

NO. 1 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

NATIONAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Can Government say how many persons enrolled on the course to undertake National Vocational Training in Health and Social care which was advertised on 6th October with a closing date for applications of 29th October?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

Ten persons have been selected from those that applied to commence a National Vocational Training programme in Health and Social Care.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 1 OF 2011

HON N F COSTA:

Could the Minister say how many persons actually enrolled from the ten that were selected?

HON L MONTIEL:

How many persons were selected?

HON N F COSTA:

The question was how many persons enrolled. I understand that the Minister said that ten persons were selected.

HON L MONTIEL:

Ten have been selected to undertake the course. There were a total of about 61 who applied to take the course.

HON N F COSTA:

I am grateful.

ORAL

NO. 2 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

FINING OF EMPLOYERS USING ILLEGAL LABOUR

Can Government state how many fixed penalty notices were issued to employers during October to December 2010 for using unregistered labour?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

Eight fixed penalty notices were issued during the period October to December 2010 for using unregistered labour.

NO. 3 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE – PERSONS REGISTERED AS BEING EMPLOYED IN THE HOTEL INDUSTRY

Can Government say how many persons were registered with the Employment Service as being employed in the local hotel industry, on a monthly basis, since July 2010 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The number of persons registered with the Employment Service as being employed in the local hotel industry since July 2010 are:

July	273
August	271
September	286
October	275
November	286
December	287

NO. 4 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE – DETACHED WORKERS EMPLOYED

Can Government state as at the end of each month since the answer to Question No. 1174 of 2010, how many detached workers were in employment and provide a breakdown by industry and nationality?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

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

Answer to Question 4/2011**Detached workers by Nationality****September 2010**

Industry	British	Spanish	Moroccan	Other EEC	Other Non-EEC	Total
Electricity Supply						0
Water Supply						0
Shipbuilding etc.				15	112	127
Other Manufacture						0
Construction	6	123		3	5	137
Wholesale Trade						0
Retail Trade		7				7
Hotel Trade						0
Restaurants, Bars etc						0
Repairs of Consumer Goods						0
Sea Transport and Related Services						0
Air Transport and Related Services						0
Road Transport and Related Services						0
Post and Communications		5				5
Banking, Finance and Insurance	3	7				10
Public Administration and National Defence						0
Police and Fire Service						0
Sanitary Services						0
Education						0
Medical and Health Services						0
Other Services	3					3
Total	12	142	0	18	117	289

Continued Answer to Question No. 4 of 2011**Detached workers by Nationality****October 2010**

Industry	British	Spanish	Moroccan	Other EEC	Other Non-EEC	Total
Electricity Supply						0
Water Supply						0
Shipbuilding etc.				14	100	114
Other Manufacture						0
Construction	6	127		1	5	139
Wholesale Trade						0
Retail Trade		7				7
Hotel Trade						0
Restaurants, Bars etc						0
Repairs of Consumer Goods						0
Sea Transport and Related Services						0
Air Transport and Related Services						0
Road Transport and Related Services						0
Post and Communications		5				5
Banking, Finance and Insurance	3	5				8
Public Administration and National Defence						0
Police and Fire Service						0
Sanitary Services						0
Education						0
Medical and Health Services						0
Other Services						0
Total	9	144	0	15	105	273

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 4**Detached workers by Nationality****November 2010**

Industry	British	Spanish	Moroccan	Other EEC	Other Non-EEC	Total
Electricity Supply						0
Water Supply						0
Shipbuilding etc.				13	78	91
Other Manufacture						0
Construction	5	113		1	5	124
Wholesale Trade						0
Retail Trade		2			1	3
Hotel Trade						0
Restaurants, Bars etc						0
Repairs of Consumer Goods						0
Sea Transport and Related Services						0
Air Transport and Related Services						0
Road Transport and Related Services						0
Post and Communications		7				7
Banking, Finance and Insurance	3	5				8
Public Administration and National Defence						0
Police and Fire Service						0
Sanitary Services						0
Education						0
Medical and Health Services						0
Other Services						0
Total	8	127	0	14	84	233

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 4**Detached workers by Nationality****December 2010**

Industry	British	Spanish	Moroccan	Other EEC	Other Non-EEC	Total
Electricity Supply						0
Water Supply						0
Shipbuilding etc.				7	74	81
Other Manufacture						0
Construction	1	90		1	3	95
Wholesale Trade						0
Retail Trade						0
Hotel Trade						0
Restaurants, Bars etc						0
Repairs of Consumer Goods						0
Sea Transport and Related Services						0
Air Transport and Related Services						0
Road Transport and Related Services						0
Post and Communications		7				7
Banking, Finance and Insurance	2	5			1	8
Public Administration and National Defence						0
Police and Fire Service						0
Sanitary Services						0
Education						0
Medical and Health Services						0
Other Services						0
Total	3	102	0	8	78	191

ORAL

NO. 5 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE – FRONTIER WORKERS EMPLOYED

Can Government provide a breakdown by nationality of the frontier workers registered with the Employment Service as at the end of each month since the answer to Question No. 1175 of 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

Answered together with Question No. 6 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 6 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE – FRONTIER WORKERS EMPLOYED

Can Government state the total number of frontier workers registered with the Employment Service as at the end of each month since the answer to Question No. 1176 of 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

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

Answer to Question No. 6 of 2011

Answer to Questions 5 and 6/2011

Frontier Workers by Nationality (September to December 2010)

Nationality	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
American	9	8	8	8
Argentinian	3	3	2	2
Australian	3	3	2	2
Austrian	13	13	13	13
Belgian	11	10	10	10
Brazilian	3	2	2	2
Bulgarian	15	15	15	15
Canadian	3	3	3	3
Chinese	0	0	0	0
Colombian	2	2	2	1
Czechoslovakian	33	34	31	32
Danish	37	38	38	39
Dutch	34	36	37	37
Equatorian	0	0	1	1
Estonian	4	4	4	7
Finnish	8	7	7	7
French	72	74	75	74
German	113	115	117	115
Gibraltar	133	134	135	133
Greek	24	26	29	28
Greek Cypriot	7	7	6	6
Guyanese	1	1	0	0
Hungarian	43	46	49	49
Indian	2	2	2	2
Irish	60	60	60	60
Israeli	4	4	4	4
Italian	58	55	58	57
Japanese	2	2	2	2
Latvian	8	8	8	8
Lithuanian	44	43	44	43
Luxembourg	0	0	0	0
Macedonian	1	1	1	1
Maltese	1	1	1	1
Totals C/F	751	757	766	762

.../Contd. Answer to Question 6/2011

.../Contd. Answer to Questions 5 and 6/2011

Frontier Workers by Nationality (September to December 2010)

Nationality	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
B/F Totals	751	757	766	762
Mexican	0	0	0	0
Moroccan	3	3	2	3
New Zealander	3	3	3	3
Norwegian	4	4	4	4
Other British	2023	2029	2080	2085
Peruvian	1	1	1	1
Philipino	1	1	1	1
Polish	156	163	176	177
Portuguese	283	272	235	236
Romanian	75	70	72	71
Russian	5	5	5	5
Slovakian	16	16	21	19
South African	1	1	1	1
Spanish	3782	3903	4030	3969
Swedish	20	21	18	18
Swiss	10	10	10	10
Ukranian	5	5	8	8
Uruguayan	0	0	0	1
Totals	7139	7264	7433	7374

NO. 7 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE – MOD DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

Can Government state the number of persons in direct employment in the MOD as at the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

The number of persons in direct employment in the MOD, as registered with the Employment Service, as at the end of September 2010 is 748.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 7 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the light of the answer that it is as registered with the Employment Service, can the hon Member say whether, since they discovered that there had been this failure to notify promptly when people stopped working in the MOD, action has been taken and, therefore, this is likely to be more accurate than it was previously. Can he confirm that?

HON L MONTIEL:

Yes, following the experience of our previous encounter on this matter, we have made sure that the numbers are well reconciled.

ORAL

NO. 8 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

Can Government state how many questionnaires have been distributed to employers in respect of the October 2010 Employment Survey?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

A total of 2010 questionnaires have been sent to employers in respect of the October 2010 Employment Survey.

ORAL

NO. 9 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND

Can Government state what was the monthly income, expenditure and balance of the Statutory Benefits Fund since the answer to Question No. 1206 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 10 to 16 of 2011.

NO. 10 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND – NUMBER OF PENSIONERS

Can Government state what was the number of pensioners being paid or with entitlement to payment, for each month to date, since the answer to Question No. 1207 of 2010, from the Statutory Benefits Fund, giving a breakdown of pre-1969 Spanish pensioners and locally funded pensioners, showing the number of Gibraltarians/UK nationals, Moroccans and other nationals for the months in question?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9 and 11 to 16 of 2011.

NO. 11 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND – EMPLOYMENT INJURIES

Can Government state what payments were made out of the Statutory Benefits Fund for each month from September 2010 to December 2010 in respect of employment injuries?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9, 10 and 12 to 16 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 12 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND – INSOLVENCY PAYMENTS

Can Government state what payments were made out of the Statutory Benefits Fund for each month from September 2010 to December 2010 arising from the insolvency of any employer?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9 to 11 and 13 to 16 of 2011.

NO. 13 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND – INSOLVENCY PAYMENTS

Can Government provide a breakdown of the payments made from the Statutory Benefits Fund, in respect of employers' insolvency, in June, July and August 2010, showing the amount paid due to redundancy pay obligations and the amounts paid in respect of other sums due to employees?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9 to 12 and 14 to 16 of 2011.

NO. 14 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

DISABILITY ALLOWANCE

Can Government state how many persons were in receipt of a Disability Allowance under the social assistance arrangements to date, since the answer given to Question No. 1210 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown of their age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9 to 13, 15 and 16 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 15 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state what was the number of persons receiving Social Assistance to date, since the answer to Question No. 1209 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown by age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 9 to 14 and 16 of 2011.

NO. 16 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Can Government state how many persons receiving Social Assistance to date, since the answer given to Question No. 1208 of 2010, have been employed since, and how many are still receiving social assistance, giving a monthly breakdown by age and sex?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The monthly income, expenditure and balance of the Statutory Benefits Fund as from September 2010 to December 2010 is set out in the statements that I now hand to the hon Members opposite.

For the purpose of this statement, the contribution from the Consolidated Fund has been calculated pro-rata although the contribution will be effected at the end of the financial year.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 16**Answer to Question No. 9****STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND**

	<u>30-Sep-10</u>	<u>31-Oct-10</u>	<u>30-Nov-10</u>	<u>31-Dec-10</u>
<u>Fund Account -</u>				
<u>Opening Balance</u>	£17,680,859.51	£17,432,461.00	£17,423,179.56	£17,505,485.59
<u>Add</u>				
Contribution from the Consolidated Fund	£625,000.00	£625,000.00	£625,000.00	£625,000.00
Contributions collected (Social Insurance Conts)	£1,526,565.47	£1,456,385.83	£1,601,778.21	£1,239,414.39
Miscellaneous Receipts	£17,020.81	£19,347.00	£4,891.83	£0.00
	£19,849,445.79	£19,533,193.83	£19,654,849.60	£19,369,899.98
<u>Less</u>				
Payments	(£2,416,984.79)	(£2,110,014.27)	(£2,149,364.01)	(£3,553,352.63)
<u>Closing Balance</u>	£17,432,461.00	£17,423,179.56	£17,505,485.59	£15,816,547.35

Contd...

Contd ANSWER TO QUESTION 16

Answer to Question No. 10

The following pensioners were being paid or with entitlement to payment from the Statutory Benefits Fund for the months of September 2010 to December 2010.

	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
Pre-1969 Spanish Pensioners	225	220	219	217
British Pensioners (Gib/UK Nationals)	5876	5879	5946	5958
Moroccan Pensioners	2079	2080	2082	2095
Other Nationalities	748	751	763	770
Total	8928	8930	9010	9040

Contd...

Contd ANSWER TO QUESTION 16

Answer to Question No. 11

Payments from the Statutory Benefits Fund from September 2010 to December 2010 in respect of employment injuries have been as follows :-

STATUTORY BENEFITS FUND - TENTATIVE STATEMENT

	Sep 2010	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010
Payments:				
Employment Injuries	£47,093.26	£49,457.36	£42,348.06	£58,600.08

Answer to Question No. 12

The following payments were made out of the Statutory Benefits Fund from September 2010 to December 2010 in respect of employers' insolvency:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Amount</u>
September 2010	£3,515.25
October 2010	£639.26
November 2010	£0.00
December 2010	£0.00

Contd...

Contd ANSWER TO QUESTION 16

Answer to Question No. 13

The following is a breakdown of the payments made from the Statutory Benefits Fund, in respect of employers' insolvency, in June 2010, July 2010 and August 2010, showing the amount paid due to redundancy pay obligations and the amounts paid in respect of other sums due to employees.

Date	Company	No of Beneficiaries	Redundancy	Annual Leave	Notice	Wages	Total
Jun-10	Company 1 *	1	£1,538.48	£269.22	£1,666.67	£538.44	£4,012.81
Jul-10	Company 1 *	4	£27,178.28	£2,914.08	£8,215.05	£1,247.19	£39,554.60
Aug-10	Company 1 *	2	£10,308.08	£0.00	£2,535.00	£273.00	£13,116.08
	Company 2	5	£28,521.81	£0.00	£7,060.51	£0.00	£35,582.32

* These refer to the same company.

Contd...

Contd ANSWER TO QUESTION 16

Answer to Question No. 14

Persons receiving disability allowance under the social assistance arrangements for the months of September 2010 to December 2010 giving a monthly breakdown of their age and sex.

	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	Total	Males	Females
September 2010	27	31	26	28	16	15	4	147	102	45
October 2010	28	30	27	27	17	14	4	147	101	46
November 2010	27	31	28	28	17	15	3	149	102	47
December 2010	26	32	28	28	17	15	3	149	103	46

Answer to Question No. 15

Persons receiving social assistance for the months of September 2010 to December 2010 by month, age and sex.

	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60	Total	Males	Females
September 2010	103	147	141	156	547	225	322
October 2010	107	145	142	159	553	232	321
November 2010	105	144	142	157	548	229	319
December 2010	108	146	140	157	551	231	320

Contd...

Contd ANSWER TO QUESTION 16

Answer to Question No. 16

Persons in receipt of social assistance for the months of September 2010 to December 2010.

	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60	Total	Males	Females
September 2010	103	147	141	156	547	225	322
October 2010	107	145	142	159	553	232	321
November 2010	105	144	142	157	548	229	319
December 2010	108	146	140	157	551	231	320
As at 7 January 2011	110	149	142	157	558	238	320

Persons employed during the months of September 2010 to December 2010.

	18/25	26/35	36/45	46/60	Total	Males	Females
September 2010	2	0	1	0	3	3	0
October 2010	3	1	1	0	5	2	3
November 2010	2	3	0	1	6	5	1
December 2010	0	1	1	0	2	1	1

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 9 TO 16 OF 2011

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, just for the sake of Hansard, the information provided actually relates not just to the questions relating to the Statutory Benefits Fund but also the questions related to the Social Assistance Fund. They are included there. It is just that that was not clear from the oral answer given.

HON J J BOSSANO:

On the payments from the Statutory Benefits Fund, the figure for December is ...

HON J J NETTO:

Is the hon Member referring to Question No. 9 of 2011?

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am indeed, yes, the figure for December, which is 50 per cent higher than for the average of the previous months. I know that it tends to be higher in December but is this a bigger jump than normal? It seems to me to be on the face of it. I do not have the figures for previous years.

HON J J NETTO:

If the hon Member is referring to the payments made.

HON J J BOSSANO:

That is right. The three and a half million pounds.

HON J J NETTO:

Yes. It is, obviously, as you say much higher than that ... Yes, only for the simple reason that the Government offices in December were closed, like all other Government offices, and many of the payments made in January were actually paid in December. So, obviously, when one then comes to see the January figure, it has taken that into account.

NO. 17 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCIES FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

What was the final number of persons who applied for the two vacant posts of Social Worker in the Care Agency and how many were Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 18 to 22 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 18 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCIES FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

Can Government say whether the two vacant posts of Social Worker in the Care Agency have now been filled and whether the successful applicants were Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question No. 17 and 19 to 22 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 19 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCY FOR SOCIAL WORKER

Can Government say how many persons applied for the post of Out of Hours Social Worker, which was advertised on 4th October with a closing date of 15th October, how many posts were vacant, how many applicants were Gibraltarian, has anyone been selected for the post and is the successful applicant a Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 17, 18 and 20 to 22 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 20 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCY FOR PERSONAL SECRETARY

Can Government say how many persons applied for the post of Personal Secretary in the Care Agency, that was advertised on 3rd December 2010 with a closing date of 10th December 2010, how many were Gibraltarian, has anyone been selected for the post and was the successful applicant Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 16 to 19, 21 and 22 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 21 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCY FOR COOK

Can Government say how many persons have applied for the post of Cook in the Care Agency, which was advertised on 17th November 2010 with a closing date of 26th November 2010, how many posts were available, how many applicants were Gibraltarian, has anyone been selected for the post and is the successful applicant a Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 16 to 20 and 22 of 2011.

NO. 22 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

CARE AGENCY – VACANCIES FOR CARE WORKERS

Can Government say how many persons applied for the following posts in the Care Agency, that were advertised on 8th December 2010 with a closing date of 22nd December 2010, how many were Gibraltarian, has anyone been selected for the posts and were the successful applicants Gibraltarian:

- (a) Care Worker – Rehabilitation Services, 40 hours per week;
- (b) Care Worker – Disabilities, 37.5 hours per week?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answer to Question Nos. 17 and 18 of 2011

A total number of eight applications were received for Social Worker posts, five of which were UK British and three were Gibraltarian. The successful applicants were not Gibraltarian.

Answer to Question No. 19 of 2011

There was one applicant who did not meet the requirements.

The Care Agency is re-advertising shortly.

Answer to Question No. 20 of 2011

Twenty-four applications were received for the post of Personal Secretary. Seventeen applicants were Gibraltarian, six were UK British and one was Spanish.

Arrangements are being made for interviews to take place shortly. In fact, I can tell the hon Member that the interviews will be taking place tomorrow Friday and on Monday. So, hopefully, by the end of the week whoever is selected should be in post.

Contd ...

Answer to Question No. 21 of 2011

There were nine applicants for the post of Cook, five of whom were Gibraltarian, two were Spanish, one was UK British and one was Moroccan. The successful applicant is a Gibraltarian.

Answer to Question No. 22 of 2011

(a) Care Worker – Rehabilitation Services, 40 hours per week

There were nine applicants for this post, six of whom were Gibraltarian. The successful applicant was a Gibraltarian. However, following the offer of appointment, the applicant declined to accept and the Care Agency proceeded to make an offer to a UK British national.

(b) Care Worker – Disabilities, 37.5 hours per week

There were 18 applicants for this post, five of whom were Gibraltarian, five British and eight Spanish. Interviews will be carried out shortly.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 17 TO 22 OF 2011

HON N F COSTA:

In respect of Question No. 22 of 2011, the hon Member has said that the offer that was first made to the successful Gibraltar applicant, in respect of Rehabilitation Services - Care Worker, was then made to a UK applicant because the Gibraltar applicant declined. Can the Minister say whether that was accepted by the UK applicant?

HON J J NETTO:

Well, I do not have that information but my assumption is that the UK national has accepted the offer.

ORAL

NO. 23 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

**ST BERNADETTE'S ADULT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CENTRE – VACANCY
FOR ASSISTANT MANAGER**

Can Government say when the interviews were conducted with the eight applicants for the post of Assistant Manager at St Bernadette's Occupational Therapy Centre and confirm whether anyone has been selected for the post and whether the successful applicant is a Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Interviews took place on the 8th October 2010.

The applicant selected for this post is a Gibraltarian and the offer of appointment has been made.

NO. 24 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MINIMUM INCOME GUARANTEE

Can Government now confirm whether the current rates of Minimum Income Guarantee were introduced with effect from the 1st June 2010 or the 1st April?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 25 to 27 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 25 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MINIMUM INCOME GUARANTEE

Can Government provide a breakdown of the number of pensioners who have been granted the Minimum Income Guarantee, showing the number receiving the single and married rates in bands of £5 to the full amount, since the answer to Question No. 1215 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 24, 26 and 27 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 26 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MINIMUM INCOME GUARANTEE

Can Government provide a breakdown of the number of pensioners in receipt of the Minimum Income Guarantee, showing the number receiving the single and married rates in bands of £5 to the full amount, as at the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answered together with Question Nos. 24, 25 and 27 of 2011.

NO. 27 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MINIMUM INCOME GUARANTEE

Can Government confirm what adjustment was made to the excluded income level of single and married couple pensioners, in the context of eligibility to the current rates of Minimum Income Guarantee?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Answer to Question No. 24 of 2011

The current rates of Minimum Income Guarantee were introduced with effect from 1st July 2010 as stated to the hon Member, the Leader of the Opposition, in my letter dated 14th October 2010.

Answer to Question Nos. 25 and 26 of 2011

I will now hand the hon Member the lists giving the information requested.

Answer to Question No. 27 of 2011

No adjustment has been made to the excluded income level of single and married couple pensioners, in the context of eligibility to the current rates of Minimum Income Guarantee.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 27 of 2011

ANSWER TO QUESTION 25

The number of persons who have been granted the Minimum Income Guarantee, receiving the single and married couple rates in bands of £5 up to the full amount during the period September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

Amount	Singles	Couples	Total
£161 - £165	0	0	0
£156 - £160	0	0	0
£151 - £155	0	0	0
£146 - £150	0	0	0
£141 - £145	0	0	0
£136 - £140	0	0	0
£131 - £135	0	0	0
£126 - £130	0	0	0
£121 - £125	2	0	2
£116 - £120	0	0	0
£111 - £115	0	0	0
£106 - £110	0	0	0
£101 - £105	0	0	0
£96 - £100	0	0	0
£91 - £95	0	0	0
£86 - £90	0	0	0
£81 - £85	0	0	0
£76 - £80	0	0	0
£71 - £75	0	0	0
£66 - £70	0	0	0
£61 - £65	0	1	1
£56 - £60	1	0	1
£51 - £55	0	1	1
£46 - £50	1	0	1
£41 - £45	0	0	0
£36 - £40	0	0	0
£31 - £35	0	0	0
£26 - £30	0	0	0
£21 - £25	1	0	1
£16 - £20	2	0	2
£11 - £15	0	0	0
£6 - £10	0	2	2
£0- £5	0	0	0
Totals	7	4	11

Cont'...

Cont'd ANSWER TO QUESTION 27 of 2011

ANSWER TO QUESTION 26

The number of pensioners in receipt of the Minimum Income Guarantee, receiving the single and married couple rates in bands of £5 up to the full amount as at the end of September 2010 is as follows:

Amount	Singles	Couples	Total
£161 – £165	0	2	2
£156 - £160	0	0	0
£151 - £155	0	0	0
£146 - £150	0	0	0
£141 - £145	0	0	0
£136 - £140	0	0	0
£131 - £135	0	0	0
£126 - £130	0	0	0
£121 - £125	30	0	30
£116 - £120	3	0	3
£111 - £115	0	0	0
£106 - £110	0	0	0
£101 - £105	0	0	0
£96 - £100	0	1	1
£91 - £95	0	1	1
£86 - £90	0	0	0
£81 - £85	0	0	0
£76 - £80	15	0	15
£71 - £75	0	0	0
£66 - £70	2	0	2
£61 - £65	0	4	4
£56 - £60	12	1	13
£51 - £55	11	1	12
£46 - £50	11	2	13
£41 - £45	19	0	19
£36 - £40	9	2	10
£31 - £35	15	1	16
£26 - £30	20	0	20
£21 - £25	28	1	29
£16 - £20	215	3	218
£11 - £15	12	3	15
£6 - £10	15	8	23
£0- £5	10	0	10
Totals	427	29	456

ORAL

NO. 28 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CHILDREN IN CARE

Can Government state how many children were in care in September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR FAMILY, YOUTH & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

There were 34 children in care, of which 15 were in residential care and 19 in the community with a Care Order.

NO. 29 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – WAITING LISTS

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

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 30 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 30 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS ON THE PRE-LIST

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

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 and 31 to 42 of 2011.

NO. 31 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – OVERCROWDING POINTS DISALLOWED

Can Government state, in respect of applicants already on the Housing List, for each category of list and for each month since Question No. 1345 of 2010, how many applicants had overcrowding points disallowed because other people who had sold their homes moved in with them?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29, 30 and 32 to 42 of 2011.

NO. 32 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – OVERCROWDING POINTS ALLOWED

Can Government state, in respect of applicants already on the Housing List, for each category of list and for each month since Question No. 1346 of 2010, how many applicants were allowed points for overcrowding when other people who had sold their homes moved in with them?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 31 and 33 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 33 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – SOCIAL CATEGORY “A” LIST

Can Government state how many persons are currently on the Housing Social Category “A” List?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 32 and 34 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 34 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – SOCIAL CATEGORY “A” LIST

With reference to persons currently on the Housing Social Category “A” List, can Government provide the dates when each of these persons joined the list?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 33 and 35 to 42 of 2011.

NO. 35 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS REMOVED FROM SOCIAL CATEGORY “A” LIST

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1324 of 2010, can Government state how many applicants, since that date, have been removed from the Housing Social Category “A” List because a suitable dwelling has been found for them and give the dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 34 and 36 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 36 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS PLACED ON SOCIAL CATEGORY “A” LIST

Since the answer given to Question No. 1325 of 2010, can Government state how many applicants have been placed on the Housing Social Category “A” List and give the dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 35 and 37 to 42 of 2011.

NO. 37 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – HOMELESS PERSONS

Can Government state how many cases of applications for housing from homeless persons are currently being dealt with by the Housing Department?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 36 and 38 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 38 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED APPLICANTS ON THE HOUSING WAITING LIST

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 AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 37 and 39 to 42 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 39 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED APPLICANTS ON THE HOUSING WAITING LIST

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

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 38 and 40 to 42 of 2011.

NO. 40 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS ON MEDICAL LISTS

With reference to persons currently on the Housing Medical Lists “A+”, “A”, “B” and “C”, can Government provide the number of applicants on each category grouped by date of joining the list?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 39, 41 and 42 of 2011.

NO. 41 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS PLACED ON MEDICAL LISTS

Since the answer to Question No. 1329 of 2010, can Government state how many applicants have been placed on the various Medical Housing Lists “A+”, “A”, “B” and “C” and give the dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 29 to 40 and 42 of 2011.

NO. 42 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICANTS REMOVED FROM MEDICAL LISTS

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1330 of 2010, can Government state how many applicants, since that date, have been removed from the various Medical Housing Lists “A+”, “A”, “B” and “C” because a suitable dwelling has been found for them and give the dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

All the questions, as posed, seek to elicit information relating specifically to waiting lists. They are presented in schedule format as much for the hon Member’s benefit as anyone else’s, unless he were to prefer to jot down seven pages worth of statistical information. On that basis, I will now hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 42

Answer to Question 29

There are currently 1301 applicants on the Housing Waiting List as follows:

1RKB	-	762
2RKB	-	68
3RKB	-	272
4RKB	-	180
5RKB	-	19
6RKB	-	Nil

Answer to Question 30

There are currently 285 applicants on the Housing Pre-list as follows:

1RKB	-	207
2RKB	-	11
3RKB	-	46
4RKB	-	17
5RKB	-	4
6RKB	-	Nil

Answer to Question 31

No applicant had overcrowding points disallowed for the reason stated in Question 31.

Answer to Question 32

No applicant was allowed points for the reason stated in Question 32.

Answer to Question 33

There are currently 68 persons on the Housing Social Category 'A' List.

Answer to Question 34

The dates when each of the persons currently on the Housing Social Category 'A' List joined the List, is as follows:

April 2006	-	1
November 2006	-	1
December 2006	-	1
November 2007	-	1
December 2007	-	1
February 2008	-	1
March 2008	-	2
April 2008	-	1
May 2008	-	1
June 2008	-	2
October 2008	-	2

Cont'd....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 42

Cont Answer to Question 34

December 2008	-	3
March 2009	-	2
April 2009	-	1
September 2009	-	3
October 2009	-	1
December 2009	-	1
January 2010	-	2
February 2010	-	3
March 2010	-	1
April 2010	-	1
May 2010	-	5
June 2010	-	9
July 2010	-	1
August 2010	-	2
September 2010	-	1
October 2010	-	3
November 2010	-	12
December 2010	-	3

Answer to Question 35

A total of 39 applicants have been removed from the Social 'A' Category List, as follows:

September 2010 (since 24.9.10)	-	3
October 2010	-	5
November 2010	-	17
December 2010	-	10
January 2011 (up to 7.1.11)	-	4

Answer to Question 36

A total of 18 applicants have been placed on the Social 'A' List, as follows:

September 2010 (since 24.9.10)	-	Nil
October 2010	-	3
November 2010	-	12
December 2010	-	3
January 2011 (up to 7.1.11)	-	Nil

Answer to Question 37

A total of 23 applicants for housing from homeless persons are currently being dealt with.

Answer to Question 38

A total of 66 applicants on the Housing Waiting List, to date, are medically recommended, as follows:

Cont'd....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 42

Cont'd Answer to Question 38

A+	-	4
A	-	19
B	-	19
C	-	24

Answer to Question 39

A total of 121 applicants, to date, are medically recommended, apart from those who are described as applicants on the Housing Waiting List, as follows:

A+	-	20
A	-	41
B	-	26
C	-	34

Answer to Question 40

A total of 187 persons are currently on the Housing Medical Lists, as follows:

Medical A+	
August 2006	1
September 2006	1
October 2006	1
July 2007	1
September 2007	1
May 2008	1
July 2008	1
April 2009	1
May 2009	1
June 2010	4
July 2010	4
September 2010	3
October 2010	3
November 2010	1

Medical A	
March 1997	1
March 1999	1
March 2001	1
October 2002	1
January 2003	1
June 2003	1
March 2004	2
February 2005	1
March 2005	1
June 2005	1
July 2005	1
November 2005	1
December 2005	2

Cont'd

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 42

Cont'd Answer to Question 40

March 2006	2
April 2006	2
August 2006	1
September 2006	1
January 2007	1
July 2007	1
February 2008	1
April 2008	4
July 2008	3
October 2008	1
February 2009	2
May 2009	1
September 2009	5
November 2009	1
December 2009	1
February 2010	1
March 2010	2
April 2010	1
May 2010	1
June 2010	1
July 2010	3
September 2010	6
October 2010	2
November 2010	1

Medical B	
September 1995	1
January 1996	1
February 1998	1
May 1999	1
November 1999	2
October 2004	1
February 2005	2
March 2005	1
September 2005	1
October 2005	1
March 2006	3
April 2006	1
September 2006	1
June 2007	1
September 2007	1
December 2007	2
February 2008	2
April 2008	1
December 2008	1
July 2009	1
September 2009	2
October 2009	1
December 2009	1

Cond't....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 42**Cont'd Answer to Question 40**

February 2010	1
March 2010	3
April 2010	1
June 2010	3
September 2010	5
October 2010	1
November 2010	1
Medical C	
January 1996	1
January 1997	1
November 1998	4
January 1999	2
March 1999	2
May 1999	2
May 2000	1
October 2000	1
March 2001	2
May 2001	1
August 2003	1
September 2003	1
January 2004	1
October 2004	1
February 2005	1
June 2005	1
October 2005	1
December 2005	1
January 2006	1
March 2006	1
April 2006	3
September 2006	1
October 2006	1
March 2007	1
June 2007	1
December 2007	4
February 2008	1
April 2008	2
July 2008	1
September 2009	2
October 2009	1
December 2009	1
February 2010	1
March 2010	1
August 2010	1
September 2010	4
October 2010	3
November 2010	2

Cond't....

ANSWER TO QUESTION 42

Answer to Question 41

Since the answer given to Question No. 1329 of 2010, 14 applicants have been placed on the various medical housing lists as follows:

Date	A+	A	B	C
September 2010 (since 24.9.10)	-	-	-	-
October 2010	3	2	1	3
November 2010	1	1	1	2
December 2010	-	-	-	-
January 2011 (up to 7.1.11)	-	-	-	-

Answer to Question 42

Since the answer given to Question No. 1330 of 2010, 13 applicants have been removed from the various medical housing lists, as follows:

Date	A+	A	B	C
September 2010 (since 24.9.10)	-	-	-	-
October 2010	2	-	1	2
November 2010	1	2	1	2
December 2010	-	2	-	-
January 2011 (up to 7.1.11)	-	-	-	-

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 29 TO 42 OF 2010

HON C A BRUZON:

Mr Speaker, would you allow me to make a short comment? It is in the supplementary question based on the comment the Minister has made.

MR SPEAKER:

I am not sure I should allow a comment. It should be really a supplementary. Perhaps the hon Member can phrase his comments and do a question that might get around ...

HON C A BRUZON:

No, it is okay. No. If it is not allowed by you, I will not do it but I will just thank the Minister for the information but it is not the ideal way of doing things. If I were to ask a simple question with a simple answer and he would answer them, one or two at a time, then it would be easier for me to jot them down and people would hear them. Sorry, I did make the comment at the end. I am sorry Mr Speaker.

HON F J VINET:

Mr Speaker, may I just make a short comment?

MR SPEAKER:

I am not sure..., having ruled a comment out of order. Is it relevant to the answer?

HON F J VINET:

Yes. The hon Member has asked why it is that I fail to provide information on a one by one basis to enable him to jot down what the answer may be and the fact is, for example, just in answer to one question ... In answer to Question No. 40 of 2011, there are three pages worth of numbers and figures and details which ... I can stand up and read them out but I think it is far more helpful to him if they are provided in written format.

HON C A BRUZON:

Mr Speaker, that is pretty obvious. I do not mind if it is an endless list of statistics. But when there is a simple answer to a simple question, then it is a completely different matter.

ORAL

NO. 43 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – DWELLINGS FOR REFURBISHMENT BY BUILDINGS AND WORKS

Can Government state how many Government dwellings are currently in the hands of Buildings and Works for refurbishment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 44 and 45 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 44 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – JOBS REQUIRING ATTENTION OF BUILDINGS AND WORKS

Can Government state how many jobs are currently listed as requiring the attention of Buildings and Works within the Housing Department?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 43 and 45 of 2011.

NO. 45 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – TENANTS REQUIRING WORK IN THEIR HOMES

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 AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 43 of 2011

There are 21 dwellings currently in the hands of Buildings and Works for refurbishment.

Answer to Question No. 44 of 2011

As of the 7th January 2011, a total of 4,088 jobs were listed as requiring the attention of Buildings and Works.

Answer to Question No. 45 of 2011

As of the 7th January 2011, a total of 1,586 tenants were listed as requiring work to be done in their homes.

NO. 46 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have applied for rent relief, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1334 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 47 to 50 of 2011.

NO. 47 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have received rent relief, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1335 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 46 and 48 to 50 of 2011.

NO. 48 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households were on full rent relief, to date, since the answer given to Question No. 1336 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 46, 47, 49 and 50 of 2011.

NO. 49 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households on rent relief have had this benefit terminated, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1337 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 46 to 48 and 50 of 2011.

NO. 50 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – RENT RELIEF

Can Government state how many households have had the level of rent relief reduced, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1338 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

All the statistical information relating to rent relief has been provided in schedule format.

Answer to Question Nos. 46 to 50 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 46 of 2011

The number of households that have applied for Rent Relief, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1334 of 2010, is as follows:

SEPTEMBER (w.e.f. 23/09/10)	-	0
OCTOBER	-	8 (7 active)
NOVEMBER	-	9 (7 active)
DECEMBER	-	1 active
JANUARY (up to 07/01/11)	-	0

Answer to Question No. 47 of 2011

The number of households that have received Rent Relief, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1335 of 2010, is as follows:

SEPTEMBER (w.e.f. 23/09/10)	-	643
OCTOBER	-	670
NOVEMBER	-	666
DECEMBER	-	643
JANUARY (up to 07/01/11)	-	588

Answer to Question No. 48 of 2011

The number of households that were on full Rent Relief, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1336 of 2010, is as follows:

SEPTEMBER (w.e.f. 23/09/10)	-	77
OCTOBER	-	75
NOVEMBER	-	74
DECEMBER	-	71
JANUARY (up to 07/01/11)	-	58

Answer to Question No. 49 of 2011

The number of households on Rent Relief that have had this benefit terminated, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1337 of 2010, is as follows:

SEPTEMBER (w.e.f. 23/09/10)	-	3
OCTOBER	-	14
NOVEMBER	-	12
DECEMBER	-	15
JANUARY (up to 07/01/11)	-	39

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 46 to 50 of 2011.

Answer to Question No. 50 of 2011

The number of households that have had the level of Rent Relief reduced, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1338 of 2010, is as follows:

SEPTEMBER (w.e.f. 23/09/10)	-	11
OCTOBER	-	10
NOVEMBER	-	8
DECEMBER	-	13
JANUARY (up to 07/01/11)	-	9

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 46 TO 50 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In Question No. 46 of 2011 where it says 'active' in brackets, does that mean that ... In Question No. 46 of 2011, for example, where it says there were eight who applied and seven are active. What does it mean, that a decision has not been taken or that seven have been given?

HON F J VINET:

We are actually giving out, in a way, more information than is being requested. For example, in October there were eight households who applied for rent relief. Seven 'active' simply means that seven were approved.

NO. 51 OF 2011**THE HON C A BRUZON****HOUSING – ARREARS OF RENT AGREEMENTS**

Can Government state how many tenants have entered into agreements to pay arrears of rent, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1339 of 2010, giving a monthly breakdown, and what is the total of arrears covered by such agreements?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The hon Member will be happy to learn that I am reading out the information.

The total number of tenants that have entered into agreements to pay arrears of rent is 16.

The monthly breakdown and total of arrears covered by such agreements is as follows:

	Total Agreements	Amount
September (as from 23.09.10)	2	£ 5505.87
October 2010	5	£11062.20
November 2010	7	£19125.85
December 2010	Nil	Nil
January 2011 (up to 06.01.11)	2	<u>£ 2923.75</u>
		<u>£38617.67</u>

NO. 52 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – PRE-WAR UNITS ALLOCATED

Can Government state how many pre-war housing units have been allocated, to date, since the answer given to Question No. 1340 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 53 to 55 of 2011.

NO. 53 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – POST-WAR UNITS ALLOCATED

Can Government state how many post-war housing units have been allocated to social cases since the answer given to Question No. 1341 of 2010, providing a monthly breakdown?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 52, 54 and 55 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 54 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – FLATS ALLOCATED

Can Government state how many Government flats have been allocated to applicants by the Housing Authority on the advice of the Housing Allocation Committee, since Question No. 1342 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 52, 53 and 55 of 2011.

NO. 55 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – FLATS ALLOCATED

Can Government state how many Government flats have been allocated to applicants by the Housing Authority, other than on the advice of the Housing Allocation Committee, since Question No. 1343 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 52 of 2011

A total of five pre-war housing units have been allocated.

Answer to Question No. 53 of 2011

A grand total of 38 post-war housing units have been allocated to applicants on the social list, as follows:

September 2010 (since 24.09.10)	-	3
October 2010	-	5
November 2010	-	16
December 2010	-	10
January 2011 (up to 07.01.11)	-	4

Answer to Question No. 54 of 2011

A total of 80 flats have been allocated by the Housing Authority on the advice of the Housing Allocation Committee.

Answer to Question No. 55 of 2011

None. All the flats have been allocated on the advice of the Housing Allocation Committee.

NO. 56 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – NEW GOVERNMENT RENTAL ESTATE

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1344 of 2010, how many of the 490 applicants, who received letters of allocation in the proposed new Government Rental Estate, have since been offered an existing Government flat and how many have accepted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

A total of 29 applicants have been offered an existing Government flat of which 13 have accepted.

NO. 57 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – REINSTATEMENTS INTO HOUSING WAITING LISTS

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1347 of 2010, can Government state how many persons, if any, have in fact been re-instated in the Housing Waiting Lists because of a genuine inability to complete the purchase within any of the Government's home ownership schemes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 58 and 59 of 2011.

NO. 58 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED

Can Government state how many applicants for housing were accepted because in the judgement of the Housing Allocation Committee the sale was necessary, giving a breakdown by month since the answer given to Question No. 1348 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 57 and 59 of 2011.

NO. 59 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – APPLICATIONS REJECTED

Can Government state how many applicants for housing were rejected on the grounds that they were home owners who had chosen to sell their homes, giving a breakdown by month since the answer to Question No. 1349 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 57 of 2011

A total of six applicants have been re-instated.

Answer to Question No. 58 of 2011

A total of 11 applicants were accepted, as follows:

September 2010 (since 24.09.10)	-	Nil
October 2010	-	6
November 2010	-	5
December 2010	-	Nil
January 2011 (up to 07.01.11)	-	Nil

Answer to Question No. 59 of 2011

No applicant has been rejected for the reason stated in Question No. 59 of 2011.

NO. 60 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ANONYMOUS PHONE CALLS

Can Government state, since they introduced the policy of inviting anonymous phone calls on the non-use of Government rented dwellings:

- (a) how many phone calls have been received;
- (b) in how many cases was the information received correct,

and provide a breakdown since the answer to Question No. 1350 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 61 of 2011.

NO. 61 OF 2011**THE HON C A BRUZON****HOUSING – REPOSSESSED FLATS**

Can Government state how many Government flats have been repossessed, to date, since the answer given to Question No. 1351 of 2010?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS****Answer to Question No. 60 of 2011**

- (a) 205 phone calls have been received.
- (b) 93 cases were found to be correct.

The breakdown is as follows:

Month	Calls	Correct	Incorrect	Pending further investigation
September (as from 24.09.10)	-	-	-	-
October 2010	3	-	2	1
November 2010	1	-	1	-
December 2010	1	-	-	1
January 2011 (up to 07.01.11)	-	-	-	-

Answer to Question No. 61 of 2011

No flats have been repossessed.

ORAL

NO. 62 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

Can Government state how many times the Housing Allocation Committee has met since the answer to Question No. 1352 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Housing Allocation Committee has met on eight occasions.

NO. 63 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING TRIBUNAL

Can Government state how many cases the Housing Tribunal:

- (a) has dealt with and completed;
- (b) is currently dealing with,

since the answer to Question No. 1353 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 64 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 64 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING TRIBUNAL

Since the answer to Question No. 1354 of 2010, how many decisions of the Housing Tribunal requiring action by the Housing Department have not yet been implemented?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 63 of 2011

I am informed by the Secretary of the Housing Tribunal that, since the answer given to Question No. 1353 of 2010, the Tribunal has dealt with and completed six cases and is currently dealing with 32 cases.

Answer to Question No. 64 of 2011

There are no decisions of the Housing Tribunal requiring action by the Housing Department.

ORAL

NO. 65 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – LIFT CONTRACT WITH OTIS

Since the answer to Question No. 1356 of 2010, how many times have faults been reported, to date, in connection with the lifts in Government Estates, giving a breakdown by estate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 66 to 68 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 66 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – LIFT CONTRACT WITH OTIS

How many times have the lifts in Government Housing Estates required corrective maintenance/repairs since Question No. 1357 of 2010, giving a breakdown by estate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 65, 67 and 68 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 67 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – LIFT CONTRACT WITH OTIS

How many times have the lifts in Government Housing Estates required preventive maintenance, to date, since the answer to Question No. 1358 of 2010, with a breakdown by estate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 65, 66 and 68 of 2011.

NO. 68 OF 2011**THE HON C A BRUZON****HOUSING – LIFT CONTRACT WITH OTIS**

How many lifts in Government buildings and estates were reported as inoperable over the weekend of 27th and 28th November 2010?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS****Answer to Question No. 65 of 2011**

Since the answer to Question No. 1356 of 2010, a total of 90 faults have been reported, many of these due to their improper use by tenants, I ought to add, as follows:

ESTATE	Faults reported Period 23.09.10 to 07.01.11.
Alameda Estate	24
Penney House	1
Varyl Begg Estate	13
Glacis Estate	36
St John's Court	15
Knight's Court	1

Answer to Question No. 66 of 2011

All of the faults I have just detailed have had the required corrective repairs undertaken.

Answer to Question No. 67 of 2011

All lifts in Government Housing Estates have regular preventative maintenance, as part of the Lift Maintenance Contract.

Answer to Question No. 68 of 2011

Two reports were received relating to faults that occurred during the weekend of the 27th and 28th November 2010.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 65 TO 68 OF 2011

HON C A BRUZON:

On Question No. 68 of 2011. These two reports, can the Minister tell us what buildings they came from or the tenants of which buildings?

HON F J VINET:

Yes. There was one report relating to a lift breakdown at Alameda House and another report to a breakdown at Red Sands House.

NO. 69 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – DECANTING OF GOVERNMENT TENANTS

Since the answer to Question No. 1364 of 2010, how many Government tenants have been decanted to date and what are the reasons in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question No. 70 of 2011.

NO. 70 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – DECANTING OF GOVERNMENT TENANTS

Since the answer to Question No. 1365 of 2010, how many Government tenants, who may have been decanted to date, have appealed the decanting notices and are any such appeals still outstanding?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 69 of 2011

Two tenants have been decanted. One flat required major repairs and the other was found to be beyond economical repair.

Answer to Question No. 70 of 2011

No decanting notices have been issued.

NO. 71 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BISHOP CANILLA HOUSE

Can Government state how many flats are currently empty at Bishop Canilla House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 72 to 74 of 2011.

NO. 72 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALBERT RISSO HOUSE

Can Government state how many flats are currently empty at Albert Risso House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 71, 73 and 74 of 2011.

NO. 73 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALBERT RISSO HOUSE

Can Government state how many of the proposed tenants of Albert Risso House have now moved into their new homes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 71, 72 and 74 of 2011.

NO. 74 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALBERT RISSO HOUSE

Can Government state how many Government flats have now become available for applicants on the Housing Lists as a result of our senior citizens moving into Albert Risso House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 71 of 2011

There is currently one empty flat at Bishop Canilla House.

Answer to Question No. 72 of 2011

Two flats are currently empty at Albert Risso House. These were refused in December 2010.

Answer to Question No. 73 of 2011

Out of a total of 140 flats at Albert Risso House, 138 tenants have signed contracts for their new flats.

Answer to Question No. 74 of 2011

A total of 101 flats have become available for applicants on the Housing Lists as a result of our senior citizens moving into Albert Risso House.

NO. 75 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – WATERPORT TERRACES

Since the answer given to Question No. 1355 of 2010, how many more Government flats have become available because Waterport Terraces purchasers have moved into their new homes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

One flat has become available because Waterport Terraces purchasers have moved into their new homes.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 75 OF 2011

HON C A BRUZON:

Would this bring to a total the 50 flats that I was told some time ago would become available when the 396 purchases of Waterport Terraces moved into their new homes?

HON F J VINET:

I have not been provided with a tally of what the total number may be, so I am unable to give an answer to that.

ORAL

NO. 76 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – CUMBERLAND TERRACES

Can Government state how many Government flats have now become available for applicants on the Housing Lists as a result of purchasers moving into Cumberland Terraces?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

A total of four flats have now become available.

ORAL

NO. 77 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALAMEDA HOUSE

Are Government aware that there is severe water penetration through the roof and walls of Alameda House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 78 to 80 of 2011.

NO. 78 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALAMEDA ESTATE

What plans are there in place to carry out essential repair works in other blocks of Alameda Estate which are also suffering from water penetration?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 77, 79 and 80 of 2011.

NO. 79 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – ALAMEDA HOUSE

Can Government state if the restoration works being envisaged at Alameda House, which has resulted in scaffolding being erected around that section of the building facing the Fire Station, have commenced?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 77, 78 and 80 of 2011.

NO. 80 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – GOVERNOR’S MEADOW HOUSE

Can Government say when it proposes to commence repairs to Governor’s Meadow House?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 77 of 2011

Government neither fully agrees with the premise to Question No. 77 of 2011 nor does it feel that the question is necessary. The premise of the question implies that there is water penetration, severe or otherwise, affecting the entirety of Alameda House and that is not the case. Nor is the question necessary. Government are, of course, and must be aware of varying levels of water penetration at some parts of Alameda House because works are already ongoing in the flats most affected and planned in others.

Answer to Question No. 78 of 2011

The Ministry for Housing is planning extensive refurbishment on all blocks and this has already been completed at Ross House. Major capital works will commence at Governor’s Meadow House within the next few weeks and are scheduled to cost £850,000. This extensive programme will in due course include all of the remaining blocks at Alameda Estate but in addition, Buildings and Works also tackle essential repairs as and when necessary.

Answer to Question No. 79 of 2011

Materials relating to additional refurbishment works at Alameda House As I said, some works have already taken place but materials relating to additional refurbishment works at Alameda House have already been procured and actual works on sites are scheduled to start next week.

Answer to Question No. 80 of 2011

All contractual documentation pertaining to the tendering process of this project is complete and Government are about to nominate a contractor to commence works, which should start very shortly.

NO. 81 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BADO’S BUILDING

Can Government state when the scaffolding at Bado’s Building was first erected?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 82 to 84 of 2011.

NO. 82 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BADO’S BUILDING

What plans and timetable do Government have for progress of the on-going works at Bado’s Building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 81, 83 and 84 of 2011.

NO. 83 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BADO’S BUILDING

Can Government state what is the estimated date of completion of the restoration work being carried out at Bado’s Building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answered together with Question Nos. 81, 82 and 84 of 2011.

NO. 84 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BADO’S BUILDING

Can Government give details of the work now in progress at Bado’s Building, stating what parts of the building are currently being repaired?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Answer to Question No. 81 of 2011

The external scaffolding was erected in August 2010 and works started immediately thereafter.

Answer to Question No. 82 of 2011

The planned works comprise (a) replacement of the south/west roof and the removal of cracked chimney stackings; and (b) repairs to the timber wall panels of the internal patio access corridor.

Answer to Question No. 83 of 2011

Major works are estimated to be completed early this year although ancillary decorative and other minor works will continue until early summer.

Answer to Question No. 84 of 2011

Given that works to the roof have now been completed, repairs are now currently being undertaken to the internal access corridor.

NO. 85 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

CITY FIRE BRIGADE – SMOKE DETECTORS

When will smoke detectors be fitted at the City Fire Brigade's Fire Station in order to ensure that harmful diesel smoke from fire engines is removed from enclosed areas, thereby avoiding a hazard to firemen's health?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Smoke detectors are not required for this purpose. Smoke detectors detect smoke, they do not eliminate fumes.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 85 OF 2011

HON S E LINARES:

Yes, but if you do not know that there are fumes how can you remove them. Would the Minister not agree that at least having smoke detectors would alert the firemen and everybody around about the presence of smoke and, therefore, take action so that the firemen do not get near that smoke, at least?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Smoke detectors do not detect fumes. They detect smoke.

HON S E LINARES:

Then, has the Department looked into whether any detectors of fumes could be placed within the Fire Station in order to detect the fumes that are hazardous to the employees, that is, the firemen there?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No, Mr Speaker, there is no such thing. What I can tell the hon Member is that a physical separation is being installed to separate the actual appliance bay from the rest of the building, through a system of swing doors, which will hopefully seal the

fumes and eliminate, to some extent, the problem that exists and has existed for the last seventy years, actually.

ORAL

NO. 86 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CANCELLED OPERATIONS

Can Government list the dates, since September 2010 inclusive on a monthly basis, in respect of which operations at St Bernard's Hospital needed to be cancelled and state the reason why in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 87 to 89 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 87 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CANCELLED KEYHOLE SURGERY OPERATIONS

Can Government state how many keyhole surgery operations have been cancelled since September 2010 to date, on a monthly basis, and the reasons for the cancellations?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 86, 88 and 89 of 2011.

NO. 88 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – WAITING LISTS FOR OPERATIONS

Can Government say how many people are on the GHA waiting lists for operations at St Bernard's Hospital, with a breakdown by the type of surgical discipline?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 86, 87 and 89 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 89 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – WAITING LISTS FOR OPERATIONS

How long has the person, who has been waiting for longest on the GHA waiting list for a surgical operation, been on that list, with a breakdown by the type of surgical discipline?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 86 to 89 of 2011

I hand the hon Member schedules with the information requested, except in reply to Question No. 88 of 2011 which has already been requested and submitted in written format.

Answer to Question No. 89 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 86 of 2011

Cancellations September 2010

Reason for Cancellation	ENT	Gynaecology	Ophthalmology	Orthopaedics	General Surgery/ Minor	Oral Surgery	Pain Relief	Spinal	Total
Medical Bed availability			4	2	1	1	3	1	12
Per patient	1								1
No show							1		1
No longer required			1	1					2
Out of theatre time			1		1				2
Surgeon sick	4								4
					3				3
Total	5		6	3	5	1	4	1	25

() minor ops

Contd.....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 89

Continued Answer to Question No. 86 of 2011

Cancellations October 2010

Reason for Cancellation	ENT	Gynaecology	Ophthalmology	Orthopaedics	General Surgery/ Minor	Oral Surgery	Pain Relief	Total
Medical Bed availability	2	1	1	3	2 (1)	3		12 (1)
Per patient	1			6	10			17
No show			1					1
No longer required	1		4	2	(2)		5	11 (2)
No surgeon available			1			2		4
					(1)			(1)
Total	4	1	7	11	12 (4)	5	5	49

() minor ops

Contd.....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 89

Continued Answer to Question No. 86 of 2011

Cancellations November 2010

Reason for Cancellation	ENT	Gynaecology	Ophthalmology	Orthopaedics	General Surgery/ Minor	Oral Surgery	Pain Relief	Plastics	Psych	Total
Medical	1		1	1	1		1			5
Bed availability	2			4	5			1		12
Per patient			3	1		1	2			7
No show	3	1		1	(1)	2	2		3	12 (1)
No staff			3							3
No records				1						1
Surgeon sick					5					5
Out of theatre time					1					1
Total	6	1	7	8	12 (1)	3	5	1	3	47

() minor ops

Contd.....

CONT'D ANSWER TO QUESTION 89

Continued Answer to Question No. 86 of 2011

Cancellations December 2010

Reason for Cancellation	ENT	Gynaecology	Ophthalmology	Orthopaedics	General Surgery/ Minor	Oral Surgery	Pain Relief	Spinal	Total
Medical Bed availability	1			1			1		3
Per patient	1		3			1	5		10
No show					1 (1)		4		5 (1)
No longer required				1	(1)				1 (1)
No equipment due to weather	1			1					2
Surgeon sick				2	8				10
No surgeon due to weather								2	2
Total	3		3	5	13 (2)	1	10	2	39

() minor ops

Continued Answer to Question No. 89 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 87 of 2011

Cancellations keyhole surgery

	Bed Availability	Medical
September 2010	-	-
October 2010	3	-
November 2010	2	1
December 2010	1	-

Contd.....

Continued Answer to Question No. 89 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 89 of 2011

Longest on waiting list and reason

	Date listed	Reason
ENT	30/6/09	Personal choice
General Surgery Mr Sene	8/1/09	In process of being identified
General Surgery Mr Grama	6/10/09	Personal choice
Minor ops	2/6/10	Waiting lists for minor ops around 6 months for non urgent cases
Gynaecology Mr White	13/11/09	Awaiting go ahead from patient due to medical reasons
Gynaecology Mrs Winge	16/1/09	Awaiting go ahead from patient due to medical reasons
Ophthalmology	1/7/10	Personal choice
Orthopaedics Mr Ruiz	30/6/10	Awaiting go ahead from patient due to medical reasons
Orthopaedics Mr Boerger	5/5/10	Personal choice
Plastic Surgery	1998	In process of being identified

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 86 TO 89 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Earlier we were given written answers to Question Nos. 86 to 89 of 2011 which I have just finished looking at in respect of the last page. May I be permitted to ask a supplementary on the information in relation to Question No. 89 of 2011?

MR SPEAKER:

Yes.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Which one?

HON G H LICUDI:

Question No. 89 of 2011 which has to do with the longest on waiting list and the reason. There is a table which has been handed to us which sets out the date listed in respect of each category and the reason. I will wait for the hon Member to have it.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes.

HON G H LICUDI:

In two of the cases the reason stated is that it is "in the process of being identified". Can the hon Member explain what that actually means?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I do not know whether I can give a very logical explanation. When I was given this handout, I asked precisely what that meant and it seems to be precisely what it says, that they know that the person who has been longest on the general surgery, for example in this instance, waiting list, has been there for ... They know who it is but they have not been able to identify the reason why. The hon Member will see that there are reasons with every other specialty. For example, someone is waiting to be medically fit in order to subject themselves to an operation. In these two particular instances, they have not been able to identify, yet, why it is that they have been waiting so long and that is the information that I am waiting for and I will certainly pass it on to the hon Gentleman as soon as I have it.

HON G H LICUDI:

In respect of the two cases where that is given as the answer, one of them has been on the waiting list since 8th January 2009. That is for two years and the other one since 1998 ...

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes.

HON G H LICUDI:

Which is a considerable length of time by ... Is it the case that the GHA does not know, in respect of the one that has been on the waiting list for two years, does not know what that person is waiting for?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes. They do know what they are waiting for and they do know what they need. It is just that they have not been able to identify the reason why they have not been done yet. It could be a number of reasons. It could be that that is the time of the waiting list, which is a possibility, and that is the person down the list of the priority of the surgeon. It could be that the person is not medically fit. It could be that the person is no longer interested and that is the reason that they have not yet identified. But the hon Member will note, from the previous question that the Hon Mr Costa asked the last time, that if he compares the same list with that handed out in June 2010, he will note, for example, in the plastic surgery specialty, that at the time I said that the person waiting for longest was waiting since 1996 and now you have an improvement, if you can call it that, of two years.

HON G H LICUDI:

Of 1998?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes.

ORAL

NO. 90 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – MAMMOGRAMS

Can Government say how many persons are waiting for a mammogram under the pilot routine structured mammography service and indicate from what date the person who has been on the list for longest has been waiting?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 91 to 93 of 2011.

NO. 91 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – MAMMOGRAMS

How many women have had mammograms under the routine structured mammography service, on a monthly basis, since the service commenced?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 90, 92 and 93 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 92 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – MAMMOGRAMS

Can Government say how many persons are waiting for a mammogram after being referred by a GP and indicate from what date the person who has been on the list for longest has been waiting?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 90, 91 and 93 of 2011.

NO. 93 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – MAMMOGRAMS**

Can Government say how many persons are currently waiting for the results of a mammogram and for how long has the person who has been waiting for results for longest been waiting?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION****Answer to Question No. 90 of 2011**

There are no patients waiting for a mammogram under the pilot scheme since the scheme finished on 30th November 2010.

Answer to Question No. 91 of 2011

A total of 416 ladies were invited for screening during the pilot stage. A total of 381 examinations were done and 35 did not attend. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

Month	Attended	DNA
Sept 2010	32	0
Oct 2010	206	7
Nov 2010	143	28

Answer to Question No. 92 of 2011

There is no mammography waiting list. Patients who are symptomatic are seen in the Breast Clinic and have immediate access to mammography. All others will be screened through the screening programme within the next 18 months.

Answer to Question No. 93 of 2011

There are no patients waiting for a mammogram result as all mammography examinations have been reported and the results have been sent to the referring doctors.

NO. 94 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – INFORMAL AND FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Can the Minister for Health provide the number of informal and formal complaints lodged against the GHA since September 2010 to date on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 95 and 96 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 95 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SETTLEMENT OF COMPLAINTS/DISPUTES OUT OF COURT

Can Government say how much it has paid out to claimants against the GHA for the settlement of complaints/disputes out of court in the current financial year 2010/2011, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 94 and 96 of 2011.

NO. 96 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – SETTLEMENT OF COMPLAINTS/DISPUTES OUT OF COURT**

Can Government say how many cases of complaints/disputes against the GHA, which involved a payment by the GHA to the complainant to settle the matter out of court, there were in the current financial year 2010/2011, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION****Answer to Question No. 94 of 2011**

Month	Formal	Informal
September 2010	8	11
October 2010	4	6
November 2010	3	9
December 2010	3	6

Answer to Question Nos. 95 and 96 of 2011

There have been nine complaints/disputes which were settled out of court in the financial year 2010/2011, up to January 6th, at a cost of approximately £31,976.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 94 TO 96 OF 2011**HON N F COSTA:**

If we can just go back to Question No. 95 of 2011, at the last session of this House during Question Time I asked this question but in respect of previous years. The hon Member said that she was not yet in a position to be able to give me the information and the question is whether the Department now has information to hand over to me.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I am afraid not, Mr Speaker. As I have said previously, it is a very extensive exercise. What the hon Member will have noted is that we have been able to provide

the information going forward but they are still working on the information going backwards a number of years.

HON N F COSTA:

I understand that that is the answer being provided by the hon Lady opposite in respect of that question which I believe I have asked on two separate occasions and I understand it is a manual exercise because there has been to date no central database under which this information is being collated. But could the hon Member tell me to what date this information has now been collated, in relation to past years, and if they have reached several years of collation of that information? Could she at least provide me with information in respect of those years to which that information has now been obtained? Otherwise, one will have to wait until all of those years [*inaudible*] may be, from what I gather, for some time still.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Well, as I say, he is now getting the information going forward. So, to whatever period he asked the last time is what is being collated.

HON N F COSTA:

I understand that.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I am not aware of how far down the exercise the staff have gone. I can find out and let him know.

HON N F COSTA:

I am grateful.

NO. 97 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – ADVANCE APPOINTMENTS

Can Government say what is the earliest available date at present for someone who telephones asking for an advance appointment with each of the GPs at the Primary Care Centre?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 98 to 101 of 2011.

NO. 98 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – PATIENTS SEEN BY GPs AT PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

Can Government say how many patients were seen by GPs at the Primary Care Centre each month since September 2010 on a monthly basis and indicate how many of those patients were children aged 16 or under?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 97 and 99 to 101 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 99 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – HOUSE CALLS LOGGED BY GPs

Can Government say the actual number of house calls logged by GPs in respect of September 2010 to date on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 97, 98, 100 and 101 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 100 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – NEW PATIENTS REFERRED BY GPs TO CONSULTANTS

Can Government say how many new patients were referred by Practitioners at the Primary Care Centre to Consultants on a monthly basis, since September 2010 inclusive?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 97 to 99 and 101 of 2011.

NO. 101 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – PRESCRIPTION ADVISORY UNIT

Can Government say how many prescriptions have been provided to patients by the Prescription Advisory Unit at the Primary Care Centre on a monthly basis, since September 2010 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 97 of 2011

Dr Robles	3 weeks
Dr Fitzpatrick	5 weeks
Dr Gupta	12 weeks
Dr Galloway	11 weeks
Dr Mena	13 weeks

Dr Chichon	10 weeks
Dr Ferrera	7 weeks
Dr Penrice	4 weeks
Dr Pinto-Ocaña	11 weeks
Dr Pincho	0
Dr Poyatos	8 weeks

Dr Negrette	7 weeks
Dr Nerney	13 weeks
Dr Jones	13 weeks
Dr Montero	6 weeks
Dr Thoppil	6 weeks

May I add, as I normally do, that in addition to the slots on the lists, GP's have five slots a day for patients who attend the Centre for an appointment on the day, which totals an additional 80 slots per day in addition to the lists that I have just read out.

Answer to Question No. 98 of 2011

	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
NO. OF PATIENTS SEEN BY GPs	8124	8046	7672	7091
NO. OF CHILDREN AGED 16 OR UNDER	2415	3012	2284	2272

Answer to Question No. 99 of 2011

	Sept 10	Oct 10	Nov 10	Dec 10
HOUSE CALLS	194	189	242	351

The table shows calls logged while the GP clinics are in session.

Answer to Question No. 100 of 2011

The number of new patients referred per month to Consultants at the GHA by Practitioners at the Primary Care Centre is as follows:-

Date	No. of patients referred
September 2010	430
October 2010	364
November 2010	396
December 2010	416

Answer to Question No. 101 of 2011

September 2010	-	130
October 2010	-	110
November 2010	-	79
December 2010	-	81

ORAL

NO. 102 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SWINE FLU CASES CONFIRMED

How many laboratory tested cases of Swine Flu have been confirmed in Gibraltar to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 103 to 106 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 103 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SWINE FLU HOTLINE

How many calls have been received by the Swine Flu hotline, since September 2010 on a monthly basis?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 102 and 104 to 106 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 104 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SWINE FLU VACCINATIONS ADMINISTERED AT PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

Can Government say how many Swine Flu vaccinations have been administered on a weekly basis at the Primary Care Centre, since September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 102, 103, 105 and 106 of 2011.

NO. 105 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – NUMBER OF PERSONS PRESCRIBED TAMIFLU

How many persons have been medically assessed and tested positive for Influenza A and have been prescribed Tamiflu by the Primary Care Centre since September 2010 on a monthly basis, with a breakdown showing the number of patients and contacts?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 102 to 104 and 106 of 2011.

NO. 106 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED AGAINST SWINE FLU

Can Government give the total number of people who have been vaccinated against Swine Flu, since the process commenced on 16th November?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 102 of 2011

The total to date is 116. There has been no increase since the last time I provided the answer.

Answer to Question No. 103 of 2011

The hotline service ceased in July 2010.

Answer to Question No. 104 of 2011

None. Which is the number of vaccines given at PCC.

Answer to Question No. 105 of 2011

None.

Answer to Question No. 106 of 2011

The total number of people vaccinated since the process commenced on 16th November 2009 is 2882. No increase there either. Since October 2011 the Swine Flu vaccine has been incorporated into the Seasonal Flu vaccination.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 102 TO 106 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Is this the same vaccine that the Government had as part of its stock when it was carrying out its vaccination programme last year?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No. This is the seasonal flu vaccine that is offered every year.

HON G H LICUDI:

Sorry. Perhaps I should clarify. I am talking specifically of Swine Flu.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Right.

HON G H LICUDI:

In relation to Swine Flu vaccines. In relation to anybody that needs the vaccine now, is that person being administered the same vaccine that was available and was administered during the vaccination programme last year?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No. They are being administered ... The seasonal flu vaccine which already contains the Swine Flu vaccine in it, although we do have stocks if needed, if things were to get worse, we do have stocks from the pandemic vaccine that was acquired last year.

HON G H LICUDI:

Does the hon Member know for how long that stock becomes viable? I say that not just from the point of view of whether the vaccine itself has a sell by date, if I could call it that or a best before date, but because there are changes every year and the hon Member will clearly be familiar with vaccines having to change to meet the changes in the disease?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

The actual Swine Flu one dose vaccine which is the one that we administered when we had the epidemic. We still have stocks of those and I do not know what the expiry date is. I can tell the hon Member that it will not expire for some time. I do not know the exact date but we have that as a back-up because, as you say, the seasonal flu vaccine, and I assume next year it will be the same issue, contains the

Swine Flu vaccine itself. So there is no need to use the back up stock unless we run out of the seasonal flu one which we do not predict is going to happen.

NO. 107 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – VACCINATION AGAINST CERVICAL CANCER**

Can Government say how many females were administered the vaccination against cervical cancer since September 2010, with a breakdown by month?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION**

The number of females who were administered the vaccination against cervical cancer since September 2010 is as follows:-

Date	No. of females
September 2010	159
October 2010	3
November 2010	144
December 2010	7

ORAL

NO. 108 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – ZERO TOLERANCE LETTERS

Can Government say how many zero tolerance letters have been issued by or on behalf of the GHA to members of the public, on a monthly basis since September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question No. 109 of 2011.

NO. 109 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – SECURITY IN GHA PREMISES**

Can Government say on how many occasions members of the public have been escorted out of GHA premises by security staff when instances of verbal or threatened physical abuse have been recorded, on a monthly basis since September 2010?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION****Answer to Question No. 108 of 2011**

None.

Answer to Question No. 109 of 2011

Members of the public have been escorted out of the GHA premises by security staff and or RGP following instances of verbal or threatening physical abuse as follows:

MONTH	NUMBER OF OCCASIONS
Sept 2010	6
Oct 2010	0
Nov 2010	2
Dec 2010	0

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 108 AND 109 OF 2011**HON N F COSTA:**

Am I right in assuming that, for instance, the six occasions in September related to different individuals and not ...? I am only asking to see whether there is any repeat pattern of specific persons involved in that?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I would not be able to say. If he is really interested, I will find out for him.

NO. 110 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – HYPERBARIC TREATMENT

Can Government say how many patients have been referred by the GHA for hyperbaric treatment in Spain or elsewhere outside Gibraltar since September 2010, with a breakdown showing the dates, the cost and the centre where the treatment was administered in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 111 and 112 of 2011.

NO. 111 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – HYPERBARIC TREATMENT

Can Government say of the persons referred by the GHA for hyperbaric treatment in Spain or elsewhere outside Gibraltar since September 2010, what was the level of the atmospheric pressure at these centres in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 110 and 112 of 2011.

NO. 112 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER

Has the Minister for Health now been able to establish whether the plans for the setting up of a “Recompression Chamber” on a 24/7 basis, as stated in the Government’s Consultation paper on fishing and diving, envisage the use of any equipment not owned or operated by the GHA?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question Nos. 110 and 111 of 2011

No patients have been referred by the GHA for hyperbaric treatment since September 2010.

Answer to Question No. 112 of 2011

No decision has yet been made on matters contained in the fishing and diving consultation paper.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 110 to 112 OF 2011

HON N F COSTA:

On the last occasion, the Hon Mr Britto said, in respect of a Recompression Chamber, that it was simply a consultation paper and it is only exactly that. That the plans that the Government may develop or not develop, subsequent to that consultation, are plans that are not yet in existence. Has the matter progressed since then? In other words, has there been any active consultation on this point?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No, I am informed, although it does not really fall within my domain, but I am informed that the process is ongoing. The consultation has not yet finalised.

NO. 113 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CONSULTANT ENT SPECIALIST

Can Government say on what date they advertised for a new Consultant ENT Specialist?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 114 to 117 of 2011.

NO. 114 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – NURSE PRACTITIONER

Can Government say how many persons applied for the vacancy of Nurse Practitioner, which was advertised in 30th September 2010 with a closing date of 8th October 2010, how many posts were vacant, how many applicants were Gibraltarian, has anyone been selected for the post and is the successful applicant a Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 113, 115 to 117 of 2011.

NO. 115 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – RADIOGRAPHY ASSISTANT

How many persons applied for the post of Radiography Assistant, which was published on or around 24th September 2010 with a closing date of 5th October 2010, how many posts were vacant, how many applicants were Gibraltarian and has anyone been selected for the post?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 113, 114, 116 and 117 of 2011.

NO. 116 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL OFFICER

Can Government say how many persons have applied for the post of Dental Officer, which was advertised on 19th October 2010 with a closing date of 22nd October 2010, how many positions were vacant, how many applicants were Gibraltarian and has anyone been selected for the post?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 113 to 115 and 117 of 2011.

NO. 117 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SENIOR GYNAECOLOGIST

What reasons did the Senior Gynaecologist give for his decision to terminate his contract with the GHA and when did this take effect?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 113 of 2011

The post of Consultant ENT Specialist was advertised on 6th June 2010.

Answer to Question No. 114 of 2011

Twelve applications were received for one vacant post of Nurse Practitioner. None of the applicants were Gibraltarian. A person has already been selected.

Answer to Question No. 115 of 2011

A total of 25 applications were received for the Radiographer Assistant position, 18 of these were from Gibraltarians, one of whom was appointed to the vacant post.

Answer to Question No. 116 of 2011

Three persons, all Gibraltarians, applied for the Dental Officer post, one of whom was selected.

Answer to Question No. 117 of 2011

The Consultant Gynaecologist did not terminate his contract, but decided not to extend his contract further under the existing terms and conditions. He wishes to continue to work with the GHA on a part-time basis for personal reasons and the GHA is considering his request.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 113 TO 117 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

In answer to Question No. 113 of 2011, which is the date of the advertisement of the Consultant ENT, I understand that the Minister said June 2010. Can the hon Member state when the GHA, the Government had noticed that that post would be available?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I cannot say when the GHA realised that the post was going to become vacant. What I can say is that the previous ENT Associate Specialist retired on the 24th September.

HON G H LICUDI:

Last year?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes. His post was advertised about three months before he retired and I can also add, for their information, that the reason why the recruitment was maybe delayed, if you could call it that, we could have started recruiting before that, was because the Government have now approved a second post of Consultant ENT surgeon and it was obvious that we wanted to recruit the two at the same time as opposed to having to go through the recruitment procedure twice. I am very pleased to say that we have now managed to recruit the second one as well. The one replacing Dr Farrell started in January, in fact a couple of days ago, and the other one is starting in April.

NO. 118 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – LOCUM COVER IN RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

What has been the cost, to date, of providing locum cover in respect of the Radiology Department since the dismissal and suspension, respectively, of each of the Radiologists contracted by the GHA?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

The cost has been £303,639. May I add, by way of information, that this cost was offset, obviously, by the salary of the Radiologist that had been dismissed.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 118 OF 2011

HON N F COSTA:

Could the hon Member confirm that the suspension of one of the Radiologists is still ongoing?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Without wanting to go into a lot of detail, I can confirm that the Public Services Commission took a decision on the second Radiologist which is now in the process of appeal.

HON N F COSTA:

So, without going into a lot of detail, one can safely say that a decision must have been to dismiss, hence the appeal?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

That is correct.

HON G H LICUDI:

So, the position appears to be, subject to that appeal which we will not go into obviously, that there are posts which are vacant and that there is an ongoing locum requirement. Can the hon Member say for how long she expects the locum requirement to continue in respect of posts which exist within the GHA and which need to be filled?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I am pleased to say that we have managed to recruit two Radiologists. We wanted a complement of three or rather we have approved a complement of three. We, obviously, cannot recruit for the third one until the Radiologist who has more recently been dismissed, the issue is settled through appeal. But we have managed to recruit to the other two posts. We now have two permanent Radiologists. We are not using locums at this moment in time.

NO. 119 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government say how many children are on the GHA waiting list for a preventive dental check-up, with a breakdown by the month and year that the person was placed on the list?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 120 to 126 of 2011.

NO. 120 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government confirm that the answer given to Question No. 1277 of 2010 relates to the total number of appointments given to schoolchildren for dental care and not to the number of non-emergency, routine, elective appointments only?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119 and 121 to 126 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 121 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government say, on a monthly basis, of the number of appointments given to schoolchildren in 2010 for dental care with the GHA, how many were for emergency dental treatment and how many were for non-emergency, routine, elective treatment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119, 120 and 122 to 126 of 2011.

NO. 122 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

How many children who have been placed on the GHA dental waiting list have been referred for dental treatment by a practitioner, on a monthly basis, for each month of 2009 and 2010 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119 to 121 and 123 to 126 of 2011.

NO. 123 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government say how many different waiting lists are held by the GHA dental service and provide the name of each list, the date that the person who has been longest on the list has been waiting, and the number of people on each list?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119 to 122 and 124 to 126 of 2011.

NO. 124 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

How many children who have been placed on the GHA dental waiting list have been self-referred for elective dental treatment, on a monthly basis, for each month of 2009 and 2010 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119 to 123, 125 and 126 of 2011.

NO. 125 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government say how many children are (a) registered with the GHA dental service; and (b) been to see a dentist, with a breakdown by school year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 119 to 124 and 126 of 2011.

NO. 126 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DENTAL SERVICE

Can Government say how many people are on each of the GHA's dental waiting lists, showing the date from which the person who has been on the list for longest has been waiting?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 119 of 2011

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

Answer to Question No. 120 of 2011

The numbers given in response to Question No. 1277 of 2010 related to the number of appointments given to school children and to all appointments for dental care both routine and emergency.

Answer to Question No. 121 of 2011

I hand the hon Member a schedule with the information requested, showing all appointments for both routine and emergency. Although I must add, as I said the last time, that the GHA does not have information identifying the distinction between routine and emergency.

Answer to Question No. 122 of 2011

This information is not available, however, the GHA is aware that this is a very small proportion of the patients on the waiting list since the majority are self-referred.

Answer to Question No. 123 of 2011

Name of waiting list	Date person waiting longest	Number of people on list
Children's dentistry	13/02/09	397
Orthodontic	06/01/09	199
Welfare	No waiting list	0
Dentures	No waiting list	0

Answer to Question No. 124 of 2011

This information is not available but, as stated in response to Question No. 123 of 2011, the majority of patients on this waiting list are self-referred.

Answer to Question No. 125 of 2011

This information is not available using the current I.T. system. This could only be obtained by looking at the individual dental records.

Answer to Question No. 126 of 2011

This question is answered in Question No. 123 of 2011.

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 119 to 126 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 119 of 2011

Currently there are 397 children on the waiting list.

Date Added	Number of Patients
February 2009	28
March 2009	12
April 2009	5
May 2009	14
June 2009	17
July 2009	13
August 2009	8
September 2009	12
October 2009	44
November 2009	15
December 2009	25
January 2010	11
February 2010	6
March 2010	1
April 2010	10
May 2010	14
June 2010	52
July 2010	0
August 2010	0
September 2010	17
October 2010	46
November 2010	39
December 2010	11
Total	397

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 119 to 126 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 121 of 2011

The number of appointments given to school children for dental care within the GHA is:

Month	Number of Appointments
January 2010	1,510
February 2010	1,351
March 2010	1,448
April 2010	1,256
May 2010	1,332
June 2010	1,357
July 2010	1,308
August 2010	1,227
September 2010	1,002
October 2010	1,356
November 2010	827
December 2010	801
Total	14,775

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 119 TO 126 OF 2011

HON N F COSTA:

If I may go to the question relating to how many children have been placed on the dental waiting list which have been referred for dental treatment by a practitioner, the hon Lady has said that this is a small proportion.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Well, the answer I have been provided with is that the information is not available. They do not keep records of where the referrals come from but the GHA is aware that this is a very small proportion of the patients on the waiting list since the majority are self-referred.

NO. 127 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – COST OF MRI SCANS IN SPAIN

What amount is the GHA charged for each patient it refers for an MRI scan in Spain?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question No. 128 of 2011.

NO. 128 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – PATIENTS REFERRED TO SPAIN FOR MRI SCANS**

How many patients have been referred for an MRI scan to Spain in each of the following calendar years: 2010 to date, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION****Answer to Question No. 127 of 2011**

The charges for MRIs vary depending on the nature of the examination, whether contrast is used, and the anatomical area being examined. There are, therefore, many different prices ranging from €150 for an MRI of the knee and €323 for an MRI of the breast to €525 for an MRI of the heart with contrast.

Answer to Question No. 128 of 2011

The patients referred for an MRI scan to Spain are as follows:-

Year	No. of Patients Referred
2005	572
2006	614
2007	758
2008	898
2009	1,012
2010	1,288

NO. 129 OF 2011**THE HON N F COSTA****GHA – SPANISH AMBULANCE SERVICE**

How much has been paid to Spanish ambulance service providers in respect of transfers or other work they have done for the GHA, or the Government of Gibraltar, in each financial year since 2005?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION**

The Spanish ambulance service providers in respect of transfers, which is the only thing that they have done for the GHA, is as follows:

FY2005 – 2006	£15,820.06
FY2006 – 2007	£12,300.23
FY2007 – 2008	£13,324.79
FY2008 – 2009	£46,008.22
FY2009 – 2010	£17,850.27
FY2010 – 06/01/11	£ 9,679.04

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 129 OF 2011**HON N F COSTA:**

Yes, in respect of the financial year 2008/2009, there is, I am sure the Minister will agree, quite a substantial jump from the previous year and then the following year. 2007/2008 is £13,000 and 2009/2010 is approximately £17,000 and 2008/2009 is £46,000. Could the Minister provide clarification as to the hike in that year, in the financial year 2008/2009?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes, it involved the use of Helicopteros Sanitarios to transfer critically ill patients to Spain.

HON N F COSTA:

Does the Minister have the actual cost for every time the helicopter is used for transfer?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I have the cost of one occasion in March when it was used. I do not know whether it is always the same cost or not and that was £11,156.

NO. 130 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS LEFT INSIDE PEOPLE’S BODIES

How many instances of surgical instruments being left inside people's bodies after surgery have been reported in the GHA since 1st January 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Mr Speaker, one which is the same one that I alluded to when the hon Member asked the question the last time. I would not want to give the House the impression that this is now becoming the norm. It is the same case that I mentioned the last time he asked.

NO. 131 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – MEDICAL REGISTRATION BOARD

Can Government say how often and on what dates the Medical Registration Board has met since September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question No. 132 of 2011.

NO. 132 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – MEDICAL REGISTRATION BOARD

Can Government say how many complaints have been heard by the Medical Registration Board since September 2010 to date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 131 of 2011

The Medical Registration Board has met once on 14th December 2010.

Answer to Question No. 132 of 2011

No complaints have been heard by the Board since September 2010 to date.

ORAL

NO. 133 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CATERING DEPARTMENT

Can Government say on what date the contract for the supply of meals to the Hospital and other Government establishments expires, and confirm that it is their policy to put this out to tender whenever this happens?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 134 to 137 of 2011.

NO. 134 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CATERING DEPARTMENT

Can Government confirm whether there was a period of time in October 2010 when meals offered to patients at St Bernard's Hospital did not consist of a starter and a main course, and that patients were offered the main course only and, if so, on what days did this happen and for what reason?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 133 and 135 to 137 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 135 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CATERING DEPARTMENT

On what date does the existing contract for the supply of catering services to patients of St Bernard's Hospital and other Government facilities expire and on what date did the said contract commence?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 133, 134, 136 and 137 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 136 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CATERING DEPARTMENT

Can Government say whether they have had discussions with alternative entities, individuals or companies, who have an interest in providing the catering services to St Bernard's Hospital and other Government facilities and, if so, on what dates has this happened and with whom have the discussions been held?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 133 to 135 and 137 of 2011.

NO. 137 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – CATERING DEPARTMENT

Do Government have any plans to set up or support large industrial kitchens in New Harbours or elsewhere for the provision of catering services to St Bernard's Hospital and other Government facilities?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question Nos. 133 and 135 of 2011

The supply of meals to the Hospital and other Government establishments is not contracted out. It is provided by the Gibraltar Health Authority's catering department.

Answer to Question No. 134 of 2011

During some part of the month of October, soup was not provided due to a stock issue with the patented meal distribution system plates.

Answer to Question No. 136 of 2011

I am not aware of any discussions in respect of the provision of catering services.

Answer to Question No. 137 of 2011

No.

ORAL

NO. 138 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DRUGS PRESCRIBED BY GHA FOR SUFFERERS OF ALZHEIMER’S

Will Government confirm that the GHA will prescribe Aricept (Donepezil), Reminyl (Galatamine) and Exelon (Rivastigmine) to people with mild as well as moderate Alzheimer’s and the use of Ebixa (Memantine) for severe sufferers of Alzheimer’s?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 139 to 145 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 139 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government confirm on what date Glaxo Smith Kline suspended further marketing of the drug Rosiglitazone, known as Avandia, because of potential side effects, on what date were the GHA notified of this decision and on what date was action taken locally to contact affected patients?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138 and 140 to 145 of 2011.

NO. 140 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government say how many extra GP appointments, with a breakdown by date and GP, were made available by the GHA to deal with persons taking the drug known as Avandia (Rosiglitazone) from the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138, 139 and 141 to 145 of 2011.

NO. 141 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government say how many extra clinics were established to run for two weeks after the announcement made at the end of September 2010 that persons taking the drug known as Avandia (Rosiglitazone) would have to be assessed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138 to 140 and 142 to 145 of 2011.

NO. 142 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government say whether there were any additional persons, other than the 175 identified by the GHA, who were taking the drug known as Avandia (Rosiglitazone) and who also had to be assessed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138 to 141 and 143 to 145 of 2011.

NO. 143 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government say how many patients were seen by the extra clinics set up by the Diabetic Nurse Specialist to deal with persons who had been taking the drug known as Avandia (Rosiglitazone) for two weeks from the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138 to 142, 144 and 145 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 144 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

How many patients were advised by their GP to discontinue the use of the drug Avandia, following the appointments made for all Avandia (Rosiglitazone) users to see their GP or a Nurse Practitioner at the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answered together with Question Nos. 138 to 143 and 145 of 2011.

NO. 145 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GHA – DISCONTINUANCE OF DRUG KNOWN AS AVANDIA (ROSIGLITAZONE)

Can Government say what alternative medication has been prescribed to patients who were taking the drug known as Avandia (Rosiglitazone), following the assessment of each patient made by the GHA as from the end of September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Answer to Question No. 138 of 2011

The GHA prescribes Aricept (Donepezil), Reminyl (Galamantine), Exelon (Rivastigmine) and Ebixa (Memantine) through the GPMS.

Answer to Question No. 139 of 2011

The GHA was made aware of the situation relating to Avandia directly through Glaxo Smith Klein on 24th September 2010. An emergency planning meeting was called by the GHA's Chief Executive on the same day. At that meeting, the extent of the problem and the urgency of the recall was determined, the transfer protocol was developed and the recall commenced on 25th September, that is, the following day. The transfer of patients on to new medications was initiated on Monday 27th September.

Answer to Question No. 140 of 2011

Sixty eight patients were seen in their own pre-booked appointments by their own GP.

One hundred and twenty eight patients were seen in the special GP clinics set up on October 4th, 5th, 13th, 14th and 15th attended by Dr Robles.

Answer to Question No. 141 of 2011

Eleven extra clinics were provided as extra assessment clinics.

Answer to Question No. 142 of 2011

There were a total of 246 patients identified and recalled which included 94 who were taking the preparation known as Avandamet.

Answer to Question No. 143 of 2011

A total of 50 patients were seen and advised by the Diabetes Nurse Specialist.

Answer to Question No. 144 of 2011

Two hundred and thirty six patients were advised by their GP to discontinue the drug Avandia.

Answer to Question No. 145 of 2011

All patients were individually assessed and had their anti-diabetic treatment revised in light of their long-term blood sugar control. The switching protocol called for different treatments based on the blood sugar control. Those who were stable and within normal control limits were placed on Pioglitazone (Actos).

NO. 146 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA – CONTRACTED EMPLOYEES RECEIVING TAX FREE PAYMENT OF 25 PER CENT OF SALARY

Can Government state whether there are any GHA employees currently on contract terms which provide a tax free payment of 25 per cent of the salary, in lieu of a right to a final salary pension and, if so, is it the policy of the Government to continue to offer such contract terms on new or renewed contracts?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

There are term contract GHA employees who, in lieu of pension, receive a payment equivalent to a 25 per cent tax free gratuity. Should these employees be eligible for an indefinite contract term, they will be offered a new contract under the Provident Fund Pension Scheme.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 145 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

So that means that new contracts that are not indefinite will continue to be given the 25 per cent. Is that the implication of the answer?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

That is correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

How can the Government justify that, given that the 25 per cent is supposed to reflect the value of the final salary scheme and now new entrants are being recruited on the basis of not entering the ... Since the GHA agreement was done, all new entrants, as I understand the statement that was made at the time, no longer are able to join the final salary scheme of the Civil Service. They all go on to the Provident Fund. So, surely, if the 25 per cent is compensation for the other one and the other one is no longer there, how is it that the Government policy is to continue with the 25 per cent? Surely, people would be better off with the 25 per cent than the Provident Fund then?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I think that the way the question has been drafted has had in mind not the people that he is referring to that will now take over as permanent employees filling what was previously Civil Service posts when they become vacant. I think the drafter has been, if I am not mistaken, thinking of contract workers from abroad that come here on a specific term contract for three years, sometimes, normally three year contract. These people, according to the law, after four years, if the contract is renewed, will become entitled to an indefinite contract and these are the people I refer to when I say that they will be offered the Provident No. 2 Pension Fund. If there is any other information that the hon Member wants, he can, maybe, write to me and seek it. I do not have much more information with me at the moment than what I have just described.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, I am trying to establish a policy, not to seek information on this occasion. Other than the beginning of the question, the question initially seeks information to see whether the 25 per cent option still exists and the answer is yes, and the second part is whether the policy is to continue to offer it and the answer is yes.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

For contract workers.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

For contract workers, in some cases, for new contract people on three year contracts that come to do a specific job. For people who take up previous Civil Service vacancies when they become vacant, the 25 per cent gratuity is not available.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I accept that. That only makes it worse, not better, because, then, if the hon Member accepts that the 25 per cent was the assumed value of a final salary pension scheme and the replacement of the final salary pension scheme, which is now on offer for local entrants, is worth less ... Otherwise, if it was costing more, the Government would not have done it. It is quite obvious. The Government have argued in the past that it was not sustainable to maintain the final salary Civil Service Pension Scheme and that that was one of the elements in wanting to move away from it and they have made offers of improved salaries in exchange for people no longer being entitled to a final salary scheme. Now, my point is, if when people came from abroad they were given a 25 per cent payment based on their salary because they did not have the final salary and now nobody has the final salary, how then can you justify still giving 25 per cent when what it was in replacement of is no longer there, for locals?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I do not know whether the actual value of the final pension, whether it is contributory or non-contributory, through the Civil Service pension, or the No. 2, is less value one than the other. What I do know and, obviously, the hon Member knows as well, is that one is now contributory and that is where the savings are coming in for Government where it can be maintained for the future. That does not really, necessarily mean that the value, at the end of the day, is going to be less than the non-contributory scheme.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It has to be less because the reason for replacing the other one is not because the Government want to produce a more expensive pension system but because the Government say that the pension system that has been in existence is too expensive. Well, if the Government ...

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Because people did not contribute towards it.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well not just because people did not contribute but because if it is a final salary ... The pension we get in this House is a final salary which means, effectively, that if I retire tomorrow or the Hon Mr Britto retires tomorrow we get paid in relation to the pay of today and not to what I contributed or might not have contributed in 1972. The rationale that the Government have put, which we do not necessarily agree with but we can understand, is that it is not sustainable to keep on making people eligible to join that and the Government policy has been to try and phase it out in the Civil Service, which has not happened yet, but which they have succeeded this year in doing in the Gibraltar Health Authority.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Surely, they are doing it in the Gibraltar Health Authority on the basis that if one continues paying final salaries in the Gibraltar Health Authority it will become unsustainably, prohibitively expensive. Those are the terms that have been used.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

My point is, if one is paying somebody, when one has the very expensive final salary, a cash element of 25 per cent, in lieu of the final salary, presumably to compensate him for the fact that he was not getting the final salary, and the final salary is no longer available, how can the Government explain that the policy is to continue with the arrangements of the 25 per cent when the final salary, which it compensated for, is no longer available to new entrants. That is why I am questioning whether the policy is to continue with the same system for contract workers, given that the system for non-contract workers has been changed. It has been changed for one and not for the other.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Well, I can tell the hon Member that he can write to me and explain what it is that he is after, an explanation of the policy, and I will certainly write back to him when I have the information. What I can tell him now, standing on my feet, is, as I said before, that people on contract from abroad who are covering a specific role for a three year contract, sometimes less, do get the 25 per cent. People who come in as GHA employees now, as opposed to civil servants, to fill previous Civil Service vacancies are placed on the No. 2 Pension Scheme and do not get a gratuity. It is a long-term thing. The contract officers from abroad only come in for a specific period. Maybe that is not what he is seeking but he can keep on asking and I am going to have to keep on repeating the same because I do not have the information that he is after.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am sorry. I am asking what the policy of the Government is. Now, if the answer is that I need to write to the hon Member to ask what is the policy because she does not know what the policy is ... If she is going to take my letter to somebody else who will explain to her what the policy is, then that is fine. What she cannot do is tell me that I am asking for information, when every time I stand up I have told her the information that was in the original question she has already provided, which is that there are people on 25 per cent. I then ask, is it the policy to continue giving the 25 per cent? She says, it is the policy to continue giving the 25 per cent.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

For contract workers, yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Right, my supplementary, given that that is the policy, is to say, well look, how do you explain rationally a continuation of a policy which is based on the premise, on the assumption ... I can tell the hon Member that when the 25 per cent was introduced the first time in this House, which was way back in 1972, by the then Financial Secretary, it was on the basis, precisely, that contract workers should be given what was the Treasury estimate of the cost to the Government of the final salary. So the Treasury estimate, way back in 1972, was that if the Government had to fund the final salary as they fund the No. 2 Pension Scheme, it would cost 25 per cent of the wage bill. Now, given that the No. 2 Pension Fund cost 10 per cent and given that 25

per cent is bigger than 10 per cent, it is not an unreasonable conclusion that one is more expensive than the other. In any event, the Government have made, on a number of occasions, statements relating to their desire to phase out for new entrants but preserve as a right those who are already there, because obviously they are entitled to it. One cannot change peoples' conditions of work, except when they join, when you can offer different conditions. That they want to phase it out because they consider that not to do so would create an impossible financial burden in the future. Well, it must be obvious that if one is replacing something that one considers to be a very heavy burden for the future, what one is putting in its place must be less of a burden. If it is less of a burden, it is because it costs less. If it costs less, then it is worth less. So therefore, my question is how come that given the fact that they are reducing the cost to local entrants, of providing a pension fund through the No. 2 Pension Provident Fund thing, their policy is, nevertheless, to continue with the previous system which was related to the existing 25 per cent for new entrants on contract. How are the Government able to justify that, which seems to give better treatment to people we recruit from outside than people that we recruit here?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I can only offer the same explanation which I know does not satisfy his needs. What I can add and I do not know whether I have said it before, is that when we bring in contract officers from abroad to do a specific role, or because ours are studying abroad and finishing their degree, or whatever, it is for a fixed three year term contract. I can add that, after the third year, these people will no longer receive the 25 per cent gratuity. Not because it is a policy of the GHA, although it is, but because by law they can no longer be kept on contract and have to be offered an indefinite contract and that is what is happening. Once they reach the three years and they ask for a renewal for another three years, we are telling them, you are no longer entitled to the 25 per cent gratuity, you are no longer entitled to a housing subsidy. Either you stay with us indefinitely or you carry on without all these extra perks. That is what is happening. I do not know whether that sheds any extra light on what the hon Member is seeking.

HON J J BOSSANO:

That is because it is the policy, then, of the Government that after three years people will not be permitted to stay on fixed-term contracts. The fact that people are entitled to move to a permanent contract is a matter for them to choose. It is not that they are ... The law does not require them. The law requires the employer to offer that option but what the hon Member is saying is that it is not being offered as an option but that it is compulsory. Is that correct?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

No, the policy of the GHA at the moment is that after three years ... In the majority of cases, after three years somebody who wants to renew their contract again for another three years or for a year on the same terms is being told, no you cannot. Either you accept an indefinite contract and become part of the Pension No. 2 Fund, if that is what you want, or do not contribute at all, or you retain your salary without the 25 per cent gratuity, without the housing subsidy and without all the other perks that come along with it. It is compulsory. Maybe that has shed some light.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Good.

HON G H LICUDI:

Is the hon Member saying that at the end of that three year contract, it is the choice of the employee whether that employee continues to be engaged by the GHA but they decide to do so on a permanent basis because, as a matter of law, it is going to become an indefinite contract and they would have to lose those perks. So, does it necessarily follow that all contract workers at the end of the three years have the choice of becoming permanent employees?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

By law it would follow that somebody who has been retained after three years for a specific purpose would be entitled to an indefinite contract. I am not going to go into a debate here with the Hon Mr Licudi about employment law because he is the expert and I am not. After four years, people are entitled to an indefinite contract. The policy of the GHA as I have explained ... Am I being listened to or shall I stop speaking?

MR SPEAKER:

I think the hon Member ought to ... Order. I think the hon Member ought to allow the Hon Minister the courtesy of being heard. A question has been asked and it does seem a bit discourteous.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Mr Speaker, given the fact that she repeats the answers all the time, I think we can work it out.

MR SPEAKER:

Well, with respect, a question has been ...

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Well Mr Speaker, with respect, the last answer that I provided seemed to satisfy the Hon Mr Bossano.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It does indeed, yes.

HON G H LICUDI:

But the question, the supplementary that I was asking, is whether it is GHA policy that when a contract worker is engaged, that person, at the end of that temporary employment, fixed-term contract, can then decide that they want to stay on and will carry on. I am not intending to go into a debate on the law. The natural consequence is that if the contract continues it becomes an indefinite contract. But the alternative is for the Government to simply terminate that fixed-term contract and not offer a renewal. If they offer a renewal, then by law it becomes a fixed-term contract. So does it mean that contract workers then have the choice of becoming permanent contract ...?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

Not automatically. It depends on the post that they are filling. As I have explained before, if we have a local Nurse Specialist studying in the UK and we have had to bring in someone on contract to replace that person whilst they study, these people are not going to be offered, after the three years, the choice of having an indefinite contract. They are going to be said bye bye to and off they go. There is the distinction. However, if for some reason that local person does not come back and the person has the contract extended to the four years then, legally, they are entitled to an indefinite contract. Am I right or am I not right? I am asking the expert in employment law.

MR SPEAKER:

I do not think Question Time is a matter of debate on points of law.

HON G H LICUDI:

I was not intending to enter into a debate on employment law but simply, as a matter of policy, whether the Government still wish to retain that right to terminate the fixed-term contract before it actually becomes an indefinite contract and the Hon Minister has confirmed that that is indeed the case.

NO. 147 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GHA – FUNDING OF SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAMMES

Can Government confirm that it is GHA policy not to fund smoking cessation programmes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

The GHA is providing a nurse practitioner led programme for certain selected patients and is prescribing and funding the drug Champix where indicated. The hon Member should not be left with the impression that the drug Champix is a nicotine replacement substitute or anything like that. It is not.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 147 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

As a matter of policy, obviously, the GHA wants to encourage people to stop smoking and, therefore, if people have difficulty, does the GHA not provide support in terms of prescribing medication, or providing patches, or whatever. Is it the policy to do more than just try to persuade them?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

The GHA does not fund nicotine replacement therapy which are the patches, the chewing gum and all that. The current programme, which apparently lasts from six to eight weeks, offers counselling together with this drug Champix which alleviates withdrawal symptoms such as irritability, sleeplessness, et cetera, but I am told that Champix is not a replacement for nicotine. That is the extent of the programme that we currently have.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The hon Member said that it was for selected patients. Is there a criteria that is laid down as to who is offered this and who is not?

HON MRS Y DEL AGUA:

I believe, and he should not hold me 100 per cent to it, that it is for people who have higher risks than others of maybe a stroke, heart disease and really need to stop smoking for medical reasons.

ORAL

NO. 148 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT APPEALS TRIBUNAL

Can Government say how often and on what dates the Development Appeals Tribunal has met since this question was asked at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND CIVIL PROTECTION

The Development Appeals Tribunal has not met since this question was asked at the last Question Time in this Parliament.

NO. 149 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

ART CENTRE COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS

Can Government say how many paintings, which formed part of the former Art Centre collection, have been passed on to the Ministry of Culture for storage?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORTS & LEISURE

Answered together with Question Nos. 150 and 151 of 2011.

NO. 150 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

ART CENTRE COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS

Can Government say where the Ministry for Culture intends to store the Art Centre collection of paintings that was presented to the Mayor last year and where the paintings are being kept at present?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORTS & LEISURE

Answered together with Question Nos. 149 and 151 of 2011.

NO. 151 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

ART CENTRE COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS

Can Government say whether they have any plans to make available exhibition space for the display of the former Art Centre collection of paintings and, if so, where and in what timescale is this expected to happen?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORTS & LEISURE

The Art Centre collection, which has now been passed on to the Ministry for Culture, consists of a total of 28 artworks.

This collection was presented to the people of Gibraltar through the Office of the Mayor. However, since the Mayor is not a legal entity capable of owning these, the paintings are owned by the Government and subject to the Government's Accounting Instructions and Stores Regulations. Government have taken custody of the said artworks and they are now included in the artwork inventory held by the Ministry of Culture.

They are stored in the art storeroom located at the Ministry of Culture's office complex and, at present, we have not yet identified where or when this art collection will be displayed to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 149 TO 151 OF 2011

HON S E LINARES:

In relation to other artworks that the Ministry of Culture has, are these included in the same store room or same place as all the other paintings?

HON E J REYES:

There are a huge amount of artworks on the inventory. Some I know are available in different Government buildings. Let us call them public buildings. In fact, at one stage, Mr Speaker may recall a very casual conversation, I think I was tempting him to take one painting for display in his office because it had a theme to do with this building. Those that are not on display in a Government building where they have been, sort of, recorded in the inventory book that they are now under the charge of

whatever senior officer belongs to that department, are all kept together in this storeroom when they are not being displayed elsewhere.

HON S E LINARES:

Do Government public buildings include the Mackintosh Hall?

HON E J REYES:

Yes.

HON S E LINARES:

Is the Minister aware that some of the paintings from the Mackintosh Hall have gone missing?

HON E J REYES:

I am aware that one painting from the Mackintosh Hall has gone missing and the matter is being investigated.

HON S E LINARES:

Is it being investigated internally by the Ministry of Culture or has it been taken as a criminal issue to the police?

HON E J REYES:

It is being investigated by the Ministry of Culture. I believe, but I cannot confirm it at this particular moment, that there has been contact with the Royal Gibraltar Police, sort of, reporting the matter. I think also the civil servants there had to report the matter to the Principal Auditor and so on. I believe that is the case.

HON S E LINARES:

Is the Ministry of Culture insured for any of these paintings being lost, stolen or damaged?

HON E J REYES:

I am aware there is some insurance, the finer details of which I could look into. If the hon Member wishes to write, I can give him details of the small print in the insurance policy.

HON S E LINARES:

Can the Minister give us an indication as to when all these artworks, that he has stored, will be on exhibition as promised by his Government?

HON E J REYES:

I cannot at this particular stage identify where or when.

HON E J REYES:

I am informed by my senior officers in the Ministry that all the artworks in the Ministry of Culture's inventory are definitely insured. All artworks.

HON S E LINARES:

In view of the information just given to the Minister, will the Ministry of Culture be seeking to make a claim towards the picture that was stolen or taken away?

HON E J REYES:

Logic indicates that way. I will ask the Senior Officer there what dealings we have had with the Principal Auditor, and at what stage. Maybe they are already submitting a claim or not. I will certainly do that and the hon Member can, sort of, chase it up with me any time he wants to in the future.

NO. 152 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

KING'S BASTION LEISURE CENTRE – ELECTRICITY BILL

What is the electricity bill for the months of September 2010 to December 2010 in the King's Bastion Leisure Centre, giving a breakdown by facility which includes the bowling alley, ice-skating rink, restaurant and any other amenities available within the complex?

ANSWER

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

Part of the information requested is contained in a written schedule that I am now making available to the hon Member. However, it is not possible to include information regarding the consumption for the month of December, as the invoices for that particular month have still not been received.

Answer to Question No. 152 of 2011

KING'S BASTION LEISURE CENTRE – ELECTRICITY BILL
AS AT END NOVEMBER 2010

AREA	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	TOTALS
BOWLING ALLEY (PAID BY OPERATOR)	£1,918.50	£1,902.25	£1,817.25	£5,638.00
BOYD'S AND YOUTH BAR, DISCO AND LOUNGE (PAID BY OPERATOR)	£1,928.63	£1,164.63	£ 689.25	£3,782.51
CINEMA (PAID BY OPERATOR)	£ 719.75	£ 556.75	£ 529.25	£1,805.75
ROCK BASTION RESTAURANT AND STORE (PAID BY OPERATOR)	£1,583.00	£1,375.63	£1,292.01	£4,250.64
COMMON AREAS	£2,200.63	£2,090.25	£2,069.00	£6,359.88
ENTERTAINMENT AREAS	£591.13	£560.75	£528.63	£1,680.51
FITNESS GYM	£1,250.13	£ 913.88	£ 691.75	£2,855.76
ICE-SKATING RINK	£10,827.25	£ 7,076.13	£6,258.38	£24,161.76
MANAGEMENT OFFICES	£174.00	£156.13	£137.38	£467.51
RECREATION SUITES	£392.01	£91.50	£35.25	£518.76

NO. 153 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

**HEAD 101 - SUBHEAD 1(i) CULTURE AND HERITAGE: FACILITIES PROJECTS
– BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the Improvement and Development Fund expenditure of £148,000 for 2009/2010 shown at Head 101 - Subhead 1(i) Culture and Heritage: Facilities Projects, showing who the money was paid to, when and for what purpose?

ANSWER

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

The information requested is contained in the written schedule that I now hand over to the hon Member.

Answer to Question No. 153 of 2011

BREAKDOWN FOR IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND EXPENDITURE FOR 2009/2010

HEAD 101

SUBHEAD 1(i) CULTURE AND HERITAGE: FACILITIES PROJECT

a) John Mackintosh Hall Plumbing

3 rd April 2009	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£17,500.00
22 nd June 2009	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£17,500.00
1 st October 2009	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£ 9,032.00
25 th November 2009	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£ 8,590.00
1 st March 2010	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£14,500.00
16 th March 2010	Freddy Plumber Ltd	£ 3,000.00
		<hr/> £70,122.00

The above works required replacing and repairing all plumbing at the Hall.

b) John Mackintosh Hall

12 th January 2010	M E Belilo & Partners	£560.00
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Consultation fees to establish the condition of the terraced roof, fixing of new Theatre seating and other further intrusive investigations.

17 th March 2010	J Balban Electrical Co Ltd	£505.00
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Fault findings and repairs to electrical installations in library after water ingress.

£1,065.00

c) Shrine of Our Lady of Europe

22 nd May 2009	Trustees of the Shrine	£50,000.00
		<hr/> £50,000.00

Government funded the restoration of the original structure of the Shrine as this is considered a Heritage asset to Gibraltar.

d) Gibraltar Caves Project

27 th July 2009	Knightsfield Holdings Ltd	£5,565.00
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Subsistence allowance payable to archaeologists for the above project.

12 th August 2009	Knightsfield Holdings Ltd	£ 224.86
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Excavation equipment required for the above project.

Cont ...

Continued Answer to Question No. 153 of 2011

28 th August 2009	Knightsfield Holdings Ltd	£ 282.07
Excavation equipment required for the above project.		
1 st September 2009	Knightsfield Holdings Ltd	£ 459.39
Excavation materials required for the above project.		
10 th March 2010	Beta Analytic Inc.	£1,236.27
Administrative fees in connection with standard data analysis for the above project.		
10 th March 2010	Knightsfield Holdings Ltd.	£ 45.00
Courier service required to send data information to Beta Analytic for the above project.		

£7,812.59

e) Heritage Publications

12 th January 2010	Aquila Services Ltd	£1,589.05
Printing 300 Books of Abstracts first issued at Calpe Conference.		
3 rd March 2010	Gibraltar Book Ltd	£8,000.00
Typesetting, Designing and Printing of the book, "Gibraltar, Military Fortress or Commercial Colony" by T J Finlayson.		
12 th April 2010	Gibraltar Chronicle	£3,231.41
Printing of 400 books Shrine 'Marian Conference'		

£12,820.46

f) Museum Floor

17 th February 2010	Woodcraft Construction	£4,300.00
Repairs to Museum floor.		
3 rd March 2010	J. Balban Electrical Co. Ltd	£ 304.00
Emergency repairs to Museum following flooding		

£ 4,604.00

g) John Mackintosh Hall Roof

9 th March 2010	Southern Point Roofing	£ 873.00
Repairs required to the library roof and gutters.		

£ 873.00

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 153 OF 2011

HON S E LINARES:

I see from the schedule that the Minister has given me for the answer to Question No. 153 of 2011, that he has listed the John Mackintosh Hall and the survey done by M E Belilo and Partners. Does the Minister already have a conclusion as to the extent of the damage to the roof of the Mackintosh Hall and can the Minister give us an indication of when all these works to the roof will start?

HON E J REYES:

I hope Mr Speaker does not mind me pointing out that, whilst the hon Member opposite has asked a supplementary question, I am still waiting for the Clerk to give me, sort of, the cue that it was my turn to answer. So, for the Hansard, we will record that the information requested has been passed there.

Now, more specifically to the question, are we talking of part b?

HON S E LINARES:

Yes.

HON E J REYES:

That was paid as consultation fees to establish the condition of the terraced roof, fixing of the new theatre seating and other intrusive investigations. The report indicates what, in the consultant's opinion, is the state, the condition, when they can take the seats and so on. Having done that, we are in the process of identifying different alternatives, more or less, like one tends to do at home. What are the costs of repairing, and when the repair job is done, what lifespan can be expected from that or what is the cost of doing something completely new and so on. So I am still very much at the consultation stage, trying to get in best information so that a firm decision can be taken. So, if the hon Member really wants to know when. Personally, I would like it as soon as possible but I cannot commit myself in this House. I would be misleading the House by saying, next month or even six months. It could be soon. It could be later. I think both sides of this House wish it to be sooner rather than later.

HON S E LINARES:

I say this because it is now ... In fact, yesterday was a year, exactly, from when the Minister got this report about the state of roof. Therefore, a whole year has gone by. Damage is increasing to the equipment and materials and things that are within the Mackintosh Hall and, therefore, if this is left longer and longer what will happen is that the repairs will be much bigger. Not only that, that the damage it causes to books, for example, I am thinking of the library, some of them are irreplaceable because these books, you cannot re-buy. They are old books. They are reference books. They are books that people would like to use and read. Therefore, should the Minister, during that last year, not have prioritised or, at least, done something to

safeguard those books that are in the library and any other equipment that might be in the Mackintosh Hall which are of value.

HON E J REYES:

I can concur with the hon Member's logic. The longer you leave something the greater the damage. One thing I must point out. I think it may have been brought out in notice in this House before. The building belongs to the trustees of the late John Mackintosh and, therefore, part and parcel of all this requires us sitting down and discussing, which we already have, with the trustees because if the Government are to invest substantially, then, obviously, it has to ensure that it has the best lease possible and so on. So it is not just as simple as sort of saying, this is completely mine all the time. I will invest this or the other. Government are looking forward towards putting substantial investment in there but in constant consultation with the trustees.

HON S E LINARES:

The Minister might say that it is the trustees but in the last questions in this House, in which I asked him, specifically, about the library, I even asked about the responsibilities of Knightsfield Holdings, who are the ones who manage the Mackintosh Hall and are currently managing the Mackintosh Hall, whether they were responsible for the maintenance of the Mackintosh Hall and the Minister answered that it was not their responsibility. What they used to do was when they identified any maintenance that was needed within the building, they would ask Government and then Government would make funds available in order to maintain the building. So, therefore, that the Minister now comes to this House and tells us that it is in conjunction with the trustees, I would hope it is in conjunction with the trustees who are the owners of the building, but, surely, it is in consultation with Knightsfield Holdings who are the people who manage the place. Therefore, by the answer that the Minister gave me last time, I would assume that it is Government that takes the initiative of saying, right okay, the roof needs fixing, here is the money, go and fix it. Can the Minister, therein, explain what the real situation is, now that he has brought the trustees into the picture?

HON E J REYES:

I do not think the situation changes in any shape or form. The building is managed by Knightsfield Holdings who, in normal circumstances, are the first to bring to our notice repair works that need to be undertaken. What I have said and I will repeat again is that Government are conscious that there are certain repair works that need to be carried out. Because it could require substantial investment, the trustees, who are not Knightsfield Holdings, have to be engaged and when a decision is taken then the works to be carried out ... If Knightsfield Holdings are managing the building, they will be told, this is what Government wants you to do as managers. Nothing new in it.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, can I just ask the hon Gentleman. I follow what he is saying, though I think the concern on this side of the House is in respect of the delay and I am sure it

is in both sides of the House that there is a concern about that delay, but there is at item (g) on the list that the hon Gentleman has provided, a payment to one entity in the sum of £873 in respect of repairs required to the library roof and gutters. So, are those other repairs that were required, not the repairs identified in the Belilo report?

HON E J REYES:

Yes, if the hon Member looks at the date, it is after that survey was conducted by Belilo & Co. In that particular case in March, what happened was that there was a particularly bad storm and some sections, very similar to the internal rooftop we have here, started to come down. So, we had to carry out an emergency. The word emergency is not written there but I can tell the hon Member it was an emergency repair to the library roof and gutters. That was just one particular section of the building, as opposed to the survey that was carried out that encompassed areas well beyond the library. So, they are related but a separate incident, yes.

HON F R PICARDO:

In respect of those emergency repairs, was it also necessary to engage the trustees?

HON E J REYES:

We carried out the emergency repairs and then informed the trustees of what we had done.

HON F R PICARDO:

I appreciate that that makes a lot of sense but would it not also make sense to carry out the general repairs to the roof and inform the trustees?

HON E J REYES:

It could, but we have chosen ... because we envisage that there could be a substantial investment required, we envisage discussing certain things of the lease with the trustees first.

HON F R PICARDO:

What is the order of the investment that the hon Gentleman anticipates will be required?

HON E J REYES:

I do not have that information available with me here.

HON F R PICARDO:

If it is so substantial that he has decided that instead of carrying out the repairs to the roof which are obviously, and we agree on both sides of the House, required and, therefore, he has to engage the trustees, is he telling us that it is in the order of a quarter of a million pounds, over that, or ... a million pounds, or ...? If something is so substantial that it requires engagement with the trustees of this Trust, how is it that the hon Member cannot remember it?

HON E J REYES:

I do not know. I am not going to mislead this House by just inventing a figure off the top of my head.

HON F R PICARDO:

Would the hon Gentleman at least agree to write to me and let me have that figure if he knows that he has it in his office?

HON E J REYES:

If the hon Member wishes some [*inaudible*] information, he can always write to me. What I suspect is that at some stage, if we decide to carry out a major, substantial investment in that, we would probably want to come out with a public press release in any case. But the Member is always welcome to write to me and I will provide the information as and when I have it.

HON F R PICARDO:

Absolutely, and I am very grateful for that invitation but is it not the whole *raison d'être* of what the hon Gentleman has told us that he had to engage the trustees on this issue because this was such a substantial investment. Now, he is telling us that it may be that an investment of that order is going to be made and it may be that there is going to be a press release. Is it the pressing issue the fact that this library is an important resource for the community and that it needs to be saved for those who use it. Not everybody is able to buy the books that they want and some do rely and continue to rely on the library even for matters beyond simply looking at printed matter and that this is something which is becoming increasingly urgent and it has become now more and more urgent given that it has been lying on his desk for over a year?

HON E J REYES:

What I said in relation to talking with the trustees is in respect of the whole building and not just the library section. In other words, looking at the building as a whole, looking at what Government feel should be done. What it might possibly think could be done to improve, update facilities and so on. That is why it would be sensible to talk with the trustees, look carefully into the lease, maybe even get a better deal for the people of Gibraltar out of it. That is why the trustees would be engaged and that is forward planning of which, at this stage I do not have details, I do not have cost

and, therefore, I am not going to invent figures just to try and mention anything at all to the hon Member.

HON F R PICARDO:

I appreciate that. So, in other words, there is no present intention to commence the repairs to the roof?

HON E J REYES:

That is not what I have said.

HON F R PICARDO:

No, the hon Gentleman said that, in fact, it may be that there may be a wholesale renegotiation and that there may be an investment into the building but that, therefore, until then, there is not going to be an engagement with the trustees, having told us a minute ago that there has to be an engagement with the trustees before the repairs to the roof can be carried out. Is this not, therefore, another example of this Government atrophying on an issue that is important to the community?

HON E J REYES:

No, it is not another example of the Government acting badly. Emergency repairs will be carried out so that the building continues functioning, as well as possible, and Government are being pro-active, forward thinking, looking into future plans for the library, discussing it with the trustees and when those discussions have taken place, at the appropriate moment and time it would be informed in this House. He will probably even find certain provisions being made in the Estimates book this year or next year. So everything will be disclosed at its correct time.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am very grateful for the hon Gentleman's clarification that only emergency repairs will now be carried out at the Mackintosh Hall.

NO. 154 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – EMPLOYEES

Can Government state how many people were employed by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority as at the end of December 2010, giving a breakdown by grade, sex, nationality and department?

ANSWER

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

The information requested is contained in the written schedule that I now hand over to the hon Member.

Answer to Question No. 154 of 2011

**PERSONS EMPLOYED BY SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2010**

NO	TITLE	GRADE	DEPT	SEX	NATIONALITY
1	Chief Executive Officer	1	Admin	Male	British
1	Deputy Chief Executive Officer	2	Admin	Male	British
1	Finance Manager	3	Admin	Male	British
1	Administration and Resources Manager	3	Admin	Female	British
1	Sports Development and Training Officer	3	Sports Dev. Unit	Female	British
1	Accounts Executive	4	Admin	Male	British
1	Assistant Sports Development and Training Officer	4	Sports Dev. Unit	Male	British
1	Assistant Facilities Manager	4	Facilities	Male	British
1	Technical Officer	5	Facilities	Male	British
6	Centre Managers	5	Facilities	5 Male 1 Female	British
2	Administrative Clerk	6	Admin	Female	British
1	Supervisory Groundsman	7	Facilities	Male	British
25	Sports and Leisure Officers	8	Facilities	23 Male 2 Female	British
1	Secretarial/Typist	9	Admin	Female	British
2	Support	11	Admin & Facilities	1 Male 1 Female	British

NO. 155 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GASA SWIMMING POOL

Can Government state the date since which the air treatment system of the 25 metre pool run by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority has not been working?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 156 and 157 of 2011.

NO. 156 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GASA SWIMMING POOL

Can Government state which experts have been engaged to obtain and analyse technical specifications for the air treatment system of the 25 metre pool run by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority and whether such experts have now reported to the Authority or the Government?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 155 and 157 of 2011.

NO. 157 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GASA SWIMMING POOL

Can Government state when it expects to award the contract for the works required to the air treatment system of the 25 metre pool run by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority?

ANSWER

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

The 25 metre pool currently run by the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority only has an air heating, not an air treatment, system which was installed in the days when that pool was run by the Gibraltar Amateur Swimming Association.

This system first started malfunctioning approximately some eighteen months ago.

The GSLA intends to replace the existing system with an air treatment system, similar to the one installed in the new pool, but catering for the needs for this larger building and also endeavouring to make as much use as possible of the infrastructure already available.

A local independent air conditioning/treatment consultant has been engaged to assess all the complex issues related to treating the air in such an atmosphere as is experienced in indoor swimming pools and the GSLA's 25 metre pool in particular. The GSLA have requested a full survey, but no specific timescale has been set in order to ensure that the consultant can reach his decisions and offer the best recommendations possible. However, efforts are being made for this to be done as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Disclosing the name of the consultant at this stage is considered to be commercially sensitive and could also prove detrimental to the consultant's work.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 155 TO 157 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The first part of the answer seems a little surprising which is a suggestion or a revelation that this particular pool does not have an air treatment system in place. It has an air heating system. In answer to Question No. 1183 of 2010, the same Hon Minister had this to say, the overhaul and upgrade to the 25 metre pool air treatment system has not yet been completed. That necessarily implies and suggests that

there is an upgrade to an existing system and, it has not yet been completed, necessarily means that something has started to an existing system. How is it that the system has changed overnight?

HON E J REYES:

The system has not changed overnight. The hon Member is correct. When I answered at the time, I gave my answer based on information that I had. I personally thought it was an air treatment system like the one next door. I have subsequently found out, and this is obviously the first opportunity I have been able to point it out even better to the hon Member. It is not the same system as the other one. It was explained to me by these experts that it is not air treatment like the one installed for the new pool but rather this was just an air heating system. There is a difference, not the major one perhaps for lay people, non-experts, but technically it is different and I am not going to mislead this House now that I am aware that this is an air heating and not an air treatment system, I should answer correctly according to information I have with me at the precise moment in time. This was installed a long time ago, as I was saying in the answer, when the pool was run by the Gibraltar Amateur Swimming Association and neither I nor any of my Colleagues on this side of the House were involved in the administration at the time.

NO. 158 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

HERITAGE ACTION COMMITTEE

How often and on what dates has the Heritage Action Committee met since 14th September 2010?

ANSWER

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

Since the previous Heritage Action Committee meeting held on 14th September 2010, one further meeting has taken place and that was held on 7th December 2010.

NO. 159 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GORHAM'S CAVE – NOMINATION AS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Can Government confirm that it has now put forward Gorham's Cave for inclusion in the United Kingdom's tentative list for potential nomination as a World Heritage Site and have Government identified any other sites in Gibraltar to put forward?

ANSWER

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

I can confirm that Government have put forward the Gorham's Cave complex for inclusion in the United Kingdom's tentative list for potential nomination.

The complex includes Gorham's, Vanguard, Bennett's and Hyaena Caves.

No other site has been identified at present.

NO. 160 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR MUSEUM – ADMISSION FEES

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised on a monthly basis, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, in admission fees to the Gibraltar Museum?

ANSWER

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

Further to Question No. 1185 of 2010, the revenue raised in admission fees to the Gibraltar Museum on a monthly basis is as follows:

September 2010	£1132.02
October 2010	£1133.45
November 2010	£4560.92
December 2010	£ 416.40

NO. 161 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

IAU – ULTRAMARATHON

What has been the cost to the Government of the 100km endurance race?

ANSWER

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

Answered together with Question Nos. 162 to 164 of 2011.

NO. 162 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IAU – ULTRAMARATHON

How many athletes and other guests stayed on board the cruise liner that was hired to provide accommodation and catering services in relation to the staging of the IAU Ultramarathon that took place in Gibraltar in November 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORT & LEISURE

Answered together with Question Nos. 161, 163 and 164 of 2011.

NO. 163 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IAU – ULTRAMARATHON

Can Government say whether local hotels were offered the opportunity to host all or some of the athletes and other guests who were here in relation to the staging of the IAU Ultramarathon that took place in Gibraltar in November 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORT & LEISURE

Answered together with Question Nos. 161, 162 and 164 of 2011.

NO. 164 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IAU – ULTRAMARATHON

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of hiring a cruise liner to accommodate athletes and others in relation to the staging of the IAU Ultramarathon that took place in Gibraltar in November 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORT & LEISURE

The net cost to Government of organising and staging the World and European IAU Ultramarathon Championships in November 2010 is estimated at approximately £180,000.

The actual cost of hiring the cruise liner, with all related expenses included, was 180,000 Euros. There is no breakdown of expenses as the hire of the liner was only available on a pre-agreed all services included basis.

A total of 340 athletes, coaches and officials were accommodated in the cruise liner. This facility was only made available for IAU approved athletes and officials and was not open to other persons travelling with them.

Additionally, information in respect of all hotels in Gibraltar, including contact details, was made available to all the participating countries, through the required competition General Information Sheet, some six months before the event and three months before their need to submit the Preliminary Registration Form. In fact, a number of teams decided to arrange their accommodation in some local hotels, particularly for accompanying members of their delegations, but some even for a number of their participating athletes. The Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority also used local accommodation to provide for the needs of some teams which were either arriving earlier or leaving later than the days during which the cruise liner was actually available.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 161 TO 164 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The hon Member has mentioned that there was a net cost to Government of £180,000. That suggests that the gross cost was greater and that there has been some recovery of the cost. Can the Government state what the gross cost was and the basis upon which that has been recovered and from whom?

HON E J REYES:

I am sorry I have not been provided with information of the gross cost and so on. It may help the hon Member to know ... I will give him an example in that net cost when I then spoke about the hire of the cruise liner. One of the conditions that the host country has to meet is to provide accommodation and meals for three ... let me make sure I get this right ... for three male and three female athletes from each participating country. All the athletes that that country brings over and above that, have to pay for that and they were being charged ... my note here says an average of £70 per person per night and that included full on board contracted services. Yes. So that is why I gave him the figure of net because the gross figure was much bigger. We have received these monies from the participants and we paid off from there. So the figure I was able to provide him was the net. I suppose that this is part of the expenses of this on-going financial year. As the financial year comes to an end and more details are, sort of, provided to the Financial Secretary and so on, then the hon Member will eventually be able to get more detailed information in that respect. Unfortunately, I do not have any indication at this moment in time and I am not going to invent a number.

HON G H LICUDI:

Can the hon Member say why a decision was taken to hire that cruise liner? Is it that it was cheaper than accommodating the athletes in local hotels or there was non-availability of sufficient beds? What was the reason for that decision being taken?

HON E J REYES:

The International Association of Ultra Runners initially told us that we had to ensure that there was accommodation available for some 700 people all told. That included accommodation for non-official team members. The registration forms and so on only need to be submitted by the participants up to three months before the event. So that was giving us problems in getting local hotels to guarantee to meet that figure of close to 700 possible beds, saying we will have this available or not available and so on. So a decision was taken to ensure that we met our commitments to have this cruise liner which has a total maximum capacity of 640 persons in 288 cabins. We knew that that, plus whatever the hotels had available, would ensure that we had the accommodation available and then it also came to light that the IAU was telling us this floating hotel, the cruise liner, was deemed as the athlete's village and therefore not everyone could have access to live there. So the local hotels were not losing out because you had all accompanying people going there and I know some teams in particular said, well since part of our supporters are going to be hosted in this hotel or that hotel, instead of paying you the 70 Euros for going on board the ship, I will pay and negotiate with this hotel or the other. I believe some of them then entered into, sort of, private negotiations, you know, they were getting a big handful of rooms. The hotel was probably able to offer them a better rate. But we had to ensure that we met the demands that were being placed upon us by the IAU and the local available hotel beds could not guarantee that. So the decision was taken.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Did the Government consult every hotel in Gibraltar? At what point did that happen?

HON E J REYES:

I know the Government consulted hotels in Gibraltar. I suspect it was probably every one of them. I know information about every single hotel was certainly provided to these people. It is a pity Minister Holliday is not here because his Ministry certainly assisted me in providing this information as did the Ministry for Tourism also when I asked for some notes and so on. I did mention before that the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority had to engage some local accommodation providers because some athletes, for example, were arriving, especially those coming from big distances, were arriving on the Monday and the ship may not have been available I think until the Wednesday or Thursday. So, we acted as their agents and contracted and the list is more than one local hotel. So there was a range of hotels offered and I think the athletes just chose according to the price range which they could afford or what they considered to be best value for money.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

But at what point did the hon Member or his Department consult the hotels? Was it at the three months point or at the six months point?

HON E J REYES:

At the beginning. At the six months point. At the beginning.

HON G H LICUDI:

The hon Member mentioned that the requirement of the Government was to guarantee 700 places. How many of those places were actually taken up in that the Government had to pay for that number?

HON E J REYES:

The requirement ... I did not use the word Government ... Gibraltar was required, this event, the members of the IAU are the Gibraltar Amateur Athletic Association who did this in partnership with Government. It may sound a small technicality but the membership, that is, the Gibraltar Amateur Athletic Association. A total of 340 athletes occupied 200 cabins in the liner, 15 other cabins were not given out for accommodation as they had to be assigned for IAU's, officials' offices. They deem some cabins to be small meeting areas and we even had to set up doping test stations and physiotherapy support areas.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are the Government aware that that weekend there were 600 free hotel beds in Gibraltar?

HON E J REYES:

I am not normally aware how many hotel beds are available on a particular night. What the Government was aware was six months before. Can hotels guarantee to me that they will have this number of beds available and we could not have a firm commitment that would have allowed us to meet the figure that we were asked to by the IAU.

HON G H LICUDI:

Of course, the hotel beds would have been available if the Government had actually booked those when the requirement arose. Do the Government know whether that would have been a more cost effective option, having regard to the numbers that were required and the numbers that actually turned up?

HON E J REYES:

One of the things that was taken into consideration and, of course, with a lot of consultation with the IAU as well at the time. The IAU was asking us to please make available facilities that were very close together. Their preference was to have everything in one venue as this would greatly reduce transport costs, food services, special dietary requirements that these athletes have. In a normal hotel one has a very nice menu to choose from but these participants, sort of, have certain things and it did become far more cost effective, more so since we are able to enter into an agreement with the ship of an all services inclusive to have that type of meal provided. It made everything far better to manage logistically. The race was due to start very early in the morning and there was no hiccup in having to transfer huge numbers of athletes from hotels to the start point. The start point was set by the IAU to be right close to the games village, or the athletes' village. So, all those factors did play a big influence.

NO. 165 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE IN SCHOOLS

Can Government state how much money has been spent on maintenance in schools from September 2010 to December 2010, giving a breakdown by school and amount spent respectively?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Answered together with Question Nos. 166 to 169 of 2011.

NO. 166 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – MINOR WORKS EXPENDITURE IN SCHOOLS

Can Government state how much money has been spent on minor works in schools from September 2010 to December 2010, giving a breakdown by school and amount respectively?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Answered together with Question Nos. 165, 167 to 169 of 2011.

NO. 167 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – MAJOR WORKS EXPENDITURE IN SCHOOLS

Can Government state how much money has been spent on major works in schools from September 2010 to December 2010, giving a breakdown by school and amount respectively?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Answered together with Question Nos. 165, 166, 168 and 169 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 168 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – MAINTENANCE, MINOR AND MAJOR WORKS EXPENDITURE IN SCHOOLS

Can Government say in respect of the amounts paid for maintenance, minor works and major works in schools from September to December 2010, how much was paid with a breakdown by the contractor or the entity that each amount was paid to?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Answered together with Question Nos. 165 to 167 and 169 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 169 OF 2011

THE HON S E LINARES

EDUCATION – EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

Can Government provide a breakdown of the Improvement and Development Fund expenditure of £800,000 for 2009/2010 shown at Head 101 - Subhead 1(a) Education, showing who the money was paid to, when and for what purpose?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The information requested is set out in the schedules which have been handed over to the hon Members.

Answer to Question 169 of 2011

Answer to Question 165

The amount of £187,581.94 has been spent on maintenance in schools from September 2010 to December 2010. The following is the breakdown showing the amount spent per school:

School	Amount £
Gibraltar College	11,429.92
Bayside	12,616.16
Westside	54,427.63
St Martin's Special	4,607.40
St Anne's Middle	34,295.35
Bishop Fitzgerald Middle	10,733.56
St Joseph's Middle	1,764.51
Sacred Heart Middle	16,023.77
Hebrew Primary	7,332.17
St Mary's First	3,439.83
Governor's Meadow First	7,747.32
St Bernard's First	5,555.84
St Joseph's First	3,219.31
St Paul's First	7,234.80
Notre Dame First	7,154.37
Total September 2010 to December 2010	£187,581.94

Answer to Question 166

The amount of £181,473.64 has been spent on minor works in schools from September 2010 to December 2010. The following is the breakdown showing the amount spent per school:

School	Amount £
Bayside	10,011.60
St Anne's Middle	66,332.00
St Joseph's Middle	9,785.00
Sacred Heart Middle	2,904.60
St Bernard's First	5,971.94
Notre Dame First	52,530.00
Governor's Meadow First	25,441.00
Hebrew Primary	8,497.50
Total September 2010 to December 2010	£181,473.64

Contd

Contd Answer to Question 169 of 2011

Answer to Question 167

The amount of £99,514.93 has been spent on major works in schools from September 2010 to December 2010. The following is the breakdown showing the amount spent per school:

School	Amount £
Westside	99,514.93
Total September 2010 to December 2010	£99,514.93

Answer to Question 168

The following is the breakdown stating to whom the payments in respect of maintenance, minor works and major works were paid from September 2010 to December 2010.

Payment made to	Amount £	Date	Purpose
GJBS	32,551.66	3/9/10	Maintenance
GJBS	73,927.05	13/9/10	Major Works
Fire Security	5,971.94	13/9/10	Minor Works
GJBS	4,557.40	22/9/10	Maintenance
GTR Technical Systems	891.00	29/9/10	Maintenance
Cold Air Engineering	379.30	5/10/10	Maintenance
Fire Security	993.00	5/10/10	Maintenance
GJBS	26,063.57	8/10/10	Maintenance
GJBS	5,430.61	21/10/10	Maintenance
Cold Air Engineering	805.50	22/10/10	Maintenance
GJBS	22,966.35	12/11/10	Maintenance
GJBS	20,885.90	17/11/10	Maintenance
GJBS	18,510.95	19/11/10	Major Works
GTR Technical Systems	97.20	24/11/10	Maintenance
A A Sheriff	156.00	24/11/10	Maintenance
GJBS	21,317.02	24/11/10	Maintenance
GJBS	31,840.08	7/12/10	Maintenance
GJBS	7,076.93	9/12/10	Major Works
GJBS	18,467.35	10/12/10	Maintenance
GJBS	175,501.70	14/12/10	Minor Works
Rock Cool	180.00	15/12/10	Maintenance

Total September 2010 to December 2010 - £468,570.51

Contd

Contd Answer to Question 169 of 2011

Answer to Question 169

Payment made to	Amount (£)	Date	Purpose	
GJBS	43,641.98	20/4/09	General repairs at various schools	
	11,173.08	7/5/09	General repairs at various schools	
	10,459.07	29/5/09	General repairs at various schools	
	32,965.27	10/6/09	General repairs at various schools	
	11,852.75	22/6/09	General repairs at various schools	
	9,085.27	25/6/09	General repairs at various schools	
	8,714.98	8/7/09	General repairs at various schools	
	8,801.79	28/7/09	General repairs at various schools	
	6,671.88	4/8/09	General repairs at various schools	
	18,361.30	5/8/09	Minor Works at St Anne's Middle and St Joseph's First Schools	
	9,980.57	14/8/09	General repairs at various schools	
	96,035.39	8/9/09	Minor Works at Westside School	
	40,390.41	23/9/09	General repairs at various schools	
	10,383.12	24/9/09	Minor Works at Westside School	
	3,016.59	24/9/09	Minor Works at Hebrew School	
	4,036.00	5/10/09	General repairs at various schools	
	24,814.29	22/10/09	General repairs at various schools	
	15,823.16	2/11/09	General repairs at various schools	
	120,155.85	4/11/09	Minor Works at Westside School	
	41,290.75	9/11/09	Minor Works at St Bernard's School	
	26,939.28	17/11/09	General repairs at various schools	
	20,646.36	9/12/09	General repairs at various schools	
	9,649.41	22/12/09	Minor Works at Notre Dame School	
	38,555.08	22/12/09	Minor works at Westside School	
	32,725.66	11/1/10	General repairs at various schools	
	5,962.37	14/1/10	Minor Works at St Joseph's First School	
	19,767.62	28/1/10	General repairs at various schools	
	6,398.30	10/2/10	General repairs at various schools	
	14,250.00	9/3/10	Minor Works at St Anne's Middle School	
	13,034.25	9/3/10	Minor Works at Westside School	
	4,999.76	26/3/10	Minor Works to St Anne's Middle School	£734,621.29
Gibral Flora	2,627.80	21/4/09	Relocation of trees in connection with the Minor Works at Westside School	
Sign Design	250.00	16/6/09	Gibraltar College "school" sign	
Westex (Gib) Ltd	55.20	24/6/09	Purchase of spares	
EDG	422.89	24/6/09	Purchase of building materials	
	814.52	4/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	6,97.60	27/11/09	Purchase of electrical spares	
	173.52	20/1/10	Purchase of electrical spares	
A A Sheriff	66.00	24/6/09	Purchase of electrical spares	
Hire U Shop	14.30	24/6/09	Purchase of electrical spares	
	215.30	23/2/10	Hiring of Vax Water and Transformer	
TTS Group Ltd	162.39	22/7/09	Purchase of furniture	
	1902.53	21/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	209.00	18/9/09	Purchase of furniture	

Contd

Contd Answer to Question 169

Payment made to	Amount (£)	Date	Purpose	
A to Z Supplies	83.90	22/7/09	Purchase of furniture	
	539.80	7/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	342.85	1/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
	1225.71	23/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
	825.22	2/12/09	Purchase of furniture	
	547.40	17/12/09	Purchase of furniture	
Findel Education	2,404.85	22/7/09	Purchase of furniture	
	359.90	4/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	3,402.44	11/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	8,639.49	21/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	536.22	25/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	349.95	28/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	2,238.81	14/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	2,863.21	25/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	764.62	1/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
	1,002.00	15/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
	15.98	23/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
	99.95	4/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	145.22	20/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	54.90	20/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	8.16	2/12/09	Purchase of furniture	
CES Holdings	5,426.84	22/7/09	Purchase of furniture	
	2,004.89	10/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	59.00	15/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	453.15	11/12/09	Purchase of furniture	
	650.56	11/1/09	Purchase of furniture	
R& J	155.00	23/7/09	Purchase of water heater	
	165.00	20/10/09	Purchase of water heater	
	155.00	17/3/10	Purchase of water heater	
Cemats	1,003.90	4/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
Abecasis Gonzalez	626.00	4/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
	246.50	20/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
Gresswell	615.19	25/8/09	Purchase of furniture	
Helmsman	935.90	15/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
Beacon Press	183.00	18/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	1,587.00	23/9/09	Purchase of furniture	
	95.00	17/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	398.00	25/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	820.49	27/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	1607.45	15/1/10	Purchase of furniture	
Icon Business Systems	899.25	6/10/10	Purchase of furniture	
Charles Trico	1,110.00	9/10/10	Purchase of furniture	
	185.00	20/10/10	Purchase of furniture	

Contd

Contd Answer to Question 169

Mobihofi (Gib) Ltd	856.00	20/10/10	Purchase of furniture	
	39.00	16/12/10	Purchase of furniture	
Emmerich	697.50	27/10/09	Purchase of furniture	
Cold Aire	955.00	28/10/09	Repairs to air conditioning	
	40.00	12/11/09	Repairs to air conditioning	
AquaGib	1,965.96	28/10/09	Tests/repairs underground leak	
	1,965.96	8/12/09	Tests/repairs underground leak	
	1,965.96	10/2/10	Tests/repairs underground leak	
Teacherboards	3,238.77	5/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
	980.90	15/1/10	Purchase of furniture	
Fire Security	4,653.00	16/11/09	Supply and install intruder alarm	
Officemart	299.99	18/11/09	Purchase of furniture	
Car Care Centre	199.50	5/1/10	Purchase of solar tint	
Rumagas	270.00	3/3/10	Repairs to gas system	
GEA	1,177.80	March	Works carried out by GEA	
A L Sacarello & Sons	42.70	11/11/09	Purchase of furniture	

TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2009/10 - £799,423.48

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 165 TO 169 OF 2011

HON S E LINARES:

I notice that in answer to Question No. 166 of 2011 on minor works, there is a substantial amount of money spent on Notre Dame First. Can the Minister explain if it is minor works, why this amount is so substantial?

HON C G BELTRAN:

It is relative, really, £52,000 is certainly no mean amount but it is simply the way that the Department has, for many years, as far as I can remember, certainly for the last thirty odd, forty years, described different types of works. They described it as maintenance, minor works and major works. Minor works include the kind of works that that sum refers to and I understand that in the case of Notre Dame they were to do with external refurbishment, external works to part of the school. Not the whole school.

HON G H LICUDI:

In answer to Question No. 168 of 2011, the hon Member has provided a breakdown of maintenance, minor works and major works. Towards the end, there is a payment of £175,500 in respect of minor works.

HON C G BELTRAN:

Where is that?

HON G H LICUDI:

Towards the end of the list in answer to Question No. 168 of 2011. There is £175,500 in respect of minor works and a few days earlier a payment to the same company of £7,000 for major works. There seems to be something wrong there?

HON C G BELTRAN:

Why does he think there is something wrong? I do not follow.

HON G H LICUDI:

Major works costing £7,000 and minor works £175,000?

HON C G BELTRAN:

Because this is possibly a part payment of a bigger sum, the smaller sum in that case.

HON G H LICUDI:

Does the hon Member have details of the minor works which cost £175,000?

HON C G BELTRAN:

It could be ... This is not just a minor work. This could be a payment in respect of a number of pieces of work that are described as minor works.

HON G H LICUDI:

Minor works?

HON C G BELTRAN:

Yes, but a number of different jobs, as it were, and this is when the invoices have been received at that time and it is conglomerated into one sum.

NO. 170 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EDUCATION – PUPILS ENROLLED IN FIRST AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Can Government provide the breakdown by age and gender of the pupils enrolled in First and Middle schools, excluding service pupils, as at 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Answered together with Question No. 171 of 2011.

NO. 171 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EDUCATION – PUPILS ENROLLED IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Can Government provide the breakdown by age and gender of the pupils enrolled in Secondary schools, including service pupils, as at 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The information requested is set out in the schedule which I now hand to the hon Member.

Answer to Question No. 171 of 2011**Answer to Question No. 170 of 2011****FIRST SCHOOLS**

AGE	GENDER		TOTALS (Boys + Girls)
	Boys	Girls	
Year R (Age 4-5)	169	164	333
Year 1 (Age 5-6)	197	197	394
Year 2 (Age 6-7)	178	186	364
Year 3 (Age 7-8)	182	152	334
TOTALS	726	699	1425

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

AGE	GENDER		TOTALS (Boys + Girls)
	Boys	Girls	
Year 4 (8-9)	172	177	349
Year 5 (9-10)	207	193	400
Year 6 (10-11)	202	166	368
Year 7 (11-12)	206	157	363
TOTALS	787	693	1480

Answer to Question No. 171 of 2011**SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

AGE	GENDER		TOTALS
	Boys (Bayside)	Girls (Westside)	
Year 8 (12-13)	225	213	438
Year 9 (13-14)	221	221	442
Year 10 (14-15)	235	177	412
Year 11 (15+)	201	182	383
Year 12 (16+)	112	149	261
Year 13 (17+)	84	123	207
TOTALS	1078	1065	2143

NO. 172 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

JUDICIAL SERVICES – ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Can Government state what additional resources it proposes to engage for the Judicial Services and whether this is dependent on the works, currently being undertaken on the court buildings, being completed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

The Government intend to fund an additional Puisne Judge (that is a fourth Supreme Court judge) for a limited period to help with the current backlog of criminal cases.

That appointment is expected to be made after phase one of the Law Courts project is completed in March 2011. Of course, when that particular Judge actually starts serving is a matter for the Judicial Services Commission.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 172 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Have the Government started the process of recruitment and for how long does the hon Member believe that that appointment will be in place?

HON D A FEETHAM:

Yes. Candidates have actually been identified and have been recommended. I say recommended because, of course, the appointment for a Supreme Court Judge as the hon Gentleman knows, that is, the advice, comes from the Judicial Services Commission, the advice to the Governor. Obviously, there is then consultation between the Governor and also the Minister for Justice but we are involved at an early stage in the actual process. There have been candidates that have actually been identified. There is one candidate, in particular, that has been identified and it is likely that that is going to be the candidate that the Judicial Services Commission is going to advise that he be appointed as the fourth additional judge. There are a number of issues that need to be resolved before that actually takes place. I expect that the appointment is going to be made quite soon after the completion of the first phase. At that stage, we are going to have court No. 1 which is going to be a full-time criminal court. The one above will be a full-time civil court and the library will be used, until the completion of phase III which is the other side of the Supreme Court,

as a full-time family court. We need two at that stage because, of course, the idea is to have two criminal courts in tandem. There is no point having just one criminal court. That is not going to deal with the actual backlogs. We need two. At that stage, we need to make a decision in conjunction with the Judicial Services Commission. Do we look at alternative sites where we can have a jury court outside the court complex or do we wait until the completion of phase II, which is the Town Range site, which is the Magistrates' Court. There, there will be three Magistrates' Courts, one of which is a jury facility at the very top and that is the decision that we have not made at present but the appointment is going to be made very shortly after phase I is completed in March of this year.

HON G H LICUDI:

So, on the second part of the supplementary, which I am not sure the hon Member answered, does the hon Member have an indication or an estimate of how long it will take to clear that backlog? In other words, how long we will need this fourth Puisne Judge and does it follow, necessarily, that once that backlog is cleared or brought to manageable levels, do we return to three Puisne Judges or is it being considered that we should have a permanent complement of four judges in Gibraltar.

HON D A FEETHAM:

At present, the idea is to have a temporary appointment. So, effectively, as and when we do not need that fourth judge, we will then go back to three judges. Obviously, there is spare capacity within the courts to appoint a fourth judge on a permanent basis if and when a future Government decides that that is necessary, but at the present moment, the idea is for a temporary period of time and then we return to three judges. It is very difficult to tell the hon Gentleman exactly how long that period of appointment is likely to be because it may well be that we are not talking about, for instance, an appointment permanently over two years. In other words, have somebody sitting in Gibraltar permanently for one or two years. It may well be that the person, ... and we are talking about an experienced criminal judge from the United Kingdom, that is what we are talking about, that can come over and sit for a period of three months and go back to the UK. Then sit again for a period of three months. We are talking about one or two years at most.

NO. 173 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

**AVERAGE TIME BETWEEN A DEFENDANT BEING CHARGED AND
SUBSEQUENTLY TRIED BY A JURY**

Can Government state what the average time is between a defendant being charged with an offence and that defendant being tried by a jury and whether this changes depending on whether the defendant is remanded in custody or not?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

It is not possible to give an accurate average time from the point of a defendant being charged to the point where they are tried by a jury. This is due to the complexity of the investigation process and consideration of the case by Crown Counsel and the defence, following the initial point of charge.

However, the position is clearer once the case reaches the point where it is committed to the Supreme Court. At the next arraignment hearing on 21st January, the Supreme Court will be looking to list trials up to the end of December 2011. At that hearing, there are likely to be cases that will be held back for consideration to the next arraignment hearing, meaning that they will not be listed until 2012. Our best estimate is that there is a 15 month period between committal to the Supreme Court and the trial date.

I can confirm that cases where a defendant is remanded in custody are prioritised during arraignment hearings, giving them the earliest possible trial date.

It should also be noted that there are far more criminal cases now being dealt with by the Supreme Court than in the past. In 1984, 28 defendants were committed for trial or sentence. In 2009 this total had risen to 51.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 173 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

First of all, can I take this opportunity, as I am on my feet asking supplementary of the hon Member, to welcome him back and to say that it is, and I am sure the whole House agrees, that it is great to have him amongst us, whatever our political differences may be. However great they may be, it is great that he is back.

Mr Speaker, is it that in intending to bring a specialist in criminal matters, it is intended to or there is a target waiting period for trials in the Supreme Court?

HON D A FEETHAM:

What does the hon Member mean by target waiting period?

HON F R PICARDO:

Do the Government, in bringing a fourth Puisne Judge who will be an expert in criminal matters, wish to bring down the waiting time that people will have to wait before trial to a specific period. Say, for example, six to twelve months rather than twelve to twenty four months. Is there a specific target?

HON D A FEETHAM:

No. At present there is no specific target because we are talking about a substantial backlog. I would be very disappointed indeed if, after we appoint a second criminal judge to deal with that backlog, that we are not talking about waiting periods that are comparable with best practices in the United Kingdom, certainly. Now, at present, there is no target period of time in terms of committal to actual trial.

NO. 174 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

VESSELS ARRESTED IN PORT OF GIBRALTAR

Can Government state how many vessels have been arrested in the port of Gibraltar since the answer to Question No. 830 of 2009 and, in respect of each, what costs have been incurred on a weekly basis, during the period of their arrests?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

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

May I also, because I am [*inaudible*] in not thanking the hon Gentleman Mr Picardo for his very kind words. I would like to thank him across the House today for his very kind card that he sent me when I was in hospital and also for his letter to my wife, which was very kind indeed. I would also thank Mr Licudi and also, indeed, Mr Costa for visiting me in the hospital, which again I appreciate, as indeed the words of my friend Dr Garcia, during the last meeting of the House.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 174

NAME OF SHIP	Oct-09 £	Nov-09 £	Dec-09 £	Jan-10 £	Feb-10 £	Mar-10 £	Apr-10 £	May-10 £
MV WESTERMUHLEN			75.00	35,352.11		2,572.09		
MV AVENUE PRIDE				1,962.48				
MV WEST EXPRESS					278.26			
MY MARIU					75.00			
MV ALKISTIS							701.71	
MV AGIA THEODORA								
MV MONTECARMELO								
MV LUNA/MANHATTAN LADY								
MV PRINCE OF OCEAN								
MV ZOU ZOU								
MV EMERALD STAR								
MV SAINT MARY								

Contd..

CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 174

NAME OF SHIP	Jun-10 £	Jul-10 £	Aug-10 £	Sep-10 £	Sep-10 \$	Oct-10 £	Nov-10 £	Dec-10 £
MV WESTERMUHLEN								
MV AVENUE PRIDE								
MV WEST EXPRESS						756.00		
MY MARIU								
MV ALKISTIS	68,982.29							
MV AGIA THEODORA				260,567.49	203,800.91			
MV MONTECARMELO			97,700.31			7,574.00		
MV LUNA/MANHATTAN LADY						4,375.80	75.00	
MV PRINCE OF OCEAN				235.58				
MV ZOU ZOU						1,743.20		
MV EMERALD STAR								
MV SAINT MARY								

NO. 175 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL – LEGISLATION

Can Government state when it expects to introduce legislation following the review it has carried out into the Industrial Tribunal?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Yes, in the first half of this year.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 175 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

There has been, as I understand it, a consultation process which has been carried out in respect of this matter. Can the Government give any indication, although we know that arrangements must be quite advanced if they do intend to bring legislation during the first half of this year? Can the Government give indications of the consultation and some details as to what has come out of that consultation and what policy initiatives will be introduced which changes the system which we currently have?

HON D A FEETHAM:

What we intend to do is, effectively, to completely revamp all the procedures that are currently in existence in relation to the Industrial Tribunal. The drafting has already, in fact, been completed and I did mention this during the course of my budget speech last year. The issue, the reason why there has been delay in terms of implementation of that legislation which is substantial is because it is predicated on the basis that there will be a permanent chairman of the Industrial Tribunal. That is the issue that the Government have got to get to grips with now because without the appointment of a permanent chairman of the Industrial Tribunal, backed up by the current system of your temporary ad hoc appointments when there are issues, for instance, of conflict or during other periods when, in fact, the permanent chairman cannot sit ... Unless we deal with that, of course, we cannot introduce the actual legislation. There is another issue as well that we have got to sort out and that is, of course, where we are going to be locating the Industrial Tribunal because at present it is very, very unsatisfactory to have a situation where it is located in the same room as you have the Job Centre in the Employment Ministry. Those are the issues that

we are grappling with at the present moment. We expect to deal with them quite shortly and, as I say, I expect that we will be introducing the legislation and also be announcing the appointment of a permanent chairman plus the relocation of the Industrial Tribunal, in the first half of this year.

HON N F COSTA:

Is the hon Member satisfied with the appointment of one permanent chairman to expedite the work of the court?

HON D A FEETHAM:

For a party that chastises the Government constantly on the spending of money, the hon Member is now suggesting that we fund two permanent chairmen of the Industrial Tribunal.

HON N F COSTA:

Not at all, Mr Speaker, not at all.

HON D A FEETHAM:

We think that, in fact, yes, one permanent chairman of the Industrial Tribunal will be sufficient. There have been those that have expressed the view ... I had a meeting this week with the Chief Justice, for instance, who has asked, well, will there be, in fact, enough work for a permanent chairman of the Industrial Tribunal and should we not, for instance, be thinking about combining the role of the permanent chairman of Industrial Tribunal with an additional Stipendiary Magistrate and splitting the work 50:50. Those are the kinds of issues that we are, again, grappling with. We do not envisage that there will be a need to appoint more than one permanent chairman of the Industrial Tribunal.

ORAL

NO. 176 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

**MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE (INTERNATIONAL) ACT 2005 – REQUESTS
RECEIVED FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many requests were received in Gibraltar in 2010 for legal assistance under the Mutual Legal Assistance (International) Act 2005, giving details of the assistance requested and whether such assistance was provided?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Answered together with Question Nos. 177 and 178 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 177 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

**MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE (EUROPEAN UNION) ACT 2005 – REQUESTS
RECEIVED FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

Can Government state how many requests were received in Gibraltar in 2010 for legal assistance under the Mutual Legal Assistance (European Union) Act 2005, giving details of the requesting state, the assistance requested and whether such assistance was provided?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Answered together with Question Nos. 176 and 178 of 2011.

NO. 178 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE (INTERNATIONAL) ACT 2005 / MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE (EUROPEAN UNION) ACT 2005 – REQUESTS MADE BY GIBRALTAR COURTS

Can Government state how many requests were made in 2010 by the Gibraltar courts or other authority in Gibraltar for legal assistance from another country under the Mutual Legal Assistance (European Union) Act 2005, the Mutual Legal Assistance (International) Act 2005 or any other provision of Gibraltar law, giving details of the country involved, the assistance requested and whether such assistance was provided?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Answer to Question Nos. 176 and 177 of 2011

In 2010 there were a total of 33 requests for legal assistance under the Mutual Legal Assistance (International) Act and the Mutual Legal Assistance (European Union) Act. Of these 33, ten were made under the MLA (International) Act and 23 were made under the MLA (European Union) Act.

A total of ten requests have been executed and the others are either pending or have been rejected for non-compliance with the legislation or the Attorney General has sought further information or clarification. Six were executed under the MLA (International) Act and four under the MLA (European Union) Act.

It is not appropriate to provide details of the assistance requested in what are ongoing investigations. I can, however, inform the hon Gentleman that of the ten requests made under the MLA (International) Act, one was a request to execute a search warrant, which was executed, and the remaining nine were requests for written depositions and production of documents. Of the 23 requests received under the MLA (European Union) Act, three that have been executed related to written depositions and the production of documents and the other executed request related to a request for a search warrant. The other pending 19 were requests for written depositions and production of documents except for two which relate to the service of documents and a request for the execution of a search warrant.

Details of the requesting states are provided to the hon Gentleman in a schedule that I now hand over to him.

Answer to Question No. 178 of 2011

In 2010 there were only two requests made by the authorities in Gibraltar, one to Spain and one to the UK, respectively. These relate to ongoing investigations and it is not appropriate to provide details of the assistance requested.

Answer to Question Nos. 176 to 178 of 2011

Answer to Question Nos. 176 and 177 of 2011

MLA (European Union) Act 2005

2 – Italy

5 – Portugal

6 – Spain

4 – Germany

1 – Switzerland

2 – Belgium

1 – The Netherlands

1 – The Czech Republic

2 – Sweden

MLA (International) Act 2005

9 – United Kingdom

1 – Jersey

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 176 TO 178 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Whilst I wait for the information on the other two questions, on the last answer, one request to Spain and one to the United Kingdom, can the hon Member or does he have information under which provision, which legislation those requests were made?

HON D A FEETHAM:

I do not have the information with me in relation to that, the exact legislation under which the request was actually made.

HON G H LICUDI:

In relation to the questions on which I have been given written answers, there is an issue which arises from one of these answers which I would like to check before asking a supplementary, so perhaps, with your leave, I may come back to this later. It is in relation to the list of countries.

HON D A FEETHAM:

Is this the United Kingdom point?

HON G H LICUDI:

Yes.

HON D A FEETHAM:

Does the hon Member really ... The hon Member has also asked another question which the Chief Minister is answering which is, why have there not been regulations introduced pursuant to section 23 of the Mutual Legal Assistance (European) Act. Is that the point that the hon Gentleman has in mind?

HON G H LICUDI:

No. I am aware that there is another question in the Order Paper in relation to arrangements with the United Kingdom but that relates to the European Union Act. I am, in fact, surprised to see the United Kingdom listed under the International Act, which raises a number of interesting issues. The last time I checked the legislation, the only country that had been listed, certainly in what I have under Schedule 2 of the International Act was the United States and, therefore, before asking and certainly I did not want to ask what other countries there are because it is something that I can check but given that this answer has been given in the way it has been given, I wanted to check the position myself to see that it was different to the last point that I had received. Unless the hon Member can assist on that and give details as to when

the United Kingdom and Jersey were added. Certainly, the last time I checked, which was last week, it did not appear to have been the case.

HON D A FEETHAM:

That is the point that I thought that the hon Gentleman was going to be making. The reason why requests made by the United Kingdom are actually dealt with under the International Act is because there is another Act called the Transnational Organised Crime Act. Now, if the hon Member looks at the Transnational Organised Crime Act and looks at, I think it is section 8 of that Act, it actually says that when the case falls on the Transnational Organised Crime Act, under section 8 it unlocks jurisdiction automatically under the Mutual Legal Assistance (International) Act. That is how requests actually fall under the International Act which for all intents and purposes is identical to the European Union Act. Now, the European Union Act, as the hon Gentleman knows, only applies to Schengen countries unless it is extended in relation to the United Kingdom by virtue of section 23. So, that is how these requests come to fall under the International Act. The hon Gentleman also knows that under the Transnational Organised Crime Act that, of course, it only applies if there is a transnational element and if the crime, if it had occurred in Gibraltar, is punishable by more than four years imprisonment. Now, the cases that do not actually fall within that particular Act and, therefore, cannot be dealt with under the International Act are then also dealt with via other gateways. For instance, the Evidence Act. That is also used in Gibraltar. There have been a number of requests that have been made that have actually been satisfied under the Evidence Act. There is also another gateway. In fact, I am trying to think exactly what the name of the Act is but at the moment it escapes me, but there are a number of other gateways. So, the reality of the situation is that, in fact, as far as requests from the United Kingdom are concerned, they are being dealt with under various statutory provisions. The issue which of course, is the subject matter of another question the hon Gentleman has is, would it not be more convenient to have regulations under section 23 and just deal with them under the European Union Act.

HON G H LICUDI:

I am very grateful for that explanation. It is obviously true that the Transnational Organised Crime Act allows a gateway in respect of the countries that are part of that. That comes from a United Nations Convention and the countries that are parties to that Convention do have a gateway through the International Act but it applies to very specific cases. Does the hon Member know, apart from the gateway of the Transnational Organised Crime Act which acts in very specific cases, apart from that, the position as I understand it is still that the general application of the MLA (International) Act is to the United States? Does the hon Member know whether there are any plans to extend that to any other country? Anything being done at this stage whereby the provisions of that Act will have more general application because we have the European Union Act applying to the Schengen area, not the United Kingdom. We have the International Act applying to the United States and transnational countries, UN countries that are part of that Convention where that applies, but that is a limited number of countries in respect of which there is Mutual Legal Assistance. Are there any plans to expand on that?

HON D A FEETHAM:

Not that I am aware of. It may well be that that is a matter that the hon Member wishes to ask later on. That I am aware of, no, I have not seen any application for an extension of the Schedule in the International Act to any other country. The hon Member will see that one of the requests is actually being made by Jersey. In fact, in relation to Jersey, the response is does the Transnational Organised Crime Act apply to them, effectively. Otherwise, there are difficulties.

NO. 179 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

TRANSPORT ROAD – RESURFACING AND IMPROVEMENT

Can Government state whether it has any plans to resurface and improve Transport Road and, if so, when this will occur?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The resurfacing of Transport Road is planned to be undertaken as part of the current financial year's road maintenance programme.

NO. 180 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

SMITH DORRIEN BRIDGE

Can Government state whether it has recovered any of the costs of repairs to Smith Dorrien Bridge following the damage caused in 2010 when lorries became stuck under the bridge?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

No costs have been recovered to date. As explained in my reply to supplementary to Question No. 1305 of 2010, the administrative process to do so is on-going.

NO. 181 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY

When do Government expect to be in a position to publish the results of the epidemiological study that was due to be completed by the end of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The epidemiological study will be published later today.

ORAL

NO. 182 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

When do Government expect to be in a position to finally publish an Environmental Action and Management Plan?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Government intend to release the plan to the public before the end of January this year.

NO. 183 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

ASBESTOS REMOVAL

How many contractors in Gibraltar have, since 1st January 2008, been authorised to remove asbestos and can Government provide a list of these?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answered together with Question No. 184 of 2011.

NO. 184 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

ASBESTOS DUMPING SITES

In what sites, if any, in Gibraltar can asbestos be dumped?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answer to Question No. 183 of 2011

Contractors do not need to be authorised for the removal of asbestos containing materials.

The Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations requires that, prior to the removal of asbestos-containing materials, contractors must identify the type of asbestos, carry out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment, prepare a plan of works and implement the control measures.

Under these regulations, contractors are also bound to notify, in writing, the Health & Safety Inspectorate providing the following particulars:

- the location;
- the maximum quantity to be removed;
- the number of workers involved;
- the measures taken to limit the exposure of employees; and
- the commencement date and its expected duration.

The Health and Safety Inspectorate ensures that the established procedure for the asbestos removal is followed.

Answer to Question No. 184 of 2011

There are no sites in Gibraltar approved for the legal disposal of asbestos. Licences for the temporary storage of asbestos waste, pending final disposal to approved disposal sites in Spain, are granted under Part VA of the Public Health Act by the Environmental Agency. Records of these licences are held by the Agency and readily available for inspection at their offices.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 183 AND 184 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

Can the hon Gentleman tell us, if he has the information to provide the House as a supplementary, how many notifications the Health and Safety Inspectorate received of the type that he has referred to in answer to Question No. 183 of 2011?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Yes. Indeed I can. Since the 1st of January 2008, eight contractors have notified in writing to the Health and Safety Inspectorate in respect of removal of asbestos containing materials. These are HSE Consulting Limited, Skybridge Limited, Safety Solutions Limited, Home Emergency Repairs Services, Haymills (Gibraltar) Limited, AKIS Enterprises Limited, Monteverde and Sons Limited and finally, last but not least, SERCO Limited.

NO. 185 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

RUBBISH BIN STORE AT CASTLE STEPS

When are Government going to re-provide, in a more hygienic manner than is presently the case in its currently dilapidated state, the bin store facility that was previously in place at the bottom of Castle Steps?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The refuse holding facility at the bottom of Castle Steps was demolished last year and, therefore, no longer exists in any state, dilapidated or otherwise.

The new refuse holding facility provided at the site behind the Plater Youth Club was intended to service the residents who had made use of the facility at the bottom of Castle Steps. This has not worked out to the satisfaction of the service and hence a temporary arrangement has been adopted.

There are difficulties in providing a proper facility at the bottom of Castle Steps and a technical assessment is being carried out to determine what, if any, possibilities are available.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 185 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

I am very grateful to the hon Gentleman for that answer. Of course, I think I owe it to the House to interpret for the House and for those listening what “demolished last year” means. “Demolished last year” means that somebody took a hammer or any such implement and demolished the thing, left the rubble where it is and now the rubbish is piled up on top of the rubble. In fact, could the hon Gentleman tell us what, in his interpretation, the temporary facilities are and whether that just involves that people continue to dump rubbish where the bin store used to be?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Sorry Mr Speaker, I missed something there. Could I tell the hon Member what is my interpretation?

HON F R PICARDO:

Yes. A temporary facility is ... Is it just that people are allowed to continue dumping where they used to dump?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

It would appear to me that the hon Member has either not visited the site or is relying on third party information. I will pass over to the hon Member photographs of the site as it currently exists.

MR SPEAKER:

I am not sure Hansard will be able to record that. I think the Minister will have to describe those photographs for the benefit of Hansard.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Okay. I am quite willing to describe them and then pass them on to him subsequently.

HON F R PICARDO:

If it is any assistance to the hon Gentleman, on previous occasions when I have attempted to pass a photograph, Mr Speaker has said similar things and you have allowed me to pass them as long as I described them. So, I am happy to receive them whilst the hon Gentleman gives an audible description for the rest of those who may be listening.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Essentially, I am at your discretion.

MR SPEAKER:

I think a description will be more helpful because there is no facility for recording photographs in Hansard.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Fine, I will still make them available to the hon Member, subsequently, but the situation fundamentally is as follows. The bricks and mortar, as the hon Member said, facility that had existed was demolished with a sledge hammer or whatever and now no longer exists. It is not true to say that the rubble is still there, as the photographs show, and for a period of time it was intended that as a test, and I said this in previous answers in the House, that the members of the public who had been using this facility were encouraged by letter to use the new facility behind the Plater Youth Club. Unfortunately, this did not happen. A number of people did, but a

number of people did not and this may be the pile of refuse that the hon Member refers to when he says that it was there on the ground. Because people were not, for two reasons, one because people were not reacting to the urging of the Department of the Environment and the refuse collection service to take the refuse to the Plater Youth Club and, secondly, because the Government are engaged in a much wider exercise looking at all existing refuse holding facilities in order to improve these. Because of that, what I did was to ask the Department to put in a temporary facility at the bottom of Castle Steps and this is what the photographs show. Six bins, one on either side of the steps, at which people are now depositing their refuse and the bins were, although I do not see the labels now, yes I see it on one of them, clearly labelled, 'Temporary Refuse Holding Area' on the bins themselves. That is in the spirit of what I have just described. That is exactly what was intended. A temporary facility until the study, the technical study which has been carried out, not just at Castle Steps but at all refuse holding facilities throughout Gibraltar and until the Castle Steps one is completed and we see whether difficulties like, the narrowness of the road, the difficulties with neighbours, difficulties with parking facilities. Until we weigh up the situation and decide what further action to take, that is the situation in a nutshell.

HON F R PICARDO:

Does the hon Gentleman have any idea how long it is going to take to finalise the study that he refers to because that, I think, will give us a clue of how temporary, temporary will be?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

It is difficult to answer that in one word. I cannot give him a date but suffice it to say that the study is ongoing in phases and the first phase is already at the design stage, but what we are doing is staging a series of sites and assessing them. For example, if the first phase consisted of twenty sites, we may have decided to proceed with fifteen which were less problematical and kept five pending and started on the second phase. So, it is a roll over situation. It all depends ... I cannot give him a date for the full programme and neither can I give him a date for Castle Steps, but I can say that Castle Steps is already being looked at.

ORAL

NO. 186 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

**TRANSMISSION TO EU OF LISTS OF SITES DESIGNATED AS BEING OF
COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE UNDER NATURE PROTECTION ACT**

How many lists of sites designated as being of “Community importance” under the provisions of section 17B(1) have been transmitted to the Secretary of State since 30th May 1996 for sending to the Commission under the provisions of section 17B(3) of the Nature Protection Act 1991?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Two sites of community importance have been designated under the provisions of section 17B(1) of the Nature Protection Act 1991 and this information was transmitted to the UK Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for onward transmission to the European Commission.

NO. 187 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF HABITATS DIRECTIVE IN GIBRALTAR WATERS

What action are the Government taking to monitor implementation of the Habitats Directive in Gibraltar waters?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

At present, activity is limited to certain monitoring, and industry specific regulation, such as, for example, the bunkering Code. But Government will very shortly be announcing further measures.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 187 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

I am obliged to the hon Gentleman for that answer and for the discussion that we had earlier.

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I indeed am also obliged to the hon Member for his positive attitude to my answers.

ORAL

NO. 188 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB – REVENUE FROM UPPER ROCK ADMISSION FEES

Can Government confirm how much revenue has been raised on a monthly basis in admission fees to the Upper Rock in June, July and August 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answered together with Question No. 189 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 189 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB – REVENUE FROM UPPER ROCK ADMISSION FEES

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised on a monthly basis, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, in admission fees to the Upper Rock?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answer to Question No. 188 and 189 of 2011

The information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule which will be handed to him now.

Answer to Question Nos. 188 and 189 of 2011

MONTH	UPPER ROCK REVENUE RAISED
JUNE	£323,835.84
JULY	£400,891.98
AUGUST	£451,619.63
SEPTEMBER	£425,005.14
OCTOBER	£367,277.82
NOVEMBER	£169,010.26
TOTAL	£2,137,640.67

ORAL

NO. 190 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

UPPER ROCK AND ITS TOURIST SITES – DISCUSSIONS WITH BLAND GROUP

Are Government in discussions with the Bland Group of companies in relation to the changes which they are considering, or looking into, for the Upper Rock and its tourist sites?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answered together with Question Nos. 191 to 193 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 191 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

UPPER ROCK AND ITS TOURIST SITES – APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE / BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Can Government confirm whether they are considering, or looking into, appointing a Chief Executive for the Upper Rock and its tourist sites and a board of directors?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Answered together with Question Nos. 190, 192 and 193 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 192 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

UPPER ROCK AND ITS TOURIST SITES – PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

Can Government say whether the changes they are considering, or looking into, for the Upper Rock and its tourist sites include private sector involvement and, if so, what form will this take?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONEMNT AND TOURISM

Answered together with Question Nos. 190, 191 and 193 of 2011.

NO. 193 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

UPPER ROCK AND ITS TOURIST SITES – CHANGES IN THE WAY THEY ARE MANAGED

Can Government confirm whether they are considering, or looking into, making a change to the way in which the Upper Rock and/or its tourist sites are managed and, if so, what is it?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The Government are not in discussions with the Bland Group of companies in relation to any changes which it is considering, or looking into, for the Upper Rock and its tourist sites.

The change that the Government are considering, in respect of the Upper Rock, is to create an Upper Rock Holistic Management Plan and an Upper Rock Authority to execute and manage this plan.

The main issues affecting the Upper Rock are:

- (a) Operation and Management
- (b) Flora and Fauna
- (c) Geological Structures (including Caves)
- (d) Historical Buildings and Structures
- (e) Roads, Utilities and other Infrastructures
- (f) Tourist Sites and Visitor Experience
- (g) Traffic and Transport
- (h) Capital Investments/Works Programme
- (i) Maintenance Programme
- (j) Legislative issues

A Consultation Paper is being prepared in order to give stakeholders, interested parties and the public in general as much opportunity as possible to contribute towards the policy making decisions leading to the preparation and planning of the Upper Rock Holistic Management Plan.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 190 TO 193 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the hon Member say why the Government think these issues can be best handled by an Authority as opposed to by the present arrangements?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

I am sorry Mr Speaker. Can the Government say what instead of what?

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Why does the Government believe that these issues can be best handled by an Authority as opposed to by the present arrangements?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Precisely, because of the long list of issues labelled (a) to (j) which I have just read out. Currently ... Well, let us put it this way. In the last term, the Upper Rock came under two Ministers, the Minister for Tourism and the Minister for the Environment. Since the election and since some time subsequent to the election, since I took over tourism, there is only one Minister involved, but as the hon Member will see from the long list of issues, there are, in fact, more than one, more than two Ministers with a more than passing interest in the Upper Rock. So, that is why we are considering the creation of a Holistic Management Plan which will look at all issues, which will have mechanisms for bringing all issues up and to the fore and for the decisions to be taken.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In what timescale do the Government expect to have this Consultation Paper available?

HON LT-COL E M BRITTO:

Shortly.

NO. 194 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB – TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

How many meetings of the Tourism Advisory Council have taken place since the information supplied in the last Question Time in this Parliament and on what dates?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

No meetings of the Tourism Advisory Council have taken place since the information supplied in the last Question Time in this Parliament.

NO. 195 OF 2011**THE HON DR J J GARCIA****GTB – TOURISM MINISTER'S TRAVELS ABROAD ON GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

Can the Minister with responsibility for tourism give the dates when he has been away from Gibraltar on Government business, since the last Question Time in this Parliament, giving the event or function attended, the venue, the city and the country visited?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM**

DATES	EVENT/FUNCTION	VENUE	CITY	COUNTRY
8 th to 10 th November 2010	World Travel Market and meeting of the UKGTA	Excel Exhibition Centre and Gibraltar House	London	UK

NO. 196 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GTB – HOTEL STAYS

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 the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, stating where they were interviewed and the number interviewed at each location and, in the case of those who stayed at hotels, what was the average length of stay in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The information requested by the hon Member is contained in the schedule which has just been handed to him.

Answer to Question 196

Answer to Question 196 of 2011

a) Stayed at Hotel:-

	Total No. of Interviews	Stayed at Hotel	Airport Interviews	Average length of Stay	Frontier Interviews	Average length of Stay	Elsewhere Interviews	Average length of Stay
Aug 2010	1886	56	54	4.6	2	5.0	-	-
Sept 2010	1407	20	17	5.1	3	4.0	-	-

b) Not stayed at Hotel

	Total Interviews Not Stayed at Hotel	Airport	Port	Frontier	Waterport	Marina	Coach Park
Aug 2010	1830	119	164	1504	-	1	42
Sept 2010	1387	33	14	1281	-	-	59

ORAL

NO. 197 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – DOMESTIC PRIMARY UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the number of domestic primary units of water invoiced in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 198 to 202 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 198 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – DOMESTIC PRIMARY UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the value of domestic primary units of water invoiced in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 197 and 199 to 202 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 199 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – AMOUNTS BILLED AND COLLECTED

Can Government state what were the amounts collected and the amounts billed in respect of water in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 197, 198 and 200 to 202 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 200 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the value of domestic secondary units of water invoiced for the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 197 to 199, 201 and 202 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 201 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the number of customers that were invoiced for domestic secondary units of water in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 197 to 200 and 202 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 202 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

WATER – STANDING CHARGES INVOICED

Can Government state the value of water standing charges invoiced to domestic customers in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

Answer to Question Nos. 197 to 202 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 197 of 2011

The number of domestic primary units of water invoiced in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as set out below:

September 2010	413,659
October 2010	398,032
November 2010	418,472
December 2010	398,154

Answer to Question No. 198 of 2011

The value of domestic primary units of water invoiced in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is:

September 2010	£103,001
October 2010	£ 99,110
November 2010	£104,199
December 2010	£ 99,140

Answer to Question No. 199 of 2011

The amounts collected and the amounts billed in respect of water in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 are as follows:

	Amounts Collected	Amounts Billed
September 2010	£555,747	£587,135
October 2010	£504,474	£529,570
November 2010	£546,138	£946,237
December 2010	£528,922	£514,758

Answer to Question No. 200 of 2011

Value of the domestic secondary units of water invoiced for the months of September 2010 to December 2010:

September 2010	£155,443
October 2010	£118,949
November 2010	£108,281
December 2010	£104,108

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 197 to 202 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 201 of 2011

The number of customers that were invoiced for domestic secondary units of water in the months of September 2010 to December 2010:

September 2010	5,974
October 2010	5,309
November 2010	5,220
December 2010	5,110

Answer to Question No. 202 of 2011

The value of water standing charges invoiced to domestic customers in the months of September 2010 to December 2010:

September 2010	£39,852
October 2010	£39,597
November 2010	£40,239
December 2010	£42,135

ORAL

NO. 203 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS COLLECTED

Can Government state what were the amounts collected in respect of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 204 to 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 204 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – DOMESTIC SECONDARY UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the number of domestic secondary units in respect of electricity invoiced in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203 and 205 to 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 205 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – AMOUNTS BILLED

Can Government state what were the amounts billed in respect of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203, 204 and 206 to 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 206 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT

Can Government state the total value invoiced to domestic customers in respect of Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203 to 205 and 207 to 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 207 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – STANDING CHARGES

Can Government state the total value invoiced to domestic customers in respect of electricity standing charges in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203 to 206 and 208 to 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 208 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – T3 (DOMESTIC) UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the total value invoiced to customers in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203 to 207, 209 and 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 209 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – T3 (DOMESTIC CONSUMERS) UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the number of T3 (Domestic Consumers) units of electricity invoiced to customers in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 203 to 208 and 210 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 210 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – T3 (DOMESTIC) UNITS INVOICED

Can Government state the number of customers invoiced in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

Answer to Question Nos. 203 to 210 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 203 of 2011

The amount collected in respect of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

Month	Amount Collected
September 2010	£1,976,394.17
October 2010	£1,845,198.75
November 2010	£1,847,820.28
December 2010	£1,575,290.54

Answer to Question No. 204 of 2011

There is only one single domestic tariff.

Answer to Question No. 205 of 2011

The amounts billed in respect of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Invoiced	£2,137,569.10	£1,789,543.89	£1,718,743.56	£1,761,847.14

Answer to Question No. 206 of 2011

The total value invoiced to domestic customers in respect of Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Invoiced	£183,357	£164,841	£173,307	£198,244

Answer to Question No. 207 of 2011

The total value invoiced to domestic customers in respect of electricity standing charges in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

Month	Total Value Invoiced re Electricity Standing Charges to Domestic Customers
September 2010	£54,848
October 2010	£55,504
November 2010	£55,778
December 2010	£55,516

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 203 to 210 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 208 of 2011

The total value invoiced to customers in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Invoiced	£641,585	£582,994	£610,359	£689,905

Answer to Question No. 209 of 2011

The number of T3 (Domestic Consumers) units of electricity invoiced to customers in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Units Invoiced	4,583,868	4,121,020	4,332,666	4,956,194

Answer to Question No. 210 of 2011

The number of customers invoiced in respect of T3 (Domestic) units of electricity in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Consumers	13,911	13,892	13,897	13,907

ORAL

NO. 211 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

ELECTRICITY – PURCHASED FROM OESCO

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from OESCO in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 212 to 214 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 212 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

GEA – UNITS AND VALUE OF ELECTRICITY PURCHASED FROM MOD

Can Government state the number of units and the value of electricity purchased from the MOD in the months of September 2010 to December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 211, 213 and 214 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 213 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GEA – ELECTRICITY SUPPLIED BY MOD - HOW PAID FOR

Can Government state what was the amount of electricity supplied by MOD in 2009/2010 and how much of it was repaid by electricity supplied by the Gibraltar Electricity Authority and how much was paid for in cash and at what cost?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 211, 212 and 214 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 214 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GEA – PRICE COMPARISON OF ELECTRICITY PURCHASED FROM MOD AND OESCO

Can Government confirm whether electricity is purchased from MOD at the same price as is purchased from OESCO and, if not, what is the price differential?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The information requested by the hon Members is set out in this schedule which I now hand to them.

Answer to Question Nos. 211 to 214 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 211 of 2011

The number of units and the value of electricity purchased from OESCO in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Units (kWh)	8,139,690	8,335,460	8,707,960	9,244,060
Value	£1,249,105.70	£1,281,711.70	£1,290,856.77	£1,448,623.61

Answer to Question No. 212 of 2011

The number of units and the value of electricity purchased from the MOD in the months of September 2010 to December 2010 is as follows:

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010
Units (kWh)	351,045	306,665	321,661	364,581
Value	£44,395.25	£38,974.16	£40,477.35	£46,328.17

Answer to Question No. 213 of 2011

The MOD supplied 4,910,958 units during 2009/2010 at a cost of £554,078 directly to GEA consumers.

Answer to Question No. 214 of 2011

The price of electricity purchased from the MOD varies to the price of electricity bought from OESCO.

This differential fluctuates given the purchase price includes the Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) which is a variable amount.

At December there was a price differential of 1.048 pence in favour of OESCO.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 211 TO 214 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In answer to Question No. 213 of 2011 where the hon Member is giving me the figure of the units supplied by the MOD and the cost, does it mean that none of it was repaid. This is the whole of the units supplied because I asked whether any of it was repaid by using the interconnector the other way or whether the whole ... Is it that the whole of it was paid for?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. This is the whole of the purchase which is supplied ... the Gibraltar Electrical Authority, consumers are actually supplied by the MOD because of their network arrangements.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see. This is the MOD supplying consumers who are then billed by the Electricity Authority and the Electricity Authority pays the MOD?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, in fact, there has not been any use of the interconnector, then, because my question was drafted on the basis that there has always been an arrangement where, when there is a problem of supply, the MOD uses the interconnector to supply electricity to the Gibraltar Government which, frequently, is then paid for, as it were, by returning the favour when they need electricity. Has that not happened?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. If the hon Member looks to the answer in Question No. 212 of 2011, he will see that there are various quantities of electricity that have been purchased, for example, in September, October, November and December, from the MOD, and we have specified the number of units and the value of that. So, that has been happening in parallel to the number of units that have been supplied by the MOD to GEA consumers.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see, but the answer to Question No. 212 of 2011 is for September to December 2010 and the answer to Question No. 213 of 2011 is up to March 2010. So I cannot very well relate the figures from one to the figures of the other. They are from different financial years.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The hon Member is correct. That information has not been supplied and has been overlooked in the answer but I can supply him with the information because it is readily available. Would the hon Member like me to write to him with the information?

HON J J BOSSANO:

It is just that I am not sure ...

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I may be able to have the information later on in this sitting which will complete the picture.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It is just that I am not sure how to interpret the answer in the absence of whether there has been, as well as cash, an exchange of units of electricity.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. Correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In relation to Question No. 214 of 2011, I asked whether the electricity purchased is at the same price as that, and I am told that there is a price differential in favour of OESCO. Given that it is not supplied to OESCO, it is supplied to the Government, does that mean that in December it was cheaper than OESCO? Is that what, in favour of OESCO, means or the other way round?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. It means that OESCO was actually cheaper by 1.048p in the month of December.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

That is given to him as an example but does not necessarily follow all the time. It depends on the Fuel Cost Adjustment which is variable.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Do the Government, in deciding whether to source electricity from one or the other, take into account, at any given time, what the price is or not?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes it does and, obviously, it also depends on the availability of the actual electricity. In other words, it is not common for the MOD to have a surplus of electricity for sale but OESCO obviously does, but when there is an option, obviously, it goes for the most cost effective.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the Minister able to say whether the new arrangements, which are due to come in, in the next financial year on the 1st April, where there will be a Government company running the station, will alter in any way the backup that the station provides to the Gibraltar Government, given that they will be the operator?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am unable to provide the hon Member with that information. I am not conscious of the details of that.

ORAL

NO. 215 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

POWER CUTS

Can Government state how many power cuts there have been during the months of September 2010 to December 2010, stating where these occurred and their duration?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

Answer to Question No. 215 of 2011

There have been a total of eleven power cuts affecting one or more districts as detailed below:

Date	Duration	District
Wednesday 1 st September 2010	7 minutes	Three Districts from WPS: 13, 14 & 18.
Sunday 19 th September 2010	7 – 9 minutes	Two districts from WPS: 13 & 18.
Thursday 23 rd September 2010	15 m – 1 hr 25 minutes	Five districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 & 23. Three districts from OBDC: 3, 7 & 9.
Friday 8 th October 2010	3 – 9 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court.
Monday 11 th October 2010	2 – 16 minutes	Two Districts from WPS: S65 & S59
Monday 18 th October 2010	5 – 11 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court
Friday 22 nd October 2010	4 – 7 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court
Sunday 14 th November 2010	3 – 13 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court
Wednesday 17 th November 2010	27 – 28 minutes	One district from WPS: S65. One district from OBDC: S14. One district from JBDC: S41.
Wednesday 17 th November 2010	2 – 7 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court.
Monday 20 th December 2010	4 – 7 minutes	Four Districts from WPS: 13, 14, 15, 18 and Bedlam Court

ORAL

NO. 216 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

**HEAD 101 - SUBHEAD 1(g) GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY –
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the Improvement and Development Fund expenditure of £386,000 for 2009/2010 shown at Head 101 - Subhead 1(g) Gibraltar Electricity Authority, showing who the money was paid to, when and for what purpose?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 217 of 2011.

NO. 217 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

**HEAD 101 - SUBHEAD 2(c) GOVERNMENT COMPUTERISATION PROGRAMME
– BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE**

Can Government provide a breakdown of the Improvement and Development Fund expenditure of £620,000 for 2009/2010 shown at Head 101 - Subhead 2(c) Government Computerisation Programme, showing who the money was paid to, when and for what purpose?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

ANSWER TO QUESTION 217
Answer to Question 216/2011

The Improvement and Development Fund expenditure for 2009/2010 was £485,680.43 and the details of the payments are shown below:

Date	Payee	Purpose	£
6/05/09	Government General Account	Repairs to Engine No.3	3,058.75
6/05/09	Eastgate	Scada System Development	349.44
19/05/09	Eastgate	Scada System Development	238.35
10/07/09	Government General Account	Scada System Development	998.30
07/09/09	Parking Facilities Limited	Plant & Machinery	1,804.00
07/09/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	23.57
22/09/09	PAT Services Ltd	Test Equipment	3,163.00
23/09/09	Beacon Press	Furniture & Filing Systems	139.00
23/09/09	Schneider Electric Ltd	Scada System Development	12,251.00
23/09/09	E.J Hammond Ltd	Tools	34.70
23/09/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	131.94
28/09/09	Redwood	Scada System Development	25.00
28/09/09	Headset Services Ltd	Tools	939.00
30/09/09	Mifsud Electrofreeze Ltd	Plant & Machinery	1,397.00
30/09/09	A Bassadone Motors	Transport-New Vehicles	19,995.00
12/10/09	Rock Domestic Appliances	Tools	21.00
12/10/09	E.D.G. Gib (Ltd)	Tools	284.51
12/10/09	Hire U Shop Ltd	Tools	23.00
12/10/09	Man Diesel Ltd	Repairs to Engine No.3	178.80
12/10/09	Rock Cool	Plant & Machinery	3,920.00
12/10/09	E.J. Hammond	Tools	97.90
12/10/09	Beacon Press	Furniture & Filing Systems	189.00
12/10/09	Redwood (Int) Ltd	Repairs to Engine No.3	31.46
21/10/09	G.T.R.	Tools	560.00
21/10/09	Khubchands Ltd	Tools	374.00
23/10/09	Electrica Chaves	Tools	116.41
23/10/09	E.J. Hammonds Ltd	Tools	44.25
26/10/09	T.I. Thermal Imaging Ltd	Test Equipment	12,700.00
27/10/09	Hire U Shop Ltd	Tools	2,950.79
28/10/09	G.T.R.	Tools	31.50
10/11/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	7.90

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Continued answer to Question 216

Date	Payee	Purpose	£
10/11/09	E.D.G.(Gib) Ltd	Tools	396.22
10/11/09	J.J. Tool Hire	Tools	3,014.02
10/11/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	1,672.50
20/11/09	M. Marquez & Co. Ltd	Tools	420.00
20/11/09	Hire U Shop Ltd	Tools	865.91
20/11/09	Interbuild	Tools	43.90
20/11/09	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Street Lighting	347.40
20/11/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	75.97
20/11/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	459.14
20/11/09	E.J. Hammond	Tools	7.95
20/11/09	New Found Energy Ltd	Test Equipment	2,354.00
20/11/09	Marwood Electrical Co. Ltd	Street Lighting	2,509.24
23/11/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	240.00
23/11/09	Interbuild	Tools	66.95
23/11/09	E.J. Hammond	Tools	33.50
23/11/09	Rock Cool	Plant & Machinery	10,840.00
27/11/09	Redwood (In t) Ltd	Test Equipment	15.00
27/11/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	7.14
01/12/09	Rock Cool	Plant & Machinery	1,780.00
01/12/09	Carlin	Furniture & Filing Systems	225.00
01/12/09	C.I.A.P Ltd	Repairs to buildings	3,829.00
01/12/09	various suppliers	I.T. Hardware	5,866.49
01/12/09	Europa Enterprises Ltd	Transport New Vehicles	7,700.00
08/12/09	Hire U Shop	Tools	21.54
08/12/09	Suregrave Ltd	Plant & Machinery	5,866.57
08/12/09	Government General Account	Test Equipment	664.68
08/12/09	Redwood (In t) Ltd	Test Equipment	30.00
17/12/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	5,569.99
17/12/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Test Equipment	2,393.08
17/12/09	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	31.00
17/12/09	Beacon Press	Furniture & Filing Systems	567.00
18/01/10	Eastgate	Test Equipment	10.00
18/01/10	G.T.R.	Floodlights Rock Face	45,604.00
18/01/10	E.D.G.(Gib) Ltd	Tools	463.73
18/01/10	Hire U Shop	Tools	43.13

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Continued answer to Question 216

Date	Payee	Purpose	£
18/01/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Street Lighting	866.66
23/01/10	Various Suppliers	Repairs to Engine No.3	106,371.12
22/01/10	Hire U Shop Ltd	Tools	50.25
22/01/10	High Voltage Instruments Ltd	Tools	517.50
22/01/10	Rock Domestic Appliances	Furniture & Filing Systems	399.00
22/01/10	Wilkie Ltd	Building Works Substation	4,705.76
22/01/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Street Lighting	1,309.10
22/01/10	Popay Ltd	Tools	6,700.00
27/01/10	Leed Transport	ISGS GEA 2 ND INTERCONNECTOR-JUMPERS TO ISGS	19,950.00
27/01/10	Popay Ltd	Tools	2,985.00
28/01/09	Government General Account	Scada System Development	368.22
28/01/09	Government General Account	Scada System Development	222.18
28/01/09	Government General Account	Repairs to Engine No.3	275.82
29/01/10	Schneider Electric	Plant & Machinery	7,784.00
29/01/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Repairs to Engine No.3	641.36
01/02/10	Hire U Shop	Tools	2,229.48
01/02/10	G.T.R.	Tools	57.00
01/02/10	Interbuild	Tools	153.90
01/02/10	Portman Ltd	ISGS GEA 2 ND INTERCONNECTOR-JUMPERS TO ISGS	568.90
05/02/10	E.J. Hammond	Tools	34.80
08/02/10	Image Graphics (Gib) Ltd	Office Equipment	19,500.00
08/02/10	Marwood Electrical Co. Ltd	Street Lighting	9,654.44

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Continued answer to Question 216

08/02/10	Omicron	Test Equipment	40,806.29
08/02/10	Government General Account	Test Equipment	4,448.33
10/02/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Meter Testing Station	4,486.70
11/02/10	Hire U Shop	Tools	233.88
11/02/10	Rock Domestic Appliances	Plant & Machinery	89.00
15/02/10	Cemats Ltd	Tools	13.04
15/02/10	E.D.G (Gib) Ltd	Tools	114.35
16/02/10	Government General Account	Plant & Machinery	713.35

Date	Payee	Purpose	£
16/02/10	Eastgate	Tools	127.68
16/02/10	Eastgate	Plant & Machinery	10.00
16/02/10	Eastgate	Test Equipment	10.00
17/02/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Street Lighting	1,470.50
17/02/10	Trident Freight Services Ltd	Plant & Machinery	31.26
25/02/10	Europa Enterprises Ltd	Transport New Vehicles	8,300.00
25/02/10	Schneider Electric Ltd	ISGS GEA 2 ND INTERCONNECTOR-JUMPERS TO ISGS	8,690.00
25/02/10	Beacon Press	Furniture & Filing Systems	113.18
25/02/10	E.J. Hammond	Tools	124.20
10/03/10	Afora S.A.	Tools	2,870.08
12/03/10	Rock Domestic Appliances	Furniture & Filing Systems	394.00
12/03/10	Beacon Press	Furniture & Filing Systems	404.00
12/03/10	Hire U Shop	Tools	762.23
19/03/10	Schenider Electric Ltd	Scada System Development	22,311.00
19/03/10	Parody & Barcio	Office Equipment	333.00
19/03/10	Galaxy	Tools	199.00
22/03/10	E.J. Hammond	Tools	48.65
22/03/10	Westex (Gib) Ltd	Tools	32.25
23/03/10	Digital Corner	I.T. Hardware	1,090.00
23/03/10	Hire U Shop	Tools	847.34
29/03/10	E.D.I. Engineering Ltd	Meter Testing Station	31,150.01

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Answer to Question 217

The breakdown of the Improvement and Development Fