears to be that the FSC will provide information to Government subject to any specific legal confidentiality provisions under which it operates. The Government, I think it could probably be agreed on both sides of this House, do require to be informed about the number and nature of pending applications for licences, since this is information that is germane to the management and monitoring of the economy in general and the development of the finance centre in particular. If such information were not to be available to the Government under some claim of legal stricture, the Government would have to legislate to remove any such legal obstacle to the provision to it of that sort of information, but it appears that that may not be necessary because that information is now flowing.

NO. 976 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

SAVINGS DIRECTIVE

What "appropriate arrangements" are the Government considering entering into 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

The arrangements remain under negotiation, but it is envisaged that they will be similar to the UK's arrangements with the Crown Dependencies.

NO. 977 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BETTING INDUSTRY

Can Government say how many persons are employed in the betting industry in Gibraltar, giving a breakdown by company and by nationality, showing how many are Gibraltarian as at 30 June 2005 and 30 September 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

This data has not been compiled for 30th June 2005 but is available for 30th September 2005.

A total of 1,349 persons were employed by 15 companies, this is based on information supplied by the gaming operators themselves. This compares to 1,107 employed by the 15 companies on 1st April 2005. The breakdown requested by the hon Member as at that date is on the schedule that I now hand him. The breakdown relates to September 2005.

OFFSHORE GAMING COMPANIES - EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2005

Total

Other

Spanish

itish

0 0

2 8

က

0 0 0

	Gibraltarian	Other Bri
Ladbrokes (Gibraltar) Limited	20	41
Victor Chandler (International) Limited	70	158
Stan James (Gibraltar) Limited	5	95
BAW International Limited	17	22
Eurobet (Gibraltar) Limited	-	-
Carmen Media Group Limited	21	12
32 Red Pic (Formerly Trafalcar Betting and Gaming Limited)	80	17
St Minver Limited	21	16
Digibet Limited	0	0
888 Holdings Plc (Formerly Cassava Enterprises (Gibraltar) Limited)	75	166
Globet.com Group Limited	0	-
International Betting Association Limited	0	0
PartyGaming PIc	29	92
Mansion (Gibraltar) Limited	3	53
Futuresbetting.com Limited	-	17

Source: Office of the Financial & Development Secretary

Overall Total

4 0 0

NO. 978 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PROPOSED DRAFT GAMBLING BILL

Can Government list the parties that they sent a copy of the consultation paper entitled "Proposed Draft Gambling Bill" dated 17 June 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 979 of 2005.

NO. 979 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PROPOSED DRAFT GAMBLING BILL

Can Government list the entities who returned comments to the Government on the consultation paper entitled "Proposed Draft Gambling Bill" dated 17 June 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

In addition to all licensed Gaming Companies, the Government sent the Consultation Paper to the following parties:-

BetBull

BAW International Ltd

Stan James (Gibraltar) Limited

Mansion (Gibraltar) Limited

Victor Chandler (International) Limited

Ladbrokes (Gibraltar) Limited

Trafalgar Betting and Gaming Limited

Cassava Enterprises (Gibraltar) Limited

Carmen Media Group Limited

Partygaming/Bay Management

Eurobet

Globet

Digibet

International Betting Association

St Minver Limited

Futurebetting.com

Gala Casino

Rock Turf Accountants Ltd

Maxstead Holdings Ltd

Gibraltar Amusement Machine Operators Association

Gibraltar Betting and Gaming Association

Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

It is not appropriate for Government to give details of parties who chose to submit their views. I think he also asks who answered or words to that effect, I do not mind telling him but there were several individual responses and then a substantial response from the Gibraltar Betting and Gaming Association, which is the industry body for all the licensees.

NO. 980 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

ON-LINE GAMBLING

Can Government say whether the Gibraltar or British Governments have received representations from the United States of America regarding on-line gambling from Gibraltar and if so on what date and with what purpose?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

We have received no representations and further we have not been advised by the British Government that it has received any such representations.

NO. 981 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY - MARINE MECHANIC

How may persons applied for the post of Marine Mechanic advertised in July, how many vacancies were there, and has the post now been filled?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Six applications were received for one Marine Mechanic vacancy. However, only one applicant met the qualification requirements. That applicant was not found suitable for appointment and therefore the post has not yet been filled.

NO. 982 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

Can Government state when they propose to amend the Public Health Ordinance in order to give effect to their Budgetary measure to extend Rating Relief to institutions and other organisations that do not presently meet the requirements of the Ordinance?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Question withdrawn.

NO. 983 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

LAND PROPERTY SERVICES

Can Government state whether a new contract with Land Property Services is now in place?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No new contract has been signed yet.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 983 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

At the last Question Time it was imminent, is it still imminent?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well this is rather like the 95 per cent and the 5 per cent of the mooted airport agreement. I understand that there is one issue left outstanding between the parties, which is under negotiation between them, and that is the treatment that should be given to occupational pensions. The hon Member knows, I have told him in the past, that the new agreement is on the basis of cost plus as opposed to a share of public revenue. The issue left outstanding, assuming that it has not been resolved and I am yet to be informed about it, the issue left outstanding when I was last briefed on the matter was at what rate should the Government under the cost element of the agreement contribute to the occupational pensions of LPS to the extent that the scheme may be more expensive than the public sector Civil Service pensions scheme. That is the issue that was under discussion and when that is resolved I suspect the contract can be signed. I believe that is the last point that was outstanding.

NO. 984 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

INCOME TAX - PAYE

Can Government state the number of expatriates in Government service, including Agencies and Authorities, as at 30 September 2005 whose remuneration was not subject to the Income Tax PAYE regime?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 985 of 2005.

NO. 985 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

INCOME TAX - PAYE

Can Government state the number, if any, of non-expatriates in Government service, including Agencies and Authorities, as at 30 September 2005 whose remuneration was not subject to the Income Tax PAYE regime?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

It is not possible to answer the questions as formulated because the term "expatriate" is not recognised in either the Tax Office's nor the Human Resources Department's computer databases. Consequently, it is not possible to manipulate the data to extract any information of the nature required.

I can, however, confirm to the hon Member that the PAYE Regulations apply to all employees, except for individuals in respect of whom a certificate has been issued under the Qualifying (Category 3) Individuals Rules or Qualifying (Category 4) Individuals Rules.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 984 AND 985 OF 2005

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Chief Minister say how many do have this Category 3 or Category 4 certificate and are in Government service?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

All the ones that I answered in questions asked by his colleague before when he asked me how many new applicants there were. The total number of holders of Categories 3 and 4, I do not have that information but from memory and therefore not to be held against me, I think it is something like 100. There are 39 Category 4's, I am just getting this from information provided for supplementaries, and 118 active Category 3's. My estimate was going to be just a little bit lower than that so it is just as well. That information was in my crib for the answer to questions asked by the Hon Mr Picardo in case he had asked that in supplementaries but he did not.

HON L A RANDALL:

The information I am interested in is of those that are in Government service. Are these 118 all in Government Service as at Category 3 or Category 4? Could the Chief Minister confirm that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I can confirm to him that they are not. Not all of them, I do not know whether there are one or two but certainly not more than that.

HON L A RANDALL:

Can the Chief Minister undertake to write to me and let me know how many of them are in Government service of those 118 Category 3 and 39 Category 4? Also a breakdown of those, if any, that are Gibraltarian and those that are not Gibraltarian.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not mind undertaking or agreeing to write in respect of something which derives from the question that I have been asked but if the hon Member wants information which is not sought by the question asked, I would rather that he wrote to me just to make sure that I do not forget and then certainly in answer to that letter he will get the information. So if he would write to me or to my office.

NO. 986 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

SENIOR FIRE OFFICERS

Can Government say 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, the matter remains under consideration.

NO. 987 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

FIRE FIGHTERS

Can Government state when the change in the terms of employment of fire fighters in respect of which they became entitled to an enhancement of their pension as payment for additional ambulance duties came into effect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 988 to 991 of 2005.

NO. 988 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

FIRE FIGHTERS

Can Government state whether the proposal to remunerate fire fighters for undertaking ambulance duties was on the initiative of the staff side or the management?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 987 and 989 to 991 of 2005.

NO. 989 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

FIRE SERVICE

Can Government state in which financial year the enhancement to fire service pensions for ambulance duty first became payable, how many officers became eligible and what was the additional cost to pension payments in that first year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 987, 988 and 990 to 991 of 2005.

NO. 990 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

FIRE SERVICE

Can Government state how many fire service personnel have retired in each financial year since the 26 per cent uplift in pension entitlement was introduced as payment for duties connected with the ambulance service giving the number and grades in each year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 987 to 989 and 991 of 2005.

NO. 991 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

FIRE SERVICE

Can Government state what has been the cost in each financial year of the 26 per cent uplift in pension entitlement since it was introduced for fire service grades as payment for duties connected with the ambulance service?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 987

The change giving entitlement to Firefighters to receive enhancement to pension as payment for ambulance duties came into effect on 1st March 2000.

Answer to Question No. 988

The proposal to remunerate Firefighters for undertaking ambulance duties was an initiative of Management following representations from the Staff Side.

Answer to Question No. 989

The enhancement to Fire Service pensions for ambulance duty first became payable in the financial year 1999/2000. A total of 75 officers became eligible. There was no additional cost to pensions in that first year given that the first retirement, following the introduction of the enhancement to pensions, occurred in the financial year 2000/2001.

Answer to Question No. 990

A total of 21 officers have retired since the uplift in pension entitlement was introduced. The details of numbers and grades in each financial year is as follows:

Financial Year		<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1999/2000		Nil	
2000/2001	Total	1 2 1 1 2 1 <u>8</u>	Divisional Officer Sub-Officer Chief Fire Officer Leading Firefighter Firefighter Station Officer
2001/2002	Total	1 1 <u>1</u> <u>3</u>	Deputy Chief Fire Officer Leading Firefighter Firefighter
2002/2003	Total	2 <u>1</u> <u>3</u>	Firefighter Divisional Officer
2003/2004	Total	1 <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	Firefighter Leading Fire Control Operator
2004/2005	Total	1 <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	Firefighter Fire Control Operator
2005/2006	Total	3 3	Firefighters

Answer to Question No. 991

The cost of the 26 per cent uplift in pension entitlement since it was introduced as payment for duties connected with the Ambulance Service is as follows:-

FINANCIAL YEAR

2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
£3,786.40	£5,956.81	£9,605.47	£15,761.70	£18,826.52	£12,417.22

NO. 992 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDC EMPLOYEES

Can Government state how many posts within Government Departments, if any, are currently occupied by seconded GDC employees, giving a breakdown by department and employee grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No established posts within Government Departments are occupied by seconded GDC employees.

NO. 993 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR SPORTS AUTHORITY

Can Government state how many employees in the Gibraltar Sports Authority currently are direct employees of the Authority and how many are Civil Servants giving a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 994 to 996 of 2005.

NO. 994 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

ELDERLY CARE AGENCY

Can Government state how many employees in the Elderly Care Agency currently are direct employees of the Agency and how many are Civil Servants giving a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 993, 995 and 996 of 2005.

NO. 995 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY

Can Government state how many employees in the Social Services Agency currently are direct employees of the Agency and how many are Civil Servants giving a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 993, 994 and 996 of 2005.

NO. 996 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY

Can Government state how many employees in the Gibraltar Electricity Authority currently are direct employees of the Authority and how many are Civil Servants giving a breakdown by grade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 993

All 23 employees in the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority are direct employees of the Authority working under a single Collective Agreement and Conditions of work. I now hand the hon Member a breakdown.

Answer to Question No. 994

With the exception of the Manager and one Nursing Assistant, the remaining employees are directly employed by the Elderly Care Agency.

Answer to Question No. 995

The Social Services Agency currently employs a total of 149 employees, of which 110 are direct employees of the Agency and 39 are Civil Servants.

Answer to Question No. 996

All 149 employees currently working for the Gibraltar Electricity Authority are direct employees of the Authority.

All the breakdowns relating to the four Authorities that he has asked about are in the schedule.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 996

HANDOUT TO QUESTION 993

GIBRALTAR SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY

1	Chief Executive Officer
1	Admin and Finance Manager
1	Facilities and Resources Manager
1	Sports Development and Training Officer
1	Assistant Sports Development Officer
1	Office Manager
3	Duty Managers
2	Administrative and Clerical Officer
1	Administrative and Secretarial Assistant
2	Supervisory Groundsmen
6	Sports Assistants
2	Groundsmen
1	Cleaner

Cont...

CONTD. ANSWER TO QUESTION 996

HANDOUT TO QUESTION 994

ELDERLY CARE AGENCY

1	Manager	(Civil Servant)
2	Executive Officers	
10	Administrative Officers	
2	Personal Secretaries	
1	Catering Manager	
1	Office Helper	
1	Domiciliary Care Coordinator	
1	Nursing Coordinator	
1	Deputy Nursing Coordinator	
30	Registered General Nurses	
1	Senior Enrolled Nurse	
4	Enrolled Nurses	
1	Physiotherapist	
88	Nursing Auxiliaries	
116	Nursing Assistants	(1 Civil Servant)
2	Activities Coordinator	
2	Industrial Technicians	
1	Maintenance Operative	
1	Senior Cook	
3	Cooks	
5	Assistant Cooks	
8	Domestic Catering	
15	Domestic Residential Floors	
8	Domestics Laundry	
11	Storeman/Driver	
1	Seamstress	
6	Labourers	
233	Total Staff	

Cont...

CONTD. ANSWER TO QUESTION 996

HAND OUT TO QUESTION 995

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

1	Chief Executive
2	Team Leaders
3	Senior Social Workers
8	Social Workers (1 x Part-time)
1	Trainee Social Worker
1	Counsellor Psychologist
1	Community Services Officer
1	Drug Strategy Co-ordinator
1	Executive Officer
1	Adminstrative Officer
11	Typist
	St Bernardette's Occupational Therapy Centre
11	Manager
11	Teacher
2	Enrolled Nurse
11	AdministrativeOfficer (Part-time)
12	Classroom Aides (6 x Part-time)
1	Vehicle Escorts
39	TOTAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

AGENCY EMPLOYEES

Cont..

CONTD. ANSWER TO QUESTION 996

HAND OUT TO QUESTION 996

COMPLEMENT OF THE GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY

DESCRIPTION OF GRADE	NO. OF EMPLOYEES
Day Workers – Technical Staff	
Chief Executive	1
Deputy Chief Executive	1
Senior Engineer	3
Engineer	5
Officer	11
Inspector	2
Supervisor	1
Technician	48
Skilled Operative	25
Sub total	97
Day Workers – Financial & Administration	
Finance and Administration Director	1
Financial and Administration Manager	1
Asst. Financial and Administration Manager	1
Financial and Administration Officer	9
Sub total	12
Shift Workers	
Systems Engineer	5
Control Room Operator	5
Senior Engine Room Operator	5
Mechanical Fitter	17
Engine Room Operative	5
Mechanical Operative	3
Sub total	40
	149

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 993 TO 996 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the case of the Sports Authority and the Electricity Authority where there are people presumably who were previously Government employees, is it that they are not seconded from the Government to the Agency, they started as new employees in the Agency and then their rights in the Government are frozen, pension rights and so on or what are the arrangements?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, they have agreed to leave the Civil Service and to work for a new employer, which is a statutory agency, on terms in a Collective Agreement. One of the terms, as one would expect or otherwise they would not have accepted to leave the employment of the Civil Service, one of those terms is that the Government pension rights are carried forward into the Authorities for the transferring employees. But they cease to be Civil Servants. The hon Member may remember that some time ago I passed an amendment to the Pensions Ordinance to extend it to employees of Government and statutory agencies and authorities.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But in the case of the Elderly Care Agency and the Social Services Agency that regime is not applicable, is it that the Government do not want to do that in those two agencies?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, they have different histories. The Sports Authority and the Electricity Authority were two cases in which the Government went to the staff of the whole organisation and said, 'now look, how about breaking this away from the rump of the Civil Service and ring-fencing this particular activity, it remains a public sector activity but how about doing it through the authority?', negotiations ensued, agreements were reached and they are reflected in the Collective Agreements relating to both those organisations. The Social Services Agency has a hugely different history. The Social Services Agency is a bringing together of functions and staff that were scattered in many areas of Gibraltar and in many employers. So for example, it brings together the employees of the ex Dr Giraldi Trust, who were not even public sector employees, they were employees of a private charitable trust. It brings together the people that were subsequently recruited by Milbury as employees of Milbury. It brings together people that used to be employed through the Gibraltar Information Bureau at one stage many years ago. All of those people that have never been Civil Servants are now direct employees of the Social Services Agency. But of course the Social Services Agency as an organisational umbrella includes functions that were and always have been carried out by the Civil Service. For example, social workers or the staff of the Children's Homes the old Bishop Healy Home. Those are career Civil Servants so when their activity was brought under the umbrella of the Social Services Agency, they themselves remained Civil Servants working under the auspices and under the umbrella of the Social Services Agency. So it is not that the Government have never negotiated anything there, it is just a

question of brining all the activities together for the benefit of the effectiveness of the delivery of the service. Well, the Elderly Care Agency are mostly new recruits as well, but that is the reason why mainly the Social Services Agency has a high number still of Civil Servants, because they are in functions now under the Agency but which used to be staffed by Civil Servants, as opposed to functions now under the Agency that used to be staffed by non-Civil Servants.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the policy to continue that demarcation or are there people who are Civil Servants and people who are not Civil Servants in the Social Services Agency basically doing the same thing or not?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I do not believe that there is any mix of function although I would need notice of that question, but generally these things are done on the basis of functions not individuals. Government do not really have a policy on this, for example, if the 39 seconded Civil Servants who are seconded to the Social Services Agency approach the Government and said, 'look, would you enter into discussions with us to transfer two employees of the Agency?', well the Government might sit down and discuss it with them but it is not our policy to require them to do it. I think the thing works quite well, the concept of secondment does not work badly. It is of course something that will have to be considered as the present incumbents die off, would they be replaced by Civil Servants or would they be replaced by Agency employees is an issue which I do not know if it has yet arisen in the Agency. But unless the initiative came from the staff our intonation would be to allow those Civil Servants to keep their status if they are happy to.

HON J J BOSSANO:

On the replacement which the Chief Minister has just mentioned, no decision has been taken at this time, is that the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I personally would need notice of that question. The hon Member asked a moment ago whether there was any cross-fertilisation so to speak within an activity of Agency employees and Civil Servants, I am not quite sure what the answer to that question is. If it is it is very few and would be recruits. If they exist at all yet it would be recruits to fill vacancies left by Civil Servants, but my guess would be that it has not happened because one would then have people doing the same job, working on different pay conditions, which would not be a sustainable position.

NO. 997 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA - CONTRACT OFFICERS

Can Government list the Contract Officers in the G.H.A. that are part of the Civil Service and those that are employed by the Authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

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

HANDOUT TO QUESTION NO.997/2005

CONTRACT OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE

<u>GRADE</u>	NO. OF POSTS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	1
DIRECTOR OF PATIENTS & NURSING SERVICES	1
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESORUCES	1
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH	1
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	1
NURSE LECTURER	1
NURSE PRACTITIONER	2
STAFF NURSE	23
STAFF WIDWIFE	8
REGISTERED SICK CHILDREN'S NURSE	4
REGISTERED MENTAL NURSE	5
THEATRE NURSE	2
OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTITIONER	6
ENROLLED NURSE	4
CONSULTANTS	12
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	1
SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER	17
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	7
SENIOR II PHYSIOTHERAPIST	1
SENIOR II OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	1
SENIOR I OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	2
MLSO	3
JMLSO (A)	2
SNR I RADIOGRAPHER/MAMMOGRAPHER	1
SNR I RADIOGRAPHER/SONOGRAPHER	1
SENIOR II RADIOGRAPHER	2
RADIOGRAPHER/HELPER	1
SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST	1
SENIOR 1 ORTHOPTIST	1
CATERING DIRECTOR	7
COOK (SZ -2)	1

CONTRACT OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE GIBRALTAR HEALTH AUTHORITY

<u>GRADE</u>	NO OF POSTS
PATIENT COMPLAINTS COORDINATOR	1
G.H.A. CLERK	15
WARD CLERK	5
TYPIST	3
STORES ASSISTANT	1
IT ASSISTANT	1
RECEPTIONIST/HELP DESK OPERATOR	7

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 997 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can Government explain what is the criteria why it is that some of these contract officers are direct employees of the Health Authority and others are employed directly by the Government as Civil Servants?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I cannot I am afraid. I think that new posts are recruited as GHA contracts but posts that have always been contracted under the Crown continue to be contracted under the Crown. I say that just by looking at the list, that there did not use to be a patient coordinator, the body of clerks, contract clerks that is which is quite unusual, usually clerks are permanent and pensionable so this must be clerks contracted for the functions that have never done this source before, ward clerk is something that is new, that is the only thing that jumps up at me from the page just looking at the list at the bottom of it, as opposed to everything at the top. There may not be a whole amount of science to this.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can the Government say whether in fact there is a particular date? If the answer is that it appears to be newly created posts, has it been happening all the time or is it a more recent development that people are being employed as GHA? This is an issue that in fact I remember raising in previous questions and in 2002 when I was asking for the breakdown for contract officers. The Government were not very clear whether in fact any had been taken on as direct employees of the Authority but I was told at the time that it was a policy that was being considered. So, is there any information as to when this started?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I have not got that information here with me, I suppose it can be obtained. It cannot just be a product of date because even above the list there are some posts which have been created in the last two or three years, just looking down that list. The Catering Director, some of the Radiographer and Mammographer posts, some of the Occupational Therapist posts, I mean those are themselves new posts yet they have been contracted under the Crown. Perhaps the Minister for Health might make a note of the hon Member's interest and write to him to explain what the division is here. I do not think it is about terms to the conditions or rates of pay or anything like that, I think it is just whether the contract is issued by the Crown or whether the contract is issued by the GHA, perhaps if the hon Member is interested in pursuing this he could take it up directly with the Minister.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is there a nationality requirement in terms of being a Civil Servant?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That cannot be the reason either, this is a polemic issue, Crown employment things go out, persons entitled and it quite actually has tested what the word 'entitled' actually means. But it cannot be that because the Patients Complaint Coordinator, who is a contract officer, is to my certain knowledge a Gibraltarian, so that cannot be the criteria. That person would certainly have been entitled to a contract under the Crown.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is there a limitation in terms of a contract under the Crown for people who are not British Subjects?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think there is such a limitation, no. Certainly not in law.

ORAL

NO. 998 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CIVIL SERVANTS

Can Government provide a breakdown by department and grade of the posts in Government Departments which are currently vacant?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested, and just to avoid misunderstanding between us about how to read this information, the definition as far as the Government are concerned of 'vacant post' is a post for which funding has been provided in the year's estimates but which is not occupied at the moment by a person. That is the definition of 'vacant post'.

Answer to Question 998/2005

DEPARTMENT	<u>GRADE</u>	NO. OF VACANT POSTS
EDUCATION	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER - BAYSIDE TECHNICIAN DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY CLASSROOM AIDE EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER CLEANER	1 1 2 1 6
CULTURE	SEO	1
HOUSING	НРТО	1
BUILDINGS & WORKS	HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER (CONTRACT)	1
	LABOURER	2
TECHNICAL SERVICES	SPTO	1
	HPTO	1
	SEWERMAN	1
	DEPOT WRITER	1
	M/T FITTER (ELEC)	1
	FABRICATION WELDER	1
TRANSPORT - TRAFFIC	AO	1
SOCIAL AFFAIRS	MESSENGER	1
	SOCIAL WORKER	1
	ASST MANAGERESS - ST BERNADETTE'S	1
	CLASSROOM AIDE - SPECIAL NEEDS - ST BERNADETTE'S	2
	CLEANER	2
	SCHOOL ATTENDANT	1
TRADE & INDUSTRY	SEO	1
	SPTO	1
	EO	1
POSTAL SERVICES	S.O.G (EX-SORTER)	1
POLICE	CHIEF INSPECTOR	1.
	POLICE CONSTABLE	2
	MARINE MECHANIC	1
SECRETARIAT	HEO	1
	AO	1

Cont.....

Contd Answer to Question 998

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	GRADE	NO. OF VACANT POSTS
STATISTICS	AO	1
CIVIL STATUS & REGISTRATION OFFICE	AO	1
TREASURY	AO MESSENGER	2 1
CUSTOMS	CLEANER	1
INCOME TAX	AO	1
MAGISTRATES	CLEANER	1
GIBRALTAR AUDIT OFFICE	AUDITOR AO	2 1
GIBRALTAR HEALTH AUTHORITY	HOSPITAL ATTENDANT	1

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 998 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

So in fact this list would exclude posts which are shown in the establishment, in the Approved Estimates, if the money has not been included in Personal Emoluments, is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, correct. A post cannot be said to exist and therefore cannot be said to be vacant if funding has not provided for it in the Estimates, because it is not possible to fill it.

HON J J BOSSANO:

That is really a matter of opinion and judgement, because if there is a post shown in the Estimates then the explanations we have been given in the past is that there may not be money for the specific post because when it gets filled it would be towards the end of the financial year, and that has been when we have asked before in Budget debates. The money in the Personal Emoluments is based on the number of posts that it is expected would be filled in that year but my question is, does that explanation imply that there may well be posts that are shown in those Estimates as being part of the establishment.......

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, it does not mean that posts could be shown in the establishment for which no financial provision is then made in the following pages. It could mean that not all the posts shown in the first two pages of each departmental establishment page is not fully funded, because I think it has been explained in the past that there is provision for churn and the time it takes to recruit. So the post may not be fully funded but it is not true that there are posts disclosed in the establishment details for which there is no funding at all. So all the posts that are disclosed on the first two pages of each departmental section of the Estimates are posts which if they were empty would be vacancies.

NO. 999 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA – HEALTH CARE REVIEW

Is it the policy of the Government to separate the GHA from the Civil Service?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

It is not the policy of the Government to do so. However, the Health Care Review Team has recommended it and the Government are willing to do it, if it can be done by agreement with the staff and if they are happy to discuss and negotiate it.

NO. 1000 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 since January 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes there have been and I hand the hon Member a statement giving all the information that he has had in the past about such sales.

Answer to Question 1000 of 2005

			SWJG	[Montagu	Westview	Har	Harbour Views		Montagu	_	TOTALS
				_	Gardens	Park				Crescent		
Jan-05	Monies Received	G	43,629.47	G	3,629.47 £ 143,138.67 £	£ 91,693.80 £ 91,114.26 £	c	91,114.26	G	32,900.00		£ 402,476.20
Feb-05	Monies Received	G	26,441.40 £	G	24,405.38				4	23,409.58	¥	74,256.36
Mar-05	Monies Received	цı	56,254.40				3	22,293.44			3	78,547.84
Apr-05	Monies Received	4	61,971.41				¥	20,487.54	_		3	82,458.95
May-05	Monies peceived	G	98,168.77 €	G	39,653.84		¥	94,304.92	_		3	232,127.53
Jun-05	Monies Received	G	73,425.19			£ 31,480.11					3	104,905.30
Jul-05	Monies Received	G	31,572.36	G)	1,572.36 £ 37,607.90				3	£ 46,022.43	3	115,202.69
Aug-05	Monies Received	G	65,564.39				¥	66,916.38	_		3	132,480.77
Sep-05	Monies Received			G)	£ 86,613.04		¥	41,839.76 £	3	16,930.66	3	145,383.46

£ 1,367,839.10

£ 457,027.39 £ 331,418.83 £ 123,173.91 £ 336,956.30 £ 119,262.67

Totals

NO. 1001 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - ROSIA COURT

Can Government state how many of the Rosia Court properties were sold to 100 per cent bidders and how many to 70 per cent bidders?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Thirty will be sold on a 100 per cent basis and three on a 70: 30 basis.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1001 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

In a recent press release the Government suggested that they would sell four at 70 : 30 ratio.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, the decision to limit it to three was not the Government's but rather the result of the selection process. The hon Member will be aware from press statements that there have been two draws. As a result of the first and the second draw process, when the 70 per cent bidders that were in the hat came to choose they did not want the properties that were left and therefore they pulled out, and that is how the four became three, not by any decision to restrict it to three but there are certain buyers who want to buy some properties but not others. Therefore when their name is drawn out of the hat they do not want any of the properties that are left, they pull out and that is how it has happened. We could have sold all 33 to 100 per cent bidders.

NO. 1002 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - PRE-WAR FLATS

Can Government state what was the number of tenders received in respect of each of the fourteen pre-war dwellings offered for sale in the upper town area?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

A total of 123 bids were received for the 13 properties and I hand the hon Member a schedule showing how many were received for each of those properties.

Answer to Question 1002

Breakdown of bids received in connection with the Upper Town Regeneration Scheme

Property	No. of bids Received
3 Hargrave's Parade	24
5 Hargrave's Parade	21
27 Castle Ramp	3
3/1 Castle Ramp	13
1 Castle Steps	3
10 Arengo's Palace Site	12
6/4 Devil's Gap Steps	4
6/8 Morello's Ramp	3
9 & 11 New Passage	1
1 Parody's Passage	8
7/9 Richardson's Passage & 5 Castle Steps	5
21 Willis' Passage	5
9 Willis' Road	21
Total	123

ORAL

NO. 1003 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - PRE-WAR FLATS

Can Government state to whom and at what price were each of the fourteen pre-war dwellings offered for tender in the upper town area, sold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

All of the 13 properties offered for tender have been awarded, with 10 purchases now proceeding to completion. Details of the successful bidders, together with the value of their bid will shortly be published as usual. I would prefer not to give the information to the hon Member in the House today so that those affected bidders can see it at a time when everybody hears and sees about it at the same time, rather than those who happen to hear or read the report of these proceedings. I should add also that the reason it has not already been published is that three of the bidders decided not to proceed with their purchase post-award, after it had been awarded to them they decided not to proceed with the purchase and in order not to prejudice the allocation of these properties to other bidders for those properties the awards have not yet been made public. But the details of the 10 that have gone through and are not affected by this are about to be published.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1003 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

I thought that there was going to be 14 properties for tender and not 13. That is what was said in the press release of 21st March, maybe it is a misprint I do not know.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, 9 and 11 New Passage probably count as two. They are properties side by side with separate front doors.

HON F R PICARDO:

What value is subscribed when these tenders are received to tenderers who as part of the consideration agree to leave a Government property? What value is

subscribed to the leaving of that Government property, or is it really only a cash exercise that the Tender Board looks at?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Usually the surrender of Government property is a factor, and an important one. For example, it will be with the allocation of flats at Waterport Terraces on the basis that if there is somebody living in a Government flat who wants to move to home ownership, that gives the Government the opportunity to solve two people's housing needs, that is to say, the buyer and get a vacant flat. This was a guite unusual disposal process because it was not just a question of the price for the purchase but also the amount of money that the bidder demonstrated he was able to spend in the refurbishment process. Most of these properties are very run down, it would not have been just a question of selling it to the highest bidder. If the highest bidder had spent all his money bidding for the property and then not have had the money to invest, one of the reasons why these properties have been sold cheaply is because they need a lot of money spent on them to bring them up not just as homes but as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme, so it is not quite as simple as the usual allocation process. That said, I am not aware and do not recall that any of these bidders involve surrender of properties. They may have, I have just not focused on the details to that extent. If there was a surrender it would have had a value in the assessment of the properties. It may not have been the determining factor but certainly would have been taken into account because it is standard Government policy to do so.

ORAL

NO. 1004 OF 2005

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING - WATER PORT TERRACES

Can Government state, of the 1112 applications received by the closing date for the purchase of Water Port Terraces, how many were from applicants who were 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 application form did not require applicants to state whether they are on the housing pre-list nor on the housing waiting list proper. This analysis has not yet been done by Government by comparison of the list of applicants against the housing lists. It will be done but the application forms are now being analysed under various criteria and that analysis is not complete and has not yet reached the stage of comparing it, running it against the housing waiting lists.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1004 OF 2005

HON C A BRUZON:

It is of particular interest to me to know these figures because I would like to establish, as Government call these affordable housing projects, I would like to establish exactly how many people who are waiting for Government housing are able to afford these new properties in Waterport Terraces, and obviously I would like to know as soon as possible what the results of the statistics is.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well the hon Member may indeed be interested in seeing who can and who cannot afford affordable housing, but he will not be able to get that information from the answer to his question. There are people on the housing waiting list who can well afford to buy their own homes and there are people who are not on the housing waiting list who cannot afford to buy their own homes. So being on the housing list or not being on the housing list is not really forensic as to the financial disposition of the person concerned. There is information in the application forms designed to arm the Government with a view about the financial disposition of the applicants. The application form, as he will have seen, does ask the applicant to state their income, their jobs and the nature of their employment precisely to give the Government an

opportunity to assess the financial profiles of the people, and indeed that they are able to afford even affordable home ownership. Even affordable home ownership requires a certain level of income, but he will not deduce that to the extent that that is his interest from simply seeing which of the applicants are and which of the applicants are not on the housing waiting list. That information will come from other analyses which we will be happy to share with him when we have it, of the applications.

NO. 1005 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HOUSING - WATERPORT ESTATE

Can Government state which was the eminent professional team from UK that designed the Waterport housing estate and how were they selected?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1006 to 1008 of 2005.

NO. 1006 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

Can Government state which was the eminent professional team from UK that designed the Waterport housing estate and how were they selected?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Question withdrawn.

NO. 1007 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

Can Government state when the UK Waterport housing design team was appointed, when they completed their work and at what cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Question withdrawn.

NO. 1008 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HOUSING - WATERPORT ESTATE

Can Government state when the UK Waterport housing design team were appointed, when they completed their work and at what cost?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The professional team is composed of HTA Architects John Allen Engineering and Davis Langdon as quantity surveyors. The team was selected by adopting applicable EU Tender procedures. A local board was drawn up, made up of technical staff from different departments and backgrounds to decide on selection which was done through the application of a points system based on experience and expertise with such projects by the various bidders.

The design team was appointed in September 2003 and will complete their work once the hand-over has taken place of the project in 2007. The fee for the design team including design, supervision and project management is £3.1 million.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1005 TO 1008 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

When this design team was chosen was it chosen on the basis that they offered the lowest price for doing this work, or were there people offering to do it for less but were not selected?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Under the points system cost is one of the factors. He may think that is high but actually as a percentage of the project value it is well within the parameters of what design services cost as a percentage of the value of the project that they are engaged with. Sometimes I think that even those of us who trained as lawyers chose the wrong profession.

NO. 1009 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HOUSING - WATERPORT ESTATE

Can Government specify, giving a breakdown, what was the expenditure to date incurred by GRP Investments Company Ltd in connection with the Waterport housing scheme?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1010 of 2005.

NO. 1010 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HOUSING - WATERPORT ESTATE

Can Government specify, giving a breakdown, what is the expenditure to date incurred by G.R.P.I. Company Limited in connection with the Waterport Housing Scheme?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government do not consider it appropriate to give such information at intervals during the execution of the project. Government will be happy to provide a full account of the project upon its completion. In addition, it will also be reflected in the annual accounts of the Company when these are prepared and Tabled.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1009 AND 1010 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Are the Government prepared to say whether any payment has been made at all to date?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well yes, there will have been payments made in respect of the design, the design team fees, there will have been payments made in relation to what is called preparatory enabling works, there may have been payments made in respect of geotechnical site survey fees. Whether the first payment has been made on the first certificate under the construction contract I cannot tell him but I doubt it because it is still at the piling stage and I do not think they have been at it for a month yet. Well it would be a month plus the two weeks for certification. I do not think that any of the major construction contract payments will have been made yet. From this point on all certificate payments are to the contractor under the architects certificate under the normal JCT procedure.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The payments towards the £3.1 million, would this be something that would be done during the course of the contract or is it something that would be paid either at the beginning or at the end?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Under the standard form of contract for the engagement of design teams, the payments are staggered throughout the contract and payments are made against certain phases as they are called. Even during the design phase there will already have been stage payments, even before a contractor comes anywhere near being appointed. So certainly a significant proportion of that £3.1 million will already have been paid. That will become clear to the hon Member, if he asks for that information in respect of the end of the current financial year then it will be, what I really do not want is to have to be providing accounting by the week or by the month. Certainly if he were to ask it to the end of March then that information would certainly be provided. He will not have to wait until the accounts are prepared, audited and published to get that information, so long as he asks it in relation to a normal accounting period it will be given to him obviously on an un-audited basis.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Are all the payments in connection with this development being met from GRPI sources or are the Government or any other company involved in making payments?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That decision has not yet been made and decided. It depends on a number of factors, it depends on cash flow, it depends on whether the company has from its own resources the cash flow reserve to make payments, that in turn depends on the flow of payments from buyers and whether they buy 50 per cent or 60 per cent, there are a whole series of things which will determine whether the company and to what extent the company has a funding deficit that it cannot meet from its own resources. Were that to happen, there would have to be recourse to the Improvement and Development Fund, access to the Government Reserves or indeed some other form of borrowing but that is unlikely to happen during this financial year. Remember this contract straddles more than one financial year and certainly we believe the company has enough resources to take it through any expenditure that is likely to arise this financial year for certain.

ORAL

NO. 1011 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HOUSING - WATERPORT ESTATE

Can Government state what is the anticipated fixed price at which fitted kitchens will be offered to purchasers of flats at the Waterport Estate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

This information is not yet available, it is a bit premature for this. If I could just add that there are a series of experiences from which we try to draw, in respect of past home ownership schemes, expenditure that could almost be described as wasted in the sense that the developer would lay a bathroom or floor finish and then the buyers come in, that is not what they want and they rip it all up, but of course they paid for that because it is with the original contract. So all of these things that are not included are the ones that we are told that happens to, and it is really just a way of avoiding the buyer having to pay for it, then pay for the ripping it out, then paying for the purchasing of one that he likes and the installing of the one that he likes. That is the idea and we also think that by the Government centrally negotiating with a series of suppliers prices, that we can actually give the buyers access to kitchens of their choice much cheaper than they would be able to if they all walked in separately into a retailer and said, 'I like that kitchen can I have it?'. That is the idea. It is a huge amount of administrative work but we think it is worth the effort given past experiences.

ORAL

NO. 1012 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state what professional fees have been incurred in connection with the East Side Development, to whom such fees have been paid, from which source they have been paid and in respect of which financial years?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a table with the information that he has requested on it. The payments have been made to the Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company Ltd, which is the Government's project manager on this, to Triay and Triay who are the Government's lawyers on this project, to Corbett & Co who are a firm of specialist solicitors in the UK that have provided advice on a specific aspect of the matter, and to Mott Macdonald Civil Engineers. The details of the payments which total £842,041 are set out in the schedule. I should also mention that they do not just relate to the East Side development, there is also the Beaches agreements and the infrastructure agreements. The term East Side development includes quite a lot of things and not just the actual development on the East Side.

Answer to Question 1012 of 2005

PAID TO	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06		TOTAL
Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company Limited	£ 59,280.00	£ 83,525.08	£ 319,581.25	£	462,386.33
Triay & Triay		£ 198,018.85	£ 161,079.22	£	359,098.07
Corbett & Co		£ 14,002.69	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	£	14,002.69
Mott Macdonald Civil Engineers			£ 6,554.15		6,554,15
Grand Total				£	842,041.24
Source of payments - Gibral	tar Land (Holding	js) Ltd			

ORAL

NO. 1013 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state what is the total area of the proposed Eastside development inclusive of the enclosed areas of sea within the additional reclaimed area?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1014 to 1017 of 2005.

NO. 1014 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state what is the limit in metres from the present edge of the existing Eastside reclaimed area that the developer is permitted to reclaim?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1013 and 1015 to 1017 of 2005.

NO. 1015 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state what is the maximum additional land area in square metres that the Developer is permitted to reclaim as an extension to the Eastside reclamation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1013, 1014, 1016 and 1017 of 2005.

NO. 1016 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state at what depth will the maximum reclaimed area be in the permitted extension to the Eastside reclamation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1013 to 1015 and 1017 of 2005.

NO. 1017 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state whether there is a time limit within which the additional reclamation in the Eastside development has to be completed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The exact boundaries of the Development and Marina are the subject of surveys and model testing but is approximately 200,000 square metres.

The location of the proposed marina arm and maximum additional land areas will be determined by the marina surveys currently being carried out as will the maximum depth.

Completion of the required scheme is not later than six years from the grant of the lease of the required scheme.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1013 TO 1017 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the phrase 'completion of the required scheme' mean completion of the reclamation which is what the question was asking, are they the same thing?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think we have explained in this House before that under the terms of the agreement entered into with the developers there are certain things that must be done and that is the required scheme. Then there are certain things which they are permitted to do in their own slower order. The things that must be done, which includes the marina, have to be done within six years. I just did not want him to think that the required scheme meant whatever was approved by DPC. Of what is approved by DPC some is mandatory, it has to be done within six years, some of it is not mandatory, in other words they can do it or not in accordance with their commercial judgement, they have got permission to do it and that is not subject to the six year rule.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am asking specifically whether in fact there is a time limit on the reclamation as opposed to anything else they may do. To the reclaiming of land, is that something that they have to do within a certain time limit otherwise they will not be able to do, or have they got all the time in the world?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It works out in that way but not because it is specifically provided for in that way. In other words, they have got to finish the reclamation before the time that they do the arms, they cannot do the marina until they have done the arms, the marina has got to be done within six years, so the effect of all of that in practice is that they have got to have done the reclamation and the marina because the arms of the marina embrace the reclamation.

NO. 1018 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

What has been the response of the British Government to the letter received from the Spanish Foreign Minister dated 15 June regarding the environmental implications of the Eastside project?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The British Government have responded to the effect that the East Side Project is a matter for the Government of Gibraltar and that the environmental aspects are matters for the Laws of Gibraltar which they believe fully transpose applicable EU obligations which are being scrupulously followed. As one would expect them to say.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1018 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Chief Minister say whether any information on this project has been passed on to the Spanish Government either by the British or by the Gibraltar Governments?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well if it is passed on by anybody it will be by the Gibraltar Government, and the Gibraltar Government are not reluctant and willing to share information with our neighbours, we just wish they would take the same view of sharing information with us. There is a huge number of bigger developments, much more likely to affect the environment of Gibraltar than this one is likely to affect the environment of Spain, for example there is a huge development in Crinavis in the Bay, there is a huge development just in La Linea within swimming distance of Western Beach, reclamations none of which have been notified. Of course there has to be an understanding of what the environmental directives actually say in respect of their cross-border applications. The directives and therefore our law, and presumably their law, does not provide that one has always got to notify ones neighbour. They provide that if the Government believe that it may have significant effect on the environment of ones neighbour then there is an obligation to inform ones neighbour and give them an opportunity to participate in whatever processes are available to ones domestic constituency. That is the extent of it, but of course the question whether they are entitled to any such notification cannot be answered until the environmental impact assessment report is to hand, because only that report will enable the Minister to assess whether indeed he thinks that there is any possibility of significant environmental effect. So all of this press report in Spain that the law is not being complied with or that the works should stop because Spain's rights are not being respected, are based on complete ignorance of the legal regime that applies to this but once the environmental impact assessment is to hand, if it shows a likelihood or a possibility, a significant possibility of significant impact on the environment of Spain, then of course the Government of Gibraltar will scrupulously comply with our EU obligations, and of course we have no problem about putting information in the public domain which they can benefit from even if it is not a matter of legal obligation to provide it to them. Of course they are going to be pretty hard put to argue that the East Side reclamation is likely to have a significant effect on their environment when implicit in the fact that they have not informed us about their reclamations, implicit in that fact, is the fact that they have taken the view that their reclamations are not likely to have a significant effect on our environment, because if they had not taken that view they would have been under an obligation to provide the information to us and they have not. So either they have breached their obligations if they think their reclamations have a significant or are likely to have a significant effect on our environment, or they are not in breach because they do not think it is capable of having a significant effect, and really some of their reclamations are much closer to us than this one is to them. But these are all technical issues and not political issues as to whether or not it has an effect on their environment, or vice versa.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I understand what the Chief Minister has said in relation to the EIA which will determine whether there will be an impact on the environment. The impression from the quotes attributed to the Spanish Foreign Minister, what they are seeking is to participate in the actual EIA itself. There is one here which quotes Moratinos as having said that what Spain requests, or perhaps requested of the UK, was that they would be given a reasonable period of time in which to indicate whether they wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment. Can the Government confirm whether Spain will participate in any environmental impact assessment into the project, and if so what form does that participation take?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well they are entitled under the directive to ask to participate. In other words, what I have just explained to the hon Member in my last intervention was the obligation of Gibraltar, or if the boot is on the other foot, Spain, to automatically notify ones neighbour. In other words, if Gibraltar does a project and we do an EIA and the EIA indicates, or if for any other reason the Government of Gibraltar believe that this project we want to do in Gibraltar is likely to have a significant effect on the environment in Spain, then we have a legal obligation under EU directives to inform Spain of that information spontaneously, even if they have not asked for it. Under those same directives, Spain also has the right to ask for the information and then we have an obligation to show it to them if there is likely to be material effect on their environment. So again the question cannot be answered until the EIA is to hand. Any suggestion by anybody in Spain, including Mr Moratinos, that Spain might have some other ability to participate, before incidentally anybody else in Gibraltar is able to participate, is simply wrong and I think we have said that publicly and the position in law is as I have just explained it to the hon Member. He also asked what would be the nature of that participatory role, well, the answer is that they are just allowed to

participate in whatever process is established locally for consultation with local constituents. They do not have the right of veto, they do not have the right to prevent the development, they have got the right to ask for details of measures that are planned to reduce whatever might be the envisaged material environmental impact but there is no co-decision. These directives do not abrogate from any Member State to their neighbour any part of the final national sovereign decision to authorise the plans or not.

NO. 1019 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MOD - LAND

What has been the expenditure in the current financial year in the relocation costs connected with the release of MOD Lands?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The total expenditure in the current financial year in respect of relocation costs connected with the release of MOD lands is £1,757,192.93.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1019 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is this expenditure met from the Improvement and Development Fund?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think this expenditure relates to two projects. The conversion of the properties in North Front, which I think are met from the companies and the MSG reprovision in connection with the works for Coaling Island which I think are met from the Improvement and Development Fund. I think there is a vote for that. Whether all of the money has come from that I would need notice of that question. Certainly I do not think there is any provision in the Improvement and Development Fund for the North Front reconversions.

HON J J BOSSANO:

As I understood it in fact, where the property was going to be producing income from the I&D Fund then the cost of getting that property released was going to be charged to the I&D Fund, is that not the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think there is any hard and fast rule, certainly I think it is right that there should be as much as possible a coincidence of revenue and expenditure so that if

the companies sustain the cost of reprovision, then the fruits of it should go into the company and vice versa in the Improvement and Development Fund. The problem is that these particular costs are not attributable to any particular source of revenue. In other words, in exchange for incurring this expenditure in refurbishing these three or four blocks in North Camp the MOD releases a whole stack of villa type houses and other blocks around Gibraltar, which of course will generate much more capital than this. The real question therefore is not so much matching the revenue and the expenditure in the same place, or putting the revenue and expenditure accounting in the same place but rather who will be the seller of the properties that the MOD transfers to the Government. Are those properties going to be accepted in the companies and sold by the companies, or are they going to be taken by the Government and sold by the Government so that it would be accounted for in the Improvement and Development Fund? My understanding and recollection so far, which I would not want him to rely on without my checking, is that it all happens so far through the Improvement and Development Fund. Such of the villa type properties that are being sold have been done through the Improvement and Development Fund. I see no reason why that should not continue.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I think that if the Chief Minister checks he will find that this was confirmed in answer to a previous question. At one stage the Government said that a decision had not been taken and then they came back and confirmed at a subsequent meeting that it was going to be in the I&D Fund.

NO. 1020 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - INVESTMENTS

Can Government state in respect of tax assessments for the year 2001/2002 what was the estimated total amount of tax payable on income derived from investments in bank deposits and quoted securities?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1021 of 2005.

NO. 1021 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - INVESTMENTS

Can Government state in respect of tax assessments for 2001/02 what was the estimated amount payable on income derived from investments in bank deposits and quoted securities?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I regret I cannot provide the information that the hon Member seeks because the Income Tax Office's computer database does not hold the information segregated in that way and it is simply not possible to access it. We have information about dividends but dividends is not necessary from quoted securities, it could be dividends from private companies.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1020 AND 1021 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Do the Government have any sort of ball park figure of what the decision that was taken this year that this would no longer be taxable means in terms of previous revenue yield from this source?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, we do not have a scientific figure even on a ball park basis but we do have the views of experienced tax technicians and collectors, tax technicians in the Income Tax Office who believed it is not such that would represent a huge dent in Government revenue. So I cannot tell him that it is going to cost £1 million or £500,000, I cannot tell him the figure, the decision was made on the basis of the assessment by those who are familiar with tax assessments that it would not represent something that would prove unaffordable.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But it is more likely to be in the hundreds of thousands rather than anything higher than that, on the basis of what the Chief Minister has said.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, I think that we have in Gibraltar a tradition of placing our spare cash on deposit elsewhere and then not necessarily, the amount of tax that they say they collect annually from investment income, just to use a generic phrase for all of these things, they say is not huge, is not significant. Whether it is limited to hundreds of thousands, I think it is limited to hundreds of thousands from the conversations, it is very significant a saving for the people affected, in total for the Government it is not a huge cost but of course in terms of the benefits to tax payers it also allows those who have not been able to enjoy the benefit of their nest eggs, because they had put them out of what they thought was the reach of the tax man, they can now sleep comfortably at night, those who are worried about such things, and spend their money in the knowledge that no one is now going to ask them to justify that. So I suppose it will facilitate the repatriation of deposits abroad and that may help some people.

NO. 1022 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - PAYE

Based on the 2003/2004 Employers Annual Statement Declaration and Certificate submitted to 30 September 2005 what was the PAYE payable by area of employment and number of employees as follows:

- 1. MOD;
- 2. Gibraltar Government;
- 3. Government Owned/Joint Venture Companies; and
- 4. Private Sector Employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1023 of 2005.

NO. 1023 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - PAYE

Based on the 2004/2005 Employers Annual Statement Declaration and Certificate submitted to 30 September 2005 what was the PAYE payable by area of employment and number of employees as follows:

- 1. MOD;
- 2. Gibraltar Government;
- 3. Government Owned/Joint Venture Companies; and
- 4. Private Sector Employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I give the hon Member the answer to the information that he seeks in respect of 2003/2004, given that 504 employers PAYE declarations and certificates for the year 2004/2005 have not yet been returned, any figures produced at this time of PAYE payable would not be accurate enough to give meaningful information of the breakdown of PAYE payable by the different sectors which the information seeks, I would therefore invite the hon Member to seek this information at a Question Time later this year. In other words, I think what the Income Tax is putting on my lips is that there are still so many people that have not submitted that the information really would be meaningless to the hon Member, but there it is in respect of 2003/2004 anyway.

Answer to Question 1022

Based on the 2003/04 Employers' Annual Statement, Declaration and Certificate submitted up to 6 October 2005 the information sought is as follows:

		£M	Approximate No. of Employees/Deduction Cards
(a)	MOD	4.7	2650
(b)	Gibraltar Government	22.3	6350
(c)	Government Owned & Joint		
` ,	Venture Companies	3.0	650
(d)	Private Sector Employment	<u>34.4</u>	<u>17750</u>
. ,		64.4	27400

Answer to Question No. 1023

Given that 504 Employers' PAYE Declaration and Certificates for the tax year 2004/2005 have not yet been returned, any figures produced at this time of PAYE payable would not be accurate enough to give meaningful information of the breakdown of PAYE payable by the different sectors which the Question seeks. I would therefore invite the hon Member to seek this information at a later Question Time.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1022 AND 1023 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

On previous occasions at this time of the year what the Tax Office has found was that they were not able to provide the number of employees but they were able to give the figures for the amounts. Is it that the non return this year is higher than in other years?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not recall whether he has ever got a meaningful answer to the same question at this stage in respect of the year just ended. Implicit in the answer that has been given to me is the fact that he has not because otherwise logically he should have had the same answer as he has had now in respect of 2004/2005 in previous years, to the extent that he has had answers to similar questions so soon after the end of the tax year in the past, I cannot remember whether he has or he has not, but to the extent that he has then this answer would imply that it is higher than normal. I do not know whether he can remember offhand whether he has ever had it at this stage.

HON J J BOSSANO:

My recollection is, as I have said, that they were not able to give the breakdown of employees at this time of the year but they were able to give certainly the MOD, the Gibraltar Government, the Joint Venture Companies and perhaps a figure for the private sector which was not the final figure.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I suggest the hon Member waits until the next Question Time which is bound to be before the end of this year.

NO. 1024 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - PAYE

Can Government provide the breakdown by Paying Officers of Government Employee Deduction Cards in the Tax year 2003/04?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

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

Answer to Question 1024

EMPLOYERS REF	PAYING OFFICES	NO. OF D	EDUCTION CARDS 2003/04
G004	Education Department	155	
G010	Gibraltar Health Authority	723	
G011	Industrial Employees	737	
G012	Pensioners (Treasury)	1442	
G013	Royal Gibraltar Police	243	
G015	Post Office		94
G018	Treasury		1771
G024	Employment & Training Board	336	
G026	Overseas' Pensioners (Treasury)		358
G317	Gibraltar Development Corporation	187	
E149	Elderly Care Agency	142	
S416	Social Services Agency	<u>153</u>	
		6341	
		====	

NO. 1025 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX

What was the amount of Company Tax collected in each month since March 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1026 of 2005.

NO. 1026 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - PAYE

How much was collected in PAYE each month since March 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 1025

The Corporation Tax collected (net of refunds) in each month since March 2005 is:

2005	£M
April	2.5
May	8.0
June	0.9
July	1.0
August	0.4

Answer to Question No. 1026

The PAYE Tax collected (net of refunds) in each month since March 2005 is:

2005	£M
April	5.8
May	6.1
June	6.3
July	6.4
August	5.6

NO. 1027 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX

As at end September 2005 how many companies, in each tax year 1995/96 to 2003/04 had been assessed for Company Tax, and what were the amounts of tax payable and paid in respect of each tax year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1028 and 1029 of 2005.

NO. 1028 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX

As at end of September 2005 how many companies had been assessed by the Commissioner of Income Tax without having made a return of taxable profit;

- 1. above £35,000; and
- 2. below £35,000?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1027 and 1029 of 2005.

NO. 1029 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX

As at end of September 2005 how many companies have declared taxable profits:

- above £35,000; and
 below £35,000?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

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

Answer to Question 1029

Answer to Question 1027

	1995/96 £m	1996/97 £m	1997/98 £m	1998/99 £m	1999/00 £m	2000/01 £m	2001/02 £m	2002/03 £m	2003/04 £m
Assessed	15.8	15.6	19.8	25.8	89.0	27.6	30.7	35.6	34.6
Discharged	5.8	5.1	9.2	11.0	75.2	14.2	15.8	18.8	11.9
	10.0	10.5	10.6	14.8	13.8	13.4	14.9	16.8	22.7
Paid	9.5	10.3	10.3	14.4	13.5	13.2	14.1	15.6	20.6
Outstanding	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	8.0	1.2	2.1
No of Companies	1446	1418	1467	1459	1544	1576	1526	1490	1451

Answer to Questions 1028 and 1029

Year of	Assessments Ba	sed on Returns	Assessments I	Total	
Assessment	Under £35,000	Over £35,000	Under £35,000	Over £35,000	
1998/99	486	79	769	42	1376
1999/00	738	100	588	33	1459
2000/01	1109	135	312	10	1566
2001/02	1275	147	340	14	1776
2002/03	1196	146	405	32	1779
2003/04	1028	139	506	48	1721

NO. 1030 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – CORPORATION TAX

Can Government now confirm whether the additional amount of company tax collected in March 2005 from one particular tax payer was previously included as unpaid arrears?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1031 of 2005.

NO. 1031 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX - CORPORATION TAX

Can Government say whether the amount collected in company tax in March 2005 as a result of the settlement of the difference of opinion as to the appropriate tax treatment related to the tax payable over a number of tax years and if so give a breakdown of the number of years and the relevant amount or the total amount if the liability accrued only in one year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I can confirm that the revenue collected was not in settlement of arrears. The hon Member may have misinterpreted the information already provided on this matter at the last House of Assembly meeting. For the sake of clarity, and I hope it does that, I can inform him that resolution of the dispute resulted in the quantification and settlement of tax liabilities for the years up to 2003/2004. The tax arising from the settlement was not paid in March 2005 as the hon Member appears to assume.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1030 AND 1031 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

It is not that I presume things, it is that I was told that. When there was a figure of collection for March 2005, which I think came to something like £10 million, the Chief Minister explained that this was because of a settlement of a dispute over the correct tax treatment which involved, I believe he mentioned, the Banking Institution and this was the explanation given for the fact that the outturn for the year was something like £27 million instead of £17 million. When I asked him in a previous question whether it was included in the arrears or not he told me that he did not think so but that he was not sure. So that is why I have put the question again not because I did not understand the previous answer. Can I ask him in fact, if it has been for tax due in tax years up to 2003/2004 is the amount reflected in the sums paid in the answer to Question No. 1027 which he has just given me?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, we have to be a bit careful here because of course this information relates specifically to one taxpayer and it is deducible, so we have just got to be a little bit careful. I do not mind giving him numerical information but it is a pretty well known

case and people can quite easily identify the taxpayer in question. I think the confusion may be down to this, that it was not until that dispute in respect of earlier years was settled that subsequent tax years could be settled and paid off. So what has happened is that there was a settlement in respect of the years up to 2003/2004, that resulted in the payment of a sum of money, £2.1 million, and that was paid in September 2003. That enabled future years to be settled because one has a dispute about how one deals with certain things, it sort of makes everything else back up in effect to future years, and following the settlement the bank then paid in December 2004 a substantial amount in respect of its then more current non-disputed in the sum of £2.6 million. So, £2.1 million was paid in September 2003 and that related to the settlement in respect of the historical years. Then £2.6 million was paid in December 2004, so that would have fallen in the year ended March 2005 but that did not relate to the disputed years, it was facilitated by the resolution of the dispute relating to the disputed years but it did not itself relate to the settlement of the dispute, and that was paid in December 2004.

HON J J BOSSANO:

What was paid in March 2005 then?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think it was not March 2005, it was in the year to March 2005. The amount paid in December 2004 is in the year to March 2005. It was not actually paid in March I do not think, well this is what I am being told. The payments were in September 2003 and in December 2004.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So then the fact that there was an unusually high collection in March has nothing to do with this, because that is the explanation I recall having been given before.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, it is down to this up to March 2005.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am not saying up to, I am saying in March.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, sorry, the answer to the last supplementary is yes. It cannot be down to this.

HON J J BOSSANO:

When I have asked the Chief Minister the equivalent of the answer that he has just given me about the collection month by month there was a very high figure for March and that is when he first gave me this explanation.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Apparently it is not the explanation. So he is none the wiser why that figure in March was high.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I just put the record straight referring to the exchanges we had on the £9 million of March in Question No. 1031 and the explanation the Chief Minister gave me about the March 2004 payment? The short delay has given me the opportunity to go back and check Hansard. In answer to Question Nos. 549 and 550 of April 2005, the figure that was given in Corporation Tax showed £10.7 million being collected in March and I asked the Chief Minister whether this reflected a higher level of collection of arrears or a higher level of profits being assessed. His reply was, 'no, this is something that we are referring to in the debate on the Estimates. It is a one-off payment due, the largest one to a long-standing dispute between one particular taxpayer, a bank, and the Commissioner of Income Tax going back several years as to the proper tax treatment of certain transactions'. This is precisely what I was saying to him in the exchanges. It is quite obvious, given what he has told us today, that that explanation that was given in April is totally incorrect. Does he know therefore what the correct explanation is for the £10 million collected in March?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

There can therefore be no extraordinary reason for it. The original question is the suggestion that there was something extraordinary.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The extraordinary thing about it was that it was £10 million in March and £2 million in February. Therefore, five times or four and a half times as large and the Chief Minister told me that we should not regard this as an indicator of any trend because there was an explanation that was unusual, because it was a one-off payment that came in that date. In fact, he has just told us today that the one-off payment came in December, so the December figure which was £3.1 million is the one that needs to be corrected for the extraordinary payment and not the March one. Obviously he can expect me to ask again at the next meeting.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I will find out what was the reason, if any, for March 2005 being £10 million? It was an extraordinary payment, unusually high.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I said I would come back on the question of the £8 million providing the Chief Minister with the information. In the Approved Estimates for the year 2004/2005 he will find that in the column which shows the Actual Expenditure of 2002/2003, on page 24, it has got Consolidated Fund Charges and there is Public Debt Repayment £8 million for that year. This is also shown on page 28 which gives the summary of Consolidated Fund Charges and it is also included in the total Consolidated Fund Expenditure for that year of £165,487,718, which is on page 25, so the payment out of the Consolidated Fund to repay £8 million of public debt is actually in three different places in the Estimates of that year, and I have made a photocopy of it for him, and he will find that the Revenue went into the Improvement and Development Fund and that is shown in the Annex as Sale of Government Properties and is part of an amount of £10 million plus. The way that it was done was that the Government instead of making a contribution from the Consolidated Fund Reserve to the I&D, put the money from the sale of property in the I&D and used the money that would have gone into the I&D to repay the debt, which is in line with the explanation I gave before and I am sure he is happy to see it black upon white rather than take my word for it.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

What that clearly shows is that there was a public debt repayment which features here. It does not address the point of whether a transaction whereby public debt is swapped one for the other without any money having gone into the Consolidated Fund, falls to be dealt with in the same way which was a substantive point we were discussing. We were also discussing this one, and this clearly shows that there was a public debt down payment, it would have been drawn out subsequently, because I do not recall in that year there being an actual £8 million reduction in public debt, that must be that money was used to pay down debt, albeit temporarily, which was in one of the funds that require appropriation. Now, in the case that we were discussing with the supplementary that he asked, yes, whether the conversion of the payment down of revolving debt to the bank from the proceeds of the issue of Government Debentures would need to be treated in the same way. That was the original issue discussed. My view is, these things are decided by the Accountant General, but my view is that provided the money does not go into the Consolidated Fund, the hon Member said, 'yes but does the Borrowing Powers Ordinance not require the proceeds of Debentures to be paid in?', I do not know that I would have to check that.

HON J J BOSSANO:

First of all it is not appropriated as he has just said. Secondly, I did not say the proceeds I said the repayment, that is to say, what I said to him was that when there used to be a Sinking Fund one could repay debt out of the Sinking Fund. Since there is not one, and he will remember because he said that it does not matter because it

will now be a charge on the Consolidated Fund. The charge on the Consolidated Fund is both the servicing of the debt and the repayment of the principal. On page 24 it says quite clearly, in 2002/2003 Recurrent Consolidated Fund Charges £24 million and then Public Debt Repayment £8 million. Now when I pointed that out to him before without the benefit of having the book in front of me, he said I had got it all wrong because how could the £8 million have gone into the I&D Fund and also been used for debt repayment, that is what he said. I am sure the record shows that. Therefore, I have taken the trouble to get it so that I could explain to him how it was that it was possible that the £8 million appears in two places. It appears as Revenue in the Improvement and Development Fund. That revenue stream.......

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Relieved the Consolidated Fund of £8 million worth of funding.

HON J J BOSSANO:

That is right, and the £8 million that would have gone into the I&D instead went to repay the £8 million debt and that is where the debt repayment came. Therefore, in the question that I put to him initially was, well look, if one is repaying for example Barclays Bank and issuing Debentures, is this being done on the basis that will be reflected in the Estimates as the money from the Debentures having been credited to the Consolidated Fund Reserves and the repayment to Barclays Bank having been paid from the Consolidated Fund Reserves, that was my original question.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That was the question we are now focusing on querying whether the proceeds of the debentures are monies being received into the Reserve. The Consolidated Fund Reserve has taken over from the Sinking Fund. The Accountant General has determined that the Consolidated Fund Reserve is the Consolidated Fund, we might want to call it the Reserve but it is the Consolidated Fund, and therefore once money goes into the Consolidated Fund Reserve, it is subject to appropriation or to Consolidated Fund Charge. In other words, it has to come out of the Consolidated Fund by one of the two routes that money can come out of the Consolidated Fund, either Consolidated Fund Charge or appropriation. In other words departmental appropriation, and that is what happened with the £8 million, that is exactly what happened, the proceeds of sale is exactly as the hon Member says. Now, all that said, we now have a situation where as a matter of Treasury management debt from the banks is being paid down from the proceeds in effect of new money being borrowed from Debenture holders. The question is, does the proceeds of money from the Debenture holders enter the Consolidated Fund Reserve so that it then can only come out of the Consolidated Fund Reserve in one of the two authorised ways? If the answer to that question is yes, then it would have to be shown in the same way as this. If the answer is no, then it would not because it would not have been in the Consolidated Fund Reserve and therefore the exit from it would not have to be reflected here. So the issue left between us, I am not sure that there is an issue between us, I am not sure in the way he has expressed the question.......

HON J J BOSSANO:

I wanted to know which it was.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I see. So the issue is, is this just a matter of Treasury management, in other words, money comes in from the Debentures and the Treasury Accountant General just sends it along to the bank which is what I suspect the position is, or is this payment down of debt followed by incurring of new debt from a different source, which I am not certain whether that is what the hon Member was suggesting it should be or simply asking which of the two it was. My own supposition at this stage is that it is not to be dealt with in this way. In other words, that when the Treasury obtains proceeds from the issue of Debentures, that that can be used to pay down public debt without it coming through in this way, but it is an interesting question and I will check the answer and certainly confirm it to him. The reason why I said that I thought that that would be the case was because otherwise every time that there was movement on the Revolving Debt, it would fall to be dealt with in the same way. Then the hon Member said would that not depend on whether it was a different bank. I really do not think it can turn on things of that nature but that is the issue here. I will find out the answer.

NO. 1032 OF 205

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST (NO. 2) PENSION SCHEME

Have any additional employers joined the Gibraltar Provident Trust (No. 2) Pension Scheme since March 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Three additional employers have joined the Gibraltar Provident Trust (No. 2) Pension Scheme since March 2005. They are as follows:-

GRP Investments Company Ltd Europa Incinerator Ltd Gibraltar Industrial Cleaners Ltd.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1032 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the case of GIC that had their own pension scheme, I take it that that is because they transferred to this one and the other one is now discontinued, is that the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I think it relates to a new employee, the old scheme is for those who were there.

NO. 1033 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HEAD 12B

Can Government state how much of the £150,000 provided in Head 12B as a contingency in the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance 2004/05, has been reallocated to other Heads of Expenditure giving a breakdown by Head and date of reallocation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1039 of 2005.

NO. 1034 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

COMPUTERISED AUDIT SYSTEM

Can Government explain what is the nature of the new Computerised Audit System provided as a result of the funds re-allocated by Warrant No. 6 of 22 April 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1035 of 2005.

NO. 1035 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

COMPUTERISED AUDIT SYSTEM

Can Government state when and to whom payment was made in respect of the introduction of a new Computerised Audit System for the Audit Office?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The funds vired by Reallocation Warrant No. 6 of 22nd April 2005 were for the purpose of procuring a new computerised audit management system for the Gibraltar Audit Office.

The computerised audit management system, purchased from Price Waterhouse Coopers in the United Kingdom by payment of an initial licence fee on 30th March 2005, consists of a windows-based electronic management system that automates all phases of the audit process. This computer application converts all aspects of the audit work papers (that is, planning, preparation, review, report generation and storage) into an electronic format thereby making the information easily accessible to audit staff. It is called Team Mate in case he is interested.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1034 AND 1035 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

So effectively, it is for the purchase of a computer programme?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, the licence fee element was £11,457.73 which was initiated by licence fee. It is a programme not hardware, there may be some hardware there too, I do not know whether they had enough hardware to run this or not, but certainly the main cost would have been software.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is this payment of the licence fee a one-off payment or is there any recurring element?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot tell him but it would be most unusual if it was not recurring. Usually these licence arrangements involve annual payments.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Presumably then, if it involves recurring payments that would now be reflected in the existing Estimates, given that the last time it was vired presumably because it had not been planned for?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think that must be right. It was vired to the Audit Office not the computer department. Yes, then it would appear in the computer section's other charges vote I suppose.

NO. 1036 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

AUDIT OFFICE - EX-GRATIA PAYMENT

Can Government state to whom and in respect of what a £14,000 compensation payment was made by the Audit Office in 2004/05?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

An ex-gratia payment amounting to just under £14,000 was made to a contracted officer of the Gibraltar Audit Office on 30th March 2005 as a result of his termination of contract.

Under the terms of the contract there was no provision for a gratuity payment to be effected on termination. Nevertheless, it was decided that an ex-gratia payment would be effected equivalent to 10 per cent of the officer's salary during the time he was in employment in the Audit Office in recognition for his services.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1036 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can Government say how long he was in employment?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He was in employment from 19th February 2001 to 31st December 2004.

NO. 1037 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HEAD 12 SUBHEAD 1(b)

Can Government state what is the amount included in Head 12B Supplementary Funding in respect of services previously provided by Gibraltar Community Projects Limited?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1038 of 2005.

NO. 1038 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

HEAD 12 SUBHEAD 1(b)

Can Government state what sums, if any, have been reallocated to date to other Heads of Expenditure from Head 12B as a result of the proposed re-organisation of Community Projects Limited?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The sum of £2 million was provided for under Head 12 Subhead 1(b) Supplementary Funding for Gibraltar Community Projects Ltd, which is due to be reorganised in the current financial year. As at Monday 10th October no monies have yet been reallocated.

NO. 1039 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

F & DS OFFICE

Can Government provide a breakdown of the £45,000 additional expenditure provided in the Financial and Development Secretary's Department by Supplementary Funding Warrant No. 8 of 22 April 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Of the £150,000 contingency in the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance for the last financial year £55,600 has been utilised. In Reallocation Statement No. 12 of 2004/2005 the sum of £20,000 was vired into Pay Settlements to fund the payments contained in Pay Settlements Statement No. 13. A further £35,600 was reallocated through Supplementary Funding Statement No. 14.

The reallocations contained in Statement Nos. 12, 13 and 14, which contain the required breakdown by Head and Subhead of expenditure, were effected on 22nd July 2005 and laid before the House on 27th July 2005.

With regard to the £45,000 reallocation by Supplementary Funding Warrant No. 8 the breakdown is as follows:

£38,400	-	Regrading of the Senior Executive Officer to Senior Officer effective from August 2002 and settled in March 2005
£6,600	-	Secretarial cost under provision
£1,000	-	Administrative Officer Promotion (I think it was the promotion of a Secretary to

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1033 AND 1039 OF 2005

Administrative Officer).

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is this regrading of a Senior Executive Officer to Senior Officer a post that is shown as personal to holder in the Estimates?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot remember exactly when this was done. I think this was done, the Warrant was 22nd April but if it was done before the Estimates were drawn up for this year it will now be shown as a Senior Officer. It had not historically been shown as a Senior Officer. I just have not got a copy here and I do not know how it is shown this year, but I think that if this was done before the Estimates booklet was prepared, I do not think it was because it says here it was settled in March 2005, the Estimates booklet may have been printed by then. So it is just a question of looking, there is no other Senior Officer in that area, if it shows a Senior Officer now it is this. If it does not show a Senior Officer then it has not yet been reflected in the Estimates.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The amount of money is because it is backdated to 2002, is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes.

NO. 1040 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

IMPORT DUTY

Can Government state what was the revenue yield in the financial year 2004/05 of the increases in import duty introduced on 30th June 2004 in Legal Notice No. 50 of 2004?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Around £3.7 million.

I personally have not checked the items to which Legal Notice No. 50 referred, I assume it referred to a variety of items and not just to one, because the information I have given him relates to a variety of items and not just to one. I have not checked because the answer specifically says Legal Notice No. 50 of 2004 and I just wanted to guard against the possibility that the person who has put this answer together may have assumed that that related to all the duty increases announced at that time. It is a variety of items.

NO. 1041 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES

As at the end of September 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

Answered together with Question Nos. 1042 to 1045 of 2005.

NO. 1042 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SAVINGS BANK

Can Government now state what is the final figure for Government Deposits in the On-Call Investment Account with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 31 March 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1041 and 1043 to 1045 of 2005.

NO. 1043 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SAVINGS BANK

Can Government now state what is the final figure for non-Government deposits with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 31 March 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1041, 1042, 1044 and 1045 of 2005.

NO. 1044 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SAVINGS BANK

Can Government state what is the final figure for interest paid on investments held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank in the financial year 2004/2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1041 to 1043 and 1045 of 2005.

NO. 1045 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SAVINGS BANK

Can Government state how much of the £50 million replacement loan stock issued in May was initially held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank and what movement has there been from this initial holding since that date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 1041 of 2005

The value of Monthly Income Debentures and Pensioners' Monthly Income Debentures issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30th September 2005 is as follows:

Monthly Income Debentures £30,440,100
Pensioners' Monthly Income Debentures £66,692,100

Answer to Question No. 1042 of 2005

The Government deposits held in the On-Call Investment Accounts with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 31st March 2005 is £53.82 million.

Answer to Question No. 1043 of 2005

The non-Government deposits with the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 31st March 2005 is £159.41 million (this excludes accrued interest).

Answer to Question No. 1044 of 2005

The interest paid on investments held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank in the financial year 2004/2005 is £8.5 million.

Answer to Question No. 1045 of 2005

Of the £50 million replacement debentures issued, the sum of £10 million was initially held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank. The hon Member will note that the Gibraltar Savings Bank actually held £10 million of the maturing loan stock.

The £10 million Gibraltar Savings Bank holding of Gibraltar Government Debentures was redeemed within a few days. However, the public debt remained at the same level as this £10 million redemption was replaced by Government Debentures issued directly to the public.

No Government Debentures have been held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1041 TO 1045 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

I think the initial explanation, the Chief Minister will recall, was that in fact the Bank was going to be issued with the bulk of the new replacement stock which would then sort of be run down as it was sold to other people, but that has only happened to the extent of £10 million, is that the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

How was it done? Was it done by the Savings Bank actually reselling to the public or the Savings Bank getting repaid and then the Treasury selling to the public, does he know which?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I can find out for him. I am guessing but I think it would have been done directly, not through the agency of the Savings Bank. It is the same staff but as a matter of structure it would not have been done through the accounts.

NO. 1046 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 at the end of each month in the current financial year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule setting out the information.

Answer to Question 1046 of 2005

The amount of outstanding Government debt in respect of the revolving loan from local banks at the end of each month in the current financial year is as follows:

Date	Barclays	Natwest	Total
April 2005	£20,000,000	£23,000,000	£43,000,000
May 2005	£20,000,000	£18,000,000	£38,000,000
June 2005	£15,000,000	£15,000,000	£30,000,000
July 2005	£15,000,000	£12,000,000	£27,000,000
August 2005	£15,000,000	£10,000,000	£25,000,000
September 2005	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£20,000,000

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1046 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

To the extent that the movement in the debt owed to the bank is a reflection of what I think was indicated initially, of the replacement of bank debt by debenture sales, is the mechanism that the proceeds of the debenture goes into the Consolidated Fund and then the Consolidated Fund will eventually show in the Estimates debt repayments of this? Does the Chief Minister know?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not get too personally involved in Treasury management issues of this sort, the policies are cleared with me. My understanding is that debt payments and repayments are dealt with outside the Consolidated Fund in terms of revenue, and the revenue and expenditure part of the Consolidated Fund we both know that there is a separate account of movements in public debt so that the repayment of revolving loans, I cannot remember now whether the repayment of the revolving loans may be shown as repayments and the debentures may be shown as new borrowings with a net position. I am just trying to remember whilst I am on my feet whether it goes into that degree of detail in the Estimates or the account, or whether it just shows a net position. Net repayments and net new borrowings I think, it is netted I think so it would not show it. It will show the figure from the banks down and the figures from debentures up, but mechanically it does not go through the revenue part of the account. This is not subject to appropriation.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Surely it must go through the Consolidated Fund charges which is not voted by the House but which is legally where the liability for debt repayment lies.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, it was done below the line.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I do not believe so, I think perhaps if the Chief Minister will recall that when the £8 million was paid off as a result of the resale of Europort, that was shown in the Government Estimates for that year as a debt repayment out of the Consolidated Fund charges.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It was reflected in the Improvement and Development Fund as I recall. This is all from memory, I would have to check the records. My recollection is that capital repayments are not reflected in the annual budgetary situation, as opposed to servicing cost, interest costs which are. So the interest element of debt financing is a Consolidated Fund charge but I do not remember the capital part of it being too but I

would have to just check that. Perhaps this is in one of those accounts that we added at the end, there is a reserve head now at the end of the booklet. The repayment I do not think is recurrent expenditure and I do not think the new borrowing is recurrent revenue, if that is the question that he is asking.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am aware that it is not money that is appropriated by the Appropriation Ordinance of the House because just like legal aid is not appropriated by the Appropriation Bill of the House it is a direct charge on the Consolidated Fund, and the servicing of the national debt is a direct charge. But so is the repayment of expiring debt. Presumably, for example, at some point the fact that on 1st May we repaid the £50 million quoted loan stock of the Government of Gibraltar, that will appear in the accounts as having been repaid, I imagine, as a Consolidated Fund charge since there is no longer a Sinking Fund to pay off debt because the Chief Minister decided it was not necessary when he came in 1996, which is where it used to be done.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not believe the hon Member is right, we are discussing things of which I do not have notice and so subject to correcting myself if I say something from memory that is not correct, I believe that there is a statement of public debt which shows the movements during the year and the statement in relation to the Consolidated Fund simply relates to recurrent revenue and recurrent expenditure. I think this is dealt with outside of the recurrent statement, particularly in this case where there is no net reduction, it is just a question of switching one debt instrument for another. If the hon Member was right, every time a revolving loan was paid down and then redrawn, which is what revolving loans are, it would have to be similarly reflected and it is not, and the revolving loan is not new, it has been around five years.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I imagine it would have to be reflected if it was between different lenders but not the same lender.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think that is correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, I will find out whether the £8 million is shown and bring it to the Chief Minister's attention before the day is over.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The £8 million was something different. The £8 million was not debt, the £8 million was proceeds of sale of a Government building to the Royal Bank of Scotland, which was reflected as £8 million worth in the Improvement and Development Fund, as I

remember, not debt, and it was then credited, I do not know whether it was then credited to the Consolidated Fund Reserve or whether it was used as revenue to fund the Improvement and Development Fund that year.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I can tell him. It went into the Improvement and Development Fund because it was the proceeds of the sale of a building, but the repayment of the £8 million to the bank was shown under Consolidated Fund charges right at the beginning of the book, in the table that there is showing that the debt had gone down by £8 million as a result of £8 million being repaid. I will find the book and the year and bring it to his attention before the day is over because I remember it very clearly.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

In the public debt section?

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, in the Consolidated Fund charges where the Governor's pay is, the legal aid is, the interest charged, that is where it was.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He will have to show it to me. There is a public debt repayment done in the Consolidated Fund charges.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So what I am asking is presumably that in this year will have to show.......

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Which is funded from this new Consolidated Fund Charge Reserve Head that we established, which is Head 8 under Consolidated Fund Charges, Recurrent Consolidated Fund Charges in the book. Then in the summary of Consolidated Fund Charges under the heading 'reserve' and the new Head 8 appears below the word 'reserve' it says public debt repayment, which has been zero for years and it will be zero and it will only stop being zero to the extent that there was a net reduction. The issue that we are debating is whether the revolving element, in other words, changing one form of public debt for another in a way that does not affect the net figure, whether those movements would be reflected here or not, and I believe the answer to that is no. Net movements would be reflected.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Chief Minister is saying the year that the £8 million appeared there was because the debt went down by £8 million, that is the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, either that or that the money had gone into an account for the spending of which the House's appropriation was required. In other words, if the money is the proceeds of sale of a Government property and it goes into the Improvement and Development Fund, and it is then used to pay down debt........

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, the money went into the Improvement and Development Fund and was used for the purposes for which the Improvement and Development Fund is used anyway and appropriated by the House. What I am saying is that without the appropriation of the House there was an item of £8 million charged as a direct cost under Consolidated Fund charges because the Loans Empowering Ordinance says that one repays that debt by charging it to the Consolidated Fund as a direct charge, it is in the law. It is in the law that allows debt to be raised and that is how it was done and that is how it was shown. When I stop with my questions I will be able to find the year and give him a copy.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He is going to have to because the same £8 million cannot both be applied to pay down a public debt and used for the purposes of the Improvement and Development Fund. It could have been used for one or the other but not for both things.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I think what the Government did was that they used the £8 million that came in in the Improvement and Development Fund and they charged the £8 million to the reserves of the Consolidated Fund in that particular year, but I will get the book.

NO. 1047 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

BANK CHARGES

Can Government state what has been the expenditure in respect of bank charges applied to the running of the Government's main bank account in the financial years 2003-4 and 2004-5?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The total bank charges applied to the running of the Government's main bank account in the financial years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 were as follows:

Financial Year 2003/2004 - £ 56,098.85. Financial Year 2004/2005 - £124,794.41.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1047 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

I take this reflects what was done in the Supplementary Appropriation Bill where there was a reference to additional charges being payable but in fact is it that there is, are we talking about more than double the bank charges, is this a reflection of much more activity by the Government or simply that we are being charged more for the same service?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know, I suspect it is the latter. Certainly there has not been twice as much activity as there used to be.

NO. 1048 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PROPERTY SALES

Can Government state whether the Treasury has charged a commission on property sales of the Government's share of co-ownership homes in the current financial year and if so the dates, the amounts received and the estates where each of the relevant properties is located?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, consistently with past practice there has been and I am happy to give the information to the hon Member in the form of a schedule that I hand to him.

Answer to Question 1048 of 2005

		SWIG		Montagu	We	Westview	Harbour	בוֹ	Mor	Montagu	2	TOTALS
) 		Gardens		Park	Views	ھ	Cre	Crescent		
Apr-05	Apr-05 Monies Received	£ 61	61,971		_		3	20,488			цı	82,459
<u>.</u>	5% charge paid	3	3,099				3	1,024			ц	4,123
Mav-05	May-05 Monies Received	3	98,169	£ 39,654	4		3	94,305			G)	232,128
	5% charge paid	3	4,908	£ 1,983	8		G	4,715			3	11,606
Jun-05	Jun-05 Monies Received	£ 73	73,425		G	31,480					3	104,905
; ;	5% charge paid	3	3,671		લા	1,574					3	5,245
Jul-05	Jul-05 Monies Received	3	31.572	37,608	00				ω	46,022	Ġ	115,203
) ; ;	5% charge paid	G	6/9	1,880	0				cH	2,301	3	5,760
Aug-05	Aug-05 Monies Received	3	65,564				3	66,916			4	132,481
	5% charge baid	3	3,278				3	3,346			બ	6,624
Sep-05	Sep-05 Monies Received			£ 86,613	8		3	41,840	ц	16,931	3	145,383
•	5% charge paid			£ 4,331	-		3	2,092	G	847	બ	7,269

	529	328
TOTALS	812,559	40,628
_	С¥	GΙ
Montagu Crescent	62,953	3,148
Žζ	G	બ
Harbour View s	31,480 £ 223,549 £	11,177
エー	3	બ
Westview Park	31,480	1,574 €
Š	u	ω
Montagu Gardens	163,875	8,194 £
Š Š	G	сų
SWJG	330,702 £	16,535
<i>J,</i>	3	બ

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1048 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is this recently introduced past practice something that is going to be extended to the property sales of the new estate that is being constructed?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I have not thought about it but it is a very good idea, I promise to think about it.

NO. 1049 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEDULES

Can Government provide a breakdown for the return of social insurance schedules as at 30th 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 CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member lists giving the very substantial amount of information that the Question requests.

ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 1049/2005

SI Returns Statistics as at 30 September 2005

	Pending	80	81	81	84
	изт-Верти	25	31	46	35
Self Employed	Яефтя	549	554	550	570
1	A second second				
	Pending	25	25	25	56
	изф. поМ	24	42	37	14
Official	Returns	4305	4330	4343	4325
	Pending	196	<u>6</u>	203	206
	изм-пом	266	342	399	516
	Вешта	10237	10575	10835	10615
Private	Number of Employers returned	1091	1100	1094	1098
	Pending	301	305	309	313
	Иол-Return	315	415	482	592
	Returns	15091	15459	15728	15510
₹	Number of Employers	1236	1246	1261	1268
		Qtr.1/01	Qtr.2/01	Qtr.3/01	Qtr.4/01

Note:-

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2001.

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Cont'd ANSWER TO QUESTION NO.1049/2005

Si Returns Statistics as at 30 SEPTEMBER 2005

	Pending	138	118	118	1,00
	изт-Кефип	24	29	စ္တ	48
Self Employed	уертиг	553	558	565	570
	Pending	37	38	38	04
	Иоп-Return	17	23	14	64
Official	Returns	4392	4430	4443	4484
	Pending	346	340	342	341
	Non-Return	414	415	414	522
	Returns	10987	11099	11357	11036
Private	Number of Employers refumed	1104	1114	1115	1113
	Pending	501	496	498	499
	Non-Return	455 5	467 4	494	613 48
	Returns	15932	16087	16365	16090
All	Number of Employers	1291	1309	1318	1330
		Qtr.1/02	Qtr.2/02	Qtr.3/02	Qtr.4/02

Note:-

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2002.

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Self Employed Returns Pending B Non-Return ဗ္ဗ Official Returns Pending Non-Return Retums SI Returns Statistics as at 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 returned Cont'd ANSWER TO QUESTION NO.1049/2005 Number of Employers Pending Non-Return Returns //e Number of Employers ≥ Qtr.1/03 Qtr.2/03 Qtr.4/03 Qtr.3/03

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Non-Return

Note:

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2003.

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Cont'd ANSWER TO QUESTION NO.1049/2005

		Pending	98	86	186	187
		Моп-Return	21	33	98	82
	Γ-					
	Self Employed	уеtитs	999	571	559	555
		Pending	687	689	691	9 8
		птшэЯ-поМ	85	132	147	138
	Official	Retums	4138	4075	4081	4057
		Pending	1361	1361	1357	1361
		изф-поИ	4 49	1072	1201	1888
		Returns	11091	10853	11233	10529
tics as at 30 SEPTEMBER 2005	Private	Number of Employers retumed	1108	1102	1095	1073
MBE						
EPTE		Pending	2234	2236	2234	2242
t 30 S		Мол-Return	750	1237	1413	2108
ics as a		Returns	15795	15499	15873	15141
ns Statist	Β	Number of Employers	1433	1453	1467	1481
SI Returns Statis			Qtr.1/04	Qtr.2/04	Qtr.3/04	Qtr.4/04

Note:-

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2004.

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Cont'd ANSWER TO QUESTION NO.1049/2005

			7	т	T
		Pending	314	314	314
		Иол-Return] [112	510
	Self Employed	Retums	511	431	59
		Pending	2665	2670	2663
		Non-Return	231	635	694
	Official	Retums	2044	1727	1733
		Pending	4339	4302	4266
		Non-Return	1065	4953	9851
		Returns	8615	5290	725
R 2005	Private	Number of Employers returned	997	756	127
ABE					
PTE		Pending	7318	7286	7243
t 30 SE		Иол-Return	1313	5700	11055
ics as at 30 SEPTEMBER 2005		Refums	11170	7448	2517
ns Statisti	Ψ	Number of Employers	1500	1518	1523
SI Returns Statist			Qtr.1/05	Qtr. 2/05	Qtr.3/05

Note:Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2005.

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NOTE FOR CHIEF MINISTER ONLY - REF QUESTION 1049/2005

SI Returns Statistics as at 31 March 2005

Official	Returns	4243	4293	4267	4282
		_			
	Pending	280	282	278	457
	Mon-Return	588	688	869	1860
	Кештѕ	9889	10215	10378	10134
Private	Number of Employers returned	1068	1075	1076	1072
		·		L	
	Pending	397	104	400	619
	иои-Вештп	706	808	1042	1990
	Returns	14678	15058	15191	14986
AII	Mumber of Employers all	1248	1257	1269	1278
		Qtr. 1/01	Otr. 2/01	Otr.3/01	Qtr.4/01

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Pending

Non-Return

Returns

Pending

Non-Return

Self Employed

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Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2001.

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Cont'd - NOTE FOR CHIEF MINISTER ONLY - REF QUESTION 1049/2005

SI Returns Statistics as at 31 March 2005

- 1				L		
	Self Employed	Retums	543	546	257	553
		Pending	46	46	46	47
		Mon-Return	51	95	120	9
	Official	Returns	4363	4366	4365	4437
		Pending	473	457	455	488
		Мол-Return	822	879	1033	1088
		Retums	10527	10610	10742	10466
	Private	Number of Employers retumed	1076	1078	1086	1079
		Pending	646	630	628	662
		птф9Я-поМ	806	1013	1201	1255
		Retums	15433	15522	15664	15456 1255 662
	All	Number of Employers	1301	1319	1333	1342
			Qtr. 1/02	Qtr. 2/02	Qtr.3/02	Qtr.4/02

127

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Pending

Non-Return

Note:

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2002.

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Cont'd - NOTE FOR CHIEF MINISTER ONLY - REF QUESTION 1049/2005

SI Returns Statistics as at 31 March 2005

	naeA-noN	916 846	1145 826	2016 820	1922 828
	Returns	10518	10763	10310	10180
Private	Number of Employers retumed	1069	1071	1051	1054
	Pending	1156	1136	1128	1134
	Non-Return	1005	1267	2160	2075
	Ketnms	15552	15895	15487	15341
All	Sumber of Employers	1370	1395	1409	1422
		Qtr. 1/03	Qtr. 2/03	Qtr.3/03	Qtr.4/03

213

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Pending

Non-Return

Returns

Pending

Non-Return

Returns

Self Employed

Official

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Note:-

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2003.

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Cont'd - NOTE FOR CHIEF MINISTER ONLY - REF QUESTION 1049/2005

		1		i	1		
	Self Employed	Returns	541	506	486	459	229
		Pending	882	882	878	882	3036
		Иоп-Return	149	179	247	50 20	154
	Official	Returns	3912	3876	3848	3852	1787
		gnibnaq	2162	2149	2136	2141	1299 10645
		Иол-Return	1216	2054	2820	4357	1299
		Returns	10017	9475	9305	7933	2674
906	Private	Number of Employers returned	1029	1004	975	882	419
×							
March		Pending	3263	3250	3233	3242	14281
at 31		muteЯ-noM	1392	2311	3183	4710	1467 14281
ics as		gemms	14470	13857	13639	12244	4690
SI Returns Statistics as at 31 March 2005	ΙΨ	Number of Employers	1447	1470	1491	1506	1518
Si Retur			Qtr. 1/04	Qtr. 2/04	Qtr.3/04	Qtr.4/04	Qtr. 1/05

Pending

Non-Return

Those classified under pending are in respect of contribution records for which no notification of termination has been provided and no contribution return has been recorded since the introduction of the new system or in the 1st Quarter of 2004.

Note:-

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NO. 1050 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STAMP DUTY - PROPERTY SALES

Can Government state how much has been collected in Stamp Duty at the lower rate on Property Sales in each month since the new stamp duty on Property Sales came into effect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1051 of 2005.

NO. 1051 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STAMP DUTY - PROPERTY SALES

Can Government state how much has been collected in Stamp Duty at the higher rate on Property Sales in each month since the new stamp duty on Property Sales came into effect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The short answer to the hon Member's question is that the new Stamp Duty on property sales announced in the Budget has not yet come into effect. It requires primary legislation which has not yet been debated in this House but which we hope to bring it shortly, and therefore it is still being applied at 1.26 per cent across the board. In case he is interested in the information I do not mind giving him the answer to his question, namely, how much Stamp Duty has been collected.

Answer to Question 1051 of 2005

Financial Year 2005/2006

Month	Amount
April 2005	£209,330.89
May 2005	£149,364.53
June 2005	£168,513.00
July 2005	£140,711.49
August 2005	£163,572.50

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1050 AND 1051 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

I seem to remember that in answer to a past question the Chief Minister told me that there were Stamp Duties for different things connected with property, is this figure that he has given me just for sales? I think he mentioned to me that when I was analysing the figures previously I might have been misinterpreting it because it was not just for the sale of a property but for other things that also bore Stamp Duty.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I have to admit I was having the same thought as I was reading the answer myself. I do not know, I hope so because it would be pretty illogical for somebody to have offered this information if it had nothing whatsoever to do with the question asked which relates to property sales. I dare not confirm it to him because this is not my handiwork, so I will confirm to him whether this relates only to collections of sales as opposed to other dutiable property transactions.

NO. 1052 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EU PENSIONERS

Can Government now state when the policy was introduced that non-EU pensioners should be provided with monthly residence permits, how many such persons currently have such permits and under which provision of the Immigration Control Ordinance have such permits been issued?

<u>ANSWER</u>

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I gave the answer to this question in my reply to Question No. 565 of 2005 at the meeting of this House held on 28th April 2005. The only change since then has been that whereas at that time the number of unemployed non-EU pensioners who held six monthly permits stood at 60, this has now risen to 64.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1052 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

I think the question that I put was not in fact answered, because the Chief Minister did not tell me then under which provision of the Immigration Control Ordinance it had been issued when the policy was introduced, and just told me how many people currently had such permits which is the figure which he has updated now. I think the rest of the information was not provided at the time, I think in the exchanges that took place he referred to perhaps not having put the right wording originally and that is why this time the question says 'now', in case he is now in a position to give me the information he was not able to give me six months ago.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think the hon Member misses the point of the answer that he has just had, and indeed therefore, also the point of the answer that he had back in April. The question is predicated on a false premise and that is, when was the policy introduced that non-EU pensioners should be provided with monthly residence permits? The answer that he got back in April was that there is no policy under which non-EU pensioners are provided with monthly residence permits. Therefore, there are no such persons who currently hold monthly permits and he has had the same answer and therefore the information that he has had are people who get permits other than monthly. The whole purpose of his question is to establish when was the policy introduced to issue,

in effect, Moroccan unemployed pensioners with monthly, they are not issued with monthly. Therefore there is no such policy and therefore the question under what section of the Ordinance it is done does not arise. It is not that the information was not given, it is that the premise of both his questions does not reflect the position as it is operating. They do not get monthly permits.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well what is the length of the permits they get to enable them to register as unemployed in order to be able to remain in residence in Gibraltar and collect their pensions? This all arises because he revealed in a discussion we had on a totally different subject that this was a policy they had just introduced and I have been trying to establish the nature of the policy ever since.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

They are not issued with monthly, the answer that he got back in April was that there was a total of 32 male non-EU pensioners over the age of 65 and 46 female pensioners over the age of 60, in other words of pensionable age men and women, who were in possession of annual residence permits. Then I went on to tell him that there is no policy under which such people are provided with monthly residence permits, which was the premise of his question. The answer communicated to him was that they were in possession of annual permits.

HON J J BOSSANO:

When was that policy of giving them annual permits then introduced, if that was the policy?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Does he mean on what date?

HON J J BOSSANO:

It all arises because the Chief Minister announced in the House that they had introduced this new policy to enable non-EU nationals, predominantly Moroccans, to remain in Gibraltar and collect their pension by registering with the ETB as seeking employment, which was the only way they could be given the opportunity of remaining here which we were not aware of until he announced it. We did not know if this was being done or if this was a new development. Once he announced it we have been trying to establish exactly when it came in and how many people are affected and so forth.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot tell him the exact month and year, so his question should have been, 'can the Government now state when the policy was introduced that non-EU pensioners should be provided with annual monthly residence permits?', because that question

asked now would at least update the question to reflect the answer that he was given back in April. He continues to mis-ask the question ignoring the information that he was given in answer to the question in April. If he particularly wants to know the date on which a policy other than the one that he describes when his question was asked, I am happy to provide the information to him but I do not have that information with me, I will let him know.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I just go back to Question No. 1052 which is on the non-EU pensioners, because I have just checked the Hansard to which the Chief Minister was referring? In fact what he told me the last time when I asked this question was that the reply he was giving me was the same thing as he had said six months ago, which he did not recall. Then I reminded him that in answer to Question No. 2472 of 2004, which we can fish out and look at if he has any doubts about it, he had told me that the sort of person that I described was issued with monthly residence permits as opposed to annual. He told me in answer to Question No. 2472 of 2004 that they were not annual that they were monthly. Then I asked him in that supplementary to Question No. 2472 of 2004, well would the answer have been yes instead of no if I had used in the question monthly instead of annual, and he said yes. He confirmed that I had got it wrong by putting yearly permits, so I put monthly permits. Now that I have put monthly permits he tells me that I have got it wrong in putting monthly and that I should put yearly, and that if I had done it properly and put yearly he would have given me the answer. I do not know whether the answer I am now going to get again is the one I got in reply to Question No. 2472 of 2004 telling me to put monthly. I can assure him that it all started with me asking about annual permits. In Question No. 2472 of 2004 I said, 'can Government state when the policy was introduced that non-EU pensioners should be provided with annual residence permits?', which is what he has just told me I have to give him notice of. I gave him notice of that in 2004 and he told me that I had got it wrongly worded and that it should have been monthly, which is what I am asking now and I am now being told that it should be yearly. So I will go back to repeating Question No. 2472 of 2004 which will probably come about in December 2005 and coincide with the anniversary of the original.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

In April of this year he asked me 'can Government state when the policy was introduced that non-EU pensioners should be provided with monthly residence permits, how many such persons currently have such permits and under which provision of the Immigration Control Ordinance have such permits been issued?'. Answer the Hon the Chief Minister: 'there were a total of 32 male non-EU pensioners over the age of 65 and 46 female non-EU pensioners over the age of 60 who were in possession of annual residence permits.' There is no need to go back to 2004 or before, this is in April of this year, Question No. 565 of 2005. There is no policy, I hope that appears in his version of the Hansard.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Why does he not carry on? He says there is no policy and that non-EU pensioners are provided with monthly permits of residence. Then I asked him.......

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That was the answer he got.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, and what about all the rest?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It goes on, 'therefore there are no such persons who currently hold monthly permits.' That was the answer to the question as he asked it, the rest is all supplementaries.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Of course. So what, because it is supplementaries they do not count?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It was not the nature of his question.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the Chief Minister saying then that what he answered in the question in the previous meeting of the House, that the answer he gave me then was incorrect? He said no, because he never likes to say that he is wrong in anything. So I said, 'well does he recall that the last time he said there were no permits and he said that if I had put 'monthly' instead of 'annually' in my original question the answer would have been yes there was a policy. I go back now to the one where he told me that.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It has always been monthly.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The Chief Minister says it has always been monthly, is it monthly or yearly?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Last year, in April and now I have just told him. It is not monthly. The hon Member is now trying to justify the fact that he asks in relation to 'monthly' because I had indicated to him in 2004 that if he asked in relation to 'monthly' the answer would be different. But it is not monthly and that has been evident from the last two answers that I have given him.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, perhaps I can get him a copy of page 663 in which he said, he came back after exchanges and said, 'can I correct the hon Member in what he said that this was not the case. Persons of the sort that he has described are issued with monthly residence permits as opposed to annual'. This is Question No. 2472 of 2004. The question was, 'when was the policy introduced that non-EU pensioners should continue to be provided with annual residence permits?'.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, now that reference, either referred to persons which he referred in the question or persons which he referred in the meantime in some supplementary. In other words, one has got to see whether that answer relates to the persons to which he described in the question or to some other group of people that emerged in our discussion on supplementaries.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I can tell him what is the sentence immediately preceding. I was under the impression that at some point it had been decided to allow persons to register as unemployed and therefore get a permit of residence beyond their retirement age, but clearly this is not the case, that is what I said. He then came back and said, 'can I correct the hon Member when he says this is not the case. Persons of the sort that he has just described, that is, persons allowed to register as unemployed and go beyond the retirement age are issued with monthly residence permits as opposed to annual which is what his question sought'. Then I asked him, 'well then if I put 'monthly' instead of 'annual' will I get the answer?' and he said yes. So I have been putting monthly instead of annual ever since.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The original question was 'monthly' and he was told that they were annual. In answer to the original question he was told that they were not monthly, they were annually. I have just read it to him.

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, the Chief Minister reads how it started, he does not read how he finished. He finished by saying, 'there is an administrative concession whereby if unemployed Moroccans looking for work are actually too old to work, then just for this purpose his monthly residence permit gets renewed every month'. That is him saying it not me.

Since I always believe all the things he tells me I have been putting 'monthly' ever since.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I have to check the question myself. The problem with all these supplementaries is that the nature of the discussion moves on from the original question and then I cannot be sure, I have not got Hansard in front of me, whether the two things that he is comparing are comparables. The original answer that he got to the original question, Question No. 565 of 2005, made it clear that they were not issued with monthly permits. He has asked now in Question No. 1052 the same question, a question again saying it was 'monthly' and I have confirmed the position. Now he says 'yes but the position that you last confirmed by the time we had finished with supplementary questions in April, left you with the impression that the original answer in April had been wrong and really it was monthly after all'. So when he has come now in October or in September to ask the question again, he reverted to monthly. Well, that is the interpretation.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I can tell him why, because when we finished and it is on page 817 of the Hansard of April, he said to me 'yes I understand all that, I asked him to give me the name of the question so that I can refer to it'. The same thing that he is saying now. I told him exactly the same thing that I am saying now in April and he finished in April saying to me, 'well yes, that is what you say but give me the number of the question', which I said was Question No. 2472 of 2004, 'and I will refer to it'. Well I left it at that point with him that he was going to go back and check the Hansard to see if what I was telling him was accurate and I was not leading him up the garden path. I have now put the question having assumed that notwithstanding his very busy schedule, between April and now he has been able to look at Question No. 2472 of 2004. This time I am helping him a bit more by making photocopies of everything and passing it on to him when we finish today's meeting.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He may be interested in getting the chronology and the history of this right. The point is that they are not issued with monthly permits. Now that is the position.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Therefore the Chief Minister is confirming that the answer that he gave me in December last year to Question No. 2472, which is recorded in Hansard on page 664 as his final statement on the subject, was in fact incorrect.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I would have to check the context of that answer. I am not willing to do it on the basis of his analysis.

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, on the basis of the accuracy of the record which says that if unemployed Moroccans looking for work are actually too old to work, and everybody understands that it is just for the purpose of getting his monthly residence permit, I do think they get them every month. So they are monthly permits not annual.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I am not suggesting that he is inventing those words. I said I have to see them in the context in which they were uttered to see what is their proper interpretation and effect, and to see whether it is contradictory of the fact that they are not monthly.

HON J J BOSSANO:

We are now being told it is annual, which was in fact my original question a year ago. When was the policy introduced to give annual permits? The Chief Minister has said that was a new question of which I need to give him notice and I will, but it happens to be a new question which is now a year old.

NO. 1053 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MOD - CONTRACTORISATION

Have the Government had any response from Her Majesty's Government on the report they submitted on the economic impact of the MOD's contractorisation plans?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There has been no technical response or reaction to the Report. However, in a letter addressed to me on 18th July by John Reid, the Secretary of State for Defence, he said that the Report had been reviewed and that the estimates of the short term impact presented in the report looked sound, but that his Economic Analysts do not share Professor Fletcher's negative view of the ability of the Gibraltar economy to adjust.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1053 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

So what they are saying in the reply is that Her Majesty's Government, or the experts that they employ, consider that the impact

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Is as assessed but

HON J J BOSSANO:

But we are capable of surviving that and much more. Our experience shows that we can survive much more than is thrown at us but it is not very helpful.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, particularly not when the purpose of sending this report is recalled, which is that when Geoff Hoon said that he would take it into account in his decision. If that was going to be the answer then there would not have been any point in preparing the report. No one has suggested to him that if they proceed with this contractorisation

that the world is going to stop spinning as far as Gibraltar is concerned and that we are going to grind to a halt. What we have said to them is that there are significant economic impacts of doing it in the way that they want to do it, namely of achieving the savings in the way that they want to save them, which would be averted to a great extent if those savings were achieved in a different way. That was the purpose of the report not to demonstrate that if they contractorise a couple of hundred jobs, or three or four hundred jobs, that that would be the end of the economy of Gibraltar. So it is a complete non sequitur the answer really in the context of the purpose of the report.

NO. 1054 OF 2005

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INTERNATIONAL DIALLING CODE

Can Government explain what is the nature of the technical problems and economic cost associated with the possible use of the 0044 international dialling code for Gibraltar from Spain?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The main technical issues with economic cost implications are:-

- Would traffic continue to be channelled directly between Spain and Gibraltar over the cross border infrastructure despite the use of "44"?
- If so, would telephone companies charge calls at international tariffs applicable between the United Kingdom and Spain or at Spanish "inter-urban" tariffs as is the case at present.
- The system would also require modification, that is to say, the use of "44" for calls from Spain, would also require modification to Spanish international exchanges which has a cost implication.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1054 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

The changes the Chief Minister refers to is to the Spanish exchanges presumably, would be a cost implication for them, does it require any changes that either we would have to introduce or UK would have to introduce to their systems?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The UK might well have to introduce changes to its systems so that its systems understood that when calls entering the UK system for "44", because even if the traffic was sent down the frontier infrastructure the question then arises would it also go the other route. If it went the other route the UK might well have to educate its switches for them to recognise that this is actually not traffic for the UK but traffic for Gibraltar, even though it is prefixed and arrives with the "44" pretext. There is

nothing for Gibraltar to do here in respect of this, at least in respect of the third point. The first two raise issues of user tariffs.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Presumably the use of that would be the cost to the user in Spain calling Gibraltar, it might make Gibraltar a more expensive place to call from Spain but it would not be an extra cost for somebody here calling in the opposite direction, that would not change.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, that is precisely one of the issues, if we do go "44" would the cross-frontier infrastructure continue to work as it does today, so today from Gibraltar one can call Spain in two different ways. One can call 0034, indeed one has got to do that when calling a mobile from either landline or mobile, so there is already a certain number of Gibraltar telephone subscribers used to paying the international tariffs. The other way that one can presently call Spain is by dialling the Spanish area code directly. If that were to continue, if that ability to interconnect our networks by ringing the Spanish area code from Gibraltar were to continue, then what the hon Member says is right, those people would charge no more. If Spain were to say, 'well fine if we are going to do it "44" then let us do it "44" for everything' and then this ability of connecting directly from Gibraltar to Spain through dialling a Spanish code, then the issue would arise of whether all traffic from Gibraltar to Spain would be charged on the "34" basis. In other words, if they say 'well fine if it is going to be "44" from Spain let everything be via the international', those are the issues but the cost implications in Gibraltar are mainly of the user type and not of capital investment in terms of the telephone operators here. I should add that in our view the use of "44" is preferable whatever might be the tariff implications if the alternative is an arrangement which either has political strings attached or which leaves Gibraltar's numbering plan in the next wave of problems, if they were to say 'well have another 100,000 numbers' well some future Government is just going to have the same problem.

NO. 1055 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAPE TOWN CONVENTION

Can Government say whether the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Equipment Protocol was extended to Gibraltar after the UK signed it on 16 November 2001 and if so when?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 1056 of 2005.

NO. 1056 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CAPE TOWN CONVENTION

Can Government say whether the EU has been able to ratify the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Equipment Protocol en bloc after it became known publicly that Spain raised the Gibraltar issue in July of this year in the course of the negotiations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The UK has not yet ratified the Convention or its Protocol. Under the terms of the Convention it may extend them to its Overseas Territories and Dependencies by unilateral declaration at the time of ratification or subsequently.

The EU has not yet been able to pass a Council Decision authorising individual Member States to proceed with ratification because of the disagreement between the UK and Spain over the way that it would apply to Gibraltar if extended to us.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1055 AND 1056 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the Chief Minister tell the House what the nature of the disagreement actually is, because that was really never very clear?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The nature of the disagreement is that Spain would like the post-box arrangements to apply to it, and the post-box arrangements are limited to EU measures or to international agreements which build on EU measures, and not generally to international treaties and Conventions. The post-box arrangements, agreed to in an EU context, are for a nature of international agreement which is very carefully defined and the UK and Gibraltar are resisting any attempt by Spain to make it the norm for all international Conventions, that is the nature of the dispute.

NO. 1057 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

1960 PARIS CONVENTION

Can Government say whether the 1960 Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy has been extended to Gibraltar and if so on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I am informed that the Convention has been extended to Gibraltar. The Director General of the ENEA notified other parties of this in December 1970.

The Convention was then amended by a Protocol of 16th November 1982. This was ratified by the UK and, I am informed, extended to Gibraltar on 19th August 1985.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1057 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Have the Government been informed why Madrid felt it necessary to enter a reservation whereby they assume jurisdiction over the entire Bay, and not recognise our own jurisdiction over the Bay, when they had not done this originally when they themselves signed the Convention in 1961?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

There is no knowledge of Spanish reservation referred to in the article in El Faro which appeared in 2005 and must have stimulated the hon Member's interest in this matter.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

That may have been El Faro but what I saw was actually a circular by Europa Press which referred to a meeting of the Spanish Council of Ministers and which in the course of that meeting one of the issues which they raised was attaching a formal declaration on the part of Spain specifically to do with Gibraltar, which says that they do not recognise any rights or situation in terms of the Bay which are not contained in Article 10 of the Treaty of Utrecht of 13th June 1713 agreed between the Crowns of the United Kingdom and Spain. It seemed odd to us that although they entered this

reservation now, they had not entered it originally when they signed the Convention in 1961, and we want to know whether Government have any information to indicate why they have entered this reservation now and they did not enter it then?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government certainly do not have any such information. Indeed, we are being told that there is no knowledge of any such reservation having been entered, which would appear to call into question the accuracy of the press report. Obviously Europa Press, I think it is more or less the same, I think it is the form in which it emerged in El Faro but obviously drawing from the same news agency report, I am being told that there is no knowledge of the Spanish reservation to which those reports refer. Certainly, they are not at liberty to enter reservations sort of 43 years after the event.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

I agree with the Chief Minister. What this refers to is a declaration, it is a unilateral declaration on the part of Spain in relation to this particular topic and in relation to the jurisdiction over the waters in the Bay. This information is from the United Kingdom, is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I believe so. My note does not say that it is from the United Kingdom but all these international Convention questions are usually referred back to the Foreign Office for information. I assume that that is the case here too. I do not know what a unilateral declaration is, one can make a minute statement in the context of the EU, one can enter a reservation or make a declaration at the time that one signs or ratifies an international Treaty, it may be that this is just a political declaration of the sort that he and I might make tomorrow morning if it takes our fancy, it does not necessarily have any validity in terms of the international law aspects of this Convention.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

This was in May and at the time it was approved by the Council of Ministers for forwarding to the Spanish Cortes Generales in Madrid, so it could well be that this is still in the process of being made or being entered.

NO. 1058 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

COURT PLEADINGS

Has a hearing date now been fixed for the substantive hearing of the legal proceedings (Court of First Instance register number 240836 and allocated case number T-211/04) against the EU Commission following the close of pleadings in this action?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1059 and 1060 of 2005.

NO. 1059 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

COURT PLEADINGS

What stage has now been reached in the legal proceedings (Court of First Instance register number 240836 and allocated case number T-211/04) against the EU Commission following the close of pleadings?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1058 and 1060 of 2005.

NO. 1060 OF 2005

THE HON F R PICARDO

COURT PLEADINGS

Will the Government now agree, pursuant to the Chief Minister's previous answers in this House, to provide the Opposition with copies of the formal pleadings in the legal proceedings (Court of First Instance register number 240836 and allocated case number T-211/04) against the EU Commission, either openly or in confidence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The exchange of written submissions is now closed and the parties are now waiting for the court to set a date for the oral hearing. The last pleading that closed the pleading stage was the Gibraltar Government's response to the Spanish Government's intervention, which I think went in last week. Now that the pleadings stage has closed, the Government will again give further and final consideration to whether we are willing to provide the Opposition with copies of those pleadings in confidence. The question entertains the possibility of being either openly or in confidence, in either case, in no circumstances could it be openly. So even if we did agree to issue it, which has not yet been agreed, it would have to be in confidence.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 1058 TO 1060 OF 2005

HON F R PICARDO:

I assume it would be openly after the trial starts, when the pleadings will be open to one and all who have the money to turn up in Brussels at the hearing. Can I ask the Chief Minister when he expects to reach that consideration because it is now some time since he promised to start the process of consideration. I have had course to write to him in relation to this matter twice, dealing also with a related matter, and I would just be grateful so that we know when we are dealing with this issue in the House, what exactly it is that we are dealing with and we do not stray into an area where we might actually be not doing ourselves, any of us, any favours. So that is the first part of my supplementary, when does the Chief Minister think that we could have a determination from him on this issue?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot tell him, it does raise serious issues in the Government's mind about the precedent value of the Government having to share with the Opposition what is on-

going Governmental business of pleadings in litigation generally. Certainly, we need to consider whether we want to place this and future Governments of Gibraltar in a position whereby documents that are internal to Government, in the sense of for example but not limited to this, there are aspects of Governmental business that Government are entitled not to produce documents to the Opposition about. Another thing is to give political accountability in the House in answer to questions, but the concept of providing documentation to the Opposition in respect of on-going, live Governmental business is quite unusual, and there are issues about read-across to other cases, to other litigation, indeed to other nature of documents other than documents in litigation which need to be considered. If the hon Member were to say that if the Government were to agree to it in this case it could be treated as ring-fenced creating no precedent whatsoever and not to be referred to as a precedent, or alleged constituted precedent, that might eliminate a major issue in the Government's mind.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am quite happy to take the documentation on the grounds that the provision of it would be extraordinary, ring-fenced and otherwise caveated as the Chief Minister has indicated in his answer, and as he might otherwise wish to caveat although of course I would have to see those caveats before necessarily agreeing to them. That is what he told me last time but we do not seem to have advanced the position at all. That may be, I do not want to at this stage put blame on the Chief Minister's back for the delay, because there appears to be a Spanish intervention which, as I understood his answers previously and the Government's public statements on this matter, was not expected, is that right? Can the Chief Minister confirm that the Spanish intervention in this matter was unexpected?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I do not think the Government would say that it was not expected. Certainly it adds very little to the Commission's case, in fact it is almost ungermane to the case in many of its aspects, one could imagine things that it might say. Certainly I do not think I have ever given any indication that it was unexpected.

HON F R PICARDO:

There was another problem of regionality......

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Oh I see, no, they are perfectly capable of that sort of mental summersaults. In fact in the Azores Case they argued very strongly against the application of the principle of regionality to fiscal measures, and indeed in this case they say that they do not agree with the Commission's reasonings on regional selectivity as well. They still think that we should not be allowed to get away with it but they do not agree with the Commission's views on regional selectivity. I think the nature of the intervention was unexpected, frankly, but I do not think the fact of the intervention was unexpected. For example, it is unexpected that they oppose the Commission on regional selectivity.

HON F R PICARDO:

Obviously, if I could just leave it with the Chief Minister to expedite consideration of these issues so I could have the pleadings, if he agrees to give them to us, before I read the judgement, of course that would be great.

NO. 1061 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE

What action do Government have to take in order to comply with the ruling of the European Court of Justice in relation to mutual assistance between Member States in relation to the payment of VAT and other indirect taxes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government are advised that no legislative action is required to give effect to the ruling. There is however, a consequential amendment required to our legislation transposing EC Directive 76/308 on recovery of tax claims and certain levies and this is being prepared. The reason why no legislative action is required to give effect to the main aspect of the ruling is that VAT and excise taxes, to which the ruling related, have subsequently in the commencement of the action been taken out of the scope of the legal assistance to which the action related, and therefore within regulations which are of direct application to Gibraltar. So there may be a need for an administrative compliance but no legislative action is needed.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1061 OF 2005

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Does this mean that Gibraltar now has to give information or exchange information in relation to goods which pay VAT in the EU, but obviously not here, which are then exported to Gibraltar VAT-free, whereas before they would not have to give any information?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, this does not relate to information relating to Gibraltar's own collection or non-application of excise or to goods, this relates to mutual assistance in relation to other countries' own taxation of dutiable or excisable goods under their system. In other words, if I am correctly understanding the hon Member's supplementary, it would not require us to give them the information about the volume of tobacco exports from Gibraltar into Spain because that is relevant to their VAT or excise tax regime. That is not how it works. If he reads section 4 of the Income Tax Ordinance, which is how the Mutual Assistance Directive has presently been enforced for direct taxation, that is the regime that would be created in respect of VAT and indirect taxes. I think it is

section 4 but if it is not section 4 it is in the first ten sections of the Income Tax Ordinance.

NO. 1062 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU DIRECTIVES

How many EU directives were pending transposition into Gibraltar law according to Gibraltar Government records as at 30 June 2005, and how many of these required transposition before that date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1063 and 1064 of 2005.

NO. 1063 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU DIRECTIVES

Can Government say how many infraction proceedings are open by the European Commission against the United Kingdom for the non-transposition of directives in Gibraltar showing the name of the directive, the date on which infraction proceedings commenced, and the stage in the procedure in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 1062 and 1064 of 2005.

NO. 1064 OF 2005

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU DIRECTIVES

Can Government say how many cases of non-transposition of EU directives in Gibraltar are currently before the European Court, showing the name of the directive, the date on which the court action commenced, and the stage in the court procedure in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The figures which I will shortly be giving to the hon Member refer to directives which the Government of Gibraltar through their own resources have traced and have included in their records as being applicable. There may be other directives applicable to Gibraltar of which we have not been notified and have not identified for ourselves.

Secondly, the hon Gentleman will know that directives have a final transposition date usually attached. Nothing is required of us prior to that date, so in other words it is only overdue if the final transposition date has passed, and the fact that it has not yet been transposed does not mean it is overdue or due. As I understand the hon Gentleman's question he wishes to know details of all directives due for transposition whether their final transposition date has passed or not. So in relation to Question No. 1062 when he says 'pending transposition' he wants to know all the directives that have not yet been transposed, whether or not the due final date has yet arrived and then how many are late in the sense that the final transposition date has passed.

As of 30^{th} June 2005 there were 140 directives due for transposition, that we are aware of, and 102 of these required transposition before that date. In other words, had a final transposition date before 30^{th} June.

The reference in the question to infractions being 'open' is open to misinterpretation in this context. This is because infractions may be, for a variety of reasons, inactive, although remaining technically open. This may happen, for example, when the infraction chefs have decided not to proceed with an infraction or when the Member State being infracted has carried out whatever action was being required of it by the European Commission. In these circumstances nothing more would be done by the Commission to prosecute the infraction, although for a variety of reasons, the Commission would not formally close the infractions dossier until some time later. In the interregnum it would still be technically open but not actually live.

In Gibraltar's context I can report that over the last four years 45 infractions have been issued, although only 24 are active in the sense that I have just described.

At present, there are two Gibraltar cases before the European Court of Justice, two Gibraltar-related cases, for non-transposition of directives. They are as follows:

1. Recognition of Professional Qualifications

The written procedure has been completed and there will be no oral hearing. We await the Advocate-General's opinion and judgement.

2. Interests and Royalties

The matter has been referred to the ECJ but action has not yet commenced. The hon Member will recall that the Interests and Royalties Directive is one where the rest of Europe appears not to be recognising Gibraltar companies on a reciprocal basis, and therefore we said to the UK that if they are not getting the benefits why should we take on board the obligations, and that matter is presently where that matter lies and the matter is the subject of infraction.

I give the hon Member the list of outstanding directives, in other words it is the 140 of which 102 are overdue, so this is not the infraction list, this is the list of directives that we have been able to identify through our records, are pending transposition 140 of them of which 102 the final transposition date has passed and therefore they are now overdue, as opposed to the 38 which are pending transposition but are not yet overdue. If the hon Member asks me supplementaries, which I do not think he will, about the items on this list I will no longer have the list in front of me because I have only been given one copy. I will give him time to consider it himself. It is just a list of directives in a wide range of areas. There is a separate list of the ones the subject matter of infractions.

Contd Answer to Question 1064

In Gibraltar's context I can report that over the last four years 45 infractions have been issued, although only 24 are active.

At present, there are 2 Gibraltar cases before the ECJ for non-transposition of directives. They are as follows:

1. Recognition of Professional Qualifications

The written procedure has been completed and there will be no oral hearing. We await the Advocate-General's opinion and judgment.

2. <u>Interests & Royalties</u>

The matter has been referred to the ECJ, but action has not yet commenced.

The information requested by the Honourable member is set out in the schedule that I now hand to him.

1

ANSWER TO QUESTION 1064

ANSWER TO QUESTIONS 1063 AND 1064

Gibraltar related infractions (as at 7th October 2005)

Stage	Before the European Court of Justice Written procedure completed and there will be no oral hearing. We await the Advocate-General's opinion and judgment.	Before the European Court of Justice Referred to the ECJ. Action has not yet commenced.	Reasoned Opinion issued Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Reasoned Opinion issued	Article 226 Letter issued	Article 226 Letter issued	Article 226 Letter issued
Date of infraction/ commencement of action	23t December 2004	Referred to ECJ on 5th July 2005	25" July 2003 15" December 2004	15" December 2004	15" December 2004	13th July 2005	13th July 2005	15" December 2004	13th July 2005	4th February 2005	4" February 2005	4th February 2005
Measure	Directive 2001/19 amending Directives 89/48 and 92/51 on the general system for the recognition of professional qualifications and Directives 77/452, 77/453, 77/7686, 78/687, 78/1025, 78/1027, 80/154, 80/155, 85/384,85/432, 85/433 and 93/16 concerning the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner, vetering surgeon, midwife, architect, pharmacist and doctor	Directive 2003/49 (interests & royalities directive) on a common system of taxation applicable to interest and royalty payments made between associated companies of different Member States	Directive 89/665 the remedies directive Directive 2001/45 amending Directive 89/655 on the minimum health & safety requirement for the use of work equipment by workers at work	Directive 2002/96 on waste electrical and electronic equipment	Directive 2003/108 amending 2002/96 on waste electrical and electronic equipment	Directive 2003/51 (the modernisation directive) amending Directives 78/660, 83/349, 86/635 and 91/674 on the annual and consolidated accounts of certain types of companies, banks and other financial institutions and insurance undertakings	Directive 2002/83 on life assurance	Directive 2002/49 on the assessment and management of environmental noise	Regulation 2037/2000 on substances that deplete the ozone layer	Directive 2003/08 on the improvement of access to justice in cross-border disputes by establishing minimum common rules relating to legal aid for such disputes	Directive 2003/24 amending Directive 98/18 on safety rules and standards for passenger ships	Directive 2003/25 on specific stability requirements of ro-ro passenger ships
Infraction	C-505/04	2004/0268	2002/2258	2004/1505	2004/1513	2005/0438	2004/1503	2004/1502	2004/2022	2005/0249	2005/0250	2005/0251

Contd Answer to Question 1064 Contd Answer to Questions 1063 and 1064

2005/0437	Directive 2003/09 laying down minimum standards for the reception of asylum	22 rd March 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	seekers		
2005/2204	Telecoms regulatory framework concerning:	13th July 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	Directive 2002/21 – The Framework Directive		
	Directive 2002/19 – The Access Directive		
	Directive 2002/20 – The Authorisation Directive		
	Directive 2002/22 – The Universal Service Directive		
	Directive 2002/58 - The E-Privacy Directive		
2005/0717	Directive 2002/77 on competition in the markets for electronic communications	28" July 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	network and services		
2005/0718	Directive 2003/103 amending Directive 2001/25 concerning the minimum level of	28 ^m July 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	training for seafarers		
2005/0879	Directive 2002/44 (the vibrations directive) on the minimum health & safety	3rd October 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical		
	agents		
2005/0880	Directive 2002/98 setting standards of quality and safety for the collection, testing,	3" October 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	processing, storage and distribution of human blood and blood components (and		
	amending Directive 2001/83)		
2005/0881	Directive 2003/33 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative	3" October 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	provisions of the Member States relating to the advertising and sponsorship of		
	tobacco products		
2005/0885	Directive 2004/33 implementing Directive 2002/98 as regards certain technical	3" October 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	requirements for blood and blood components		
2004/1520	Directive 2004/69 on the definition of multilateral development banks	15" December 2004	Article 226 Letter issued
2005/0440	Directive 2003/123 amending Directive 90/435 on the common system of taxation	22 nd March 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	applicable in the case of parent companies and subsidiaries of different Member		
	States		
2005/0721	Directive 2004/106 amending Directive 77/799 concerning mutual assistance by	28th July 2005	Article 226 Letter issued
	the competent authorities of the Member States in the field of direct taxation.		
	certain excise duty and on the holding, movement and monitoring of such products		

NO. 1065 OF 2005

THE HON L A RANDALL

GIBTELECOM

Can Government state what are the prospects in the short, middle and long term of Slovenia Telekoms or another undertaking acquiring the equity holding that the Government, Verizon or both hold in Gibtelecom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The House has been informed previously that Verizon plans to sell its shareholding in Gibtelecom. The Government understand that Verizon have now sold almost all of their investments in Europe and are now looking to complete their exit from Europe by selling their equity in Gibtelecom. There is therefore a very high prospect that Verizon will sell its stake to one of the parties with which it is presently in discussion, which includes Slovenia Telekom, and indeed that may be short-term, the question was short, middle or long term, I think Verizon are looking to exit as quickly as possible. With regard to the Government's shareholding in Gibtelecom, while the Government are not actively seeking to dispose of their shareholding, they would certainly listen to and consider any options that emerged as part of Verizon's disposal. In other words, for example, if the buyer of the Verizon stake said, 'how about it, you sell me yours and here is my offer', we would look at it and form a view at the time but there is not a 'for sale' sign over our stake.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1065 OF 2005

HON J J BOSSANO:

Would the Government consider buying out Verizon, they have no interest in doing that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, none whatsoever.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Suppose the price at which Verizon could sell to a third party appeared to be very attractive, would they not be interested then in buying them out?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think that the Government have got better things to do with their capital in terms of social projects and housing projects than invest it in a telephone company. Governments right across Europe are divesting themselves of telephone companies not acquiring them, and I think not just for that reason but in our case also because competition is now beginning to take hold, we are now beginning to see other telephone companies beginning to break into the market, which has been the whole purpose of the getting on with the Telecoms Liberalisation Directives and actually, although there are Chinese walls between the Regulatory Authority, the Minister is the Licensing Authority, I am not sure that the companies other than Gibtelecom actually quite believe that Government are actually remote from regulatory and licensing issues on the one hand and their shareholding in Gibtelecom on the other. So for that reason alone I think that it will be a good thing. They are not going to give their stake away, if they were planning to sell it for a ridiculous amount of money the Government might then consider it, but frankly I think the tendency of previous Governments to put distance between this sort of activity and the Government was well based and ought not to be reversed.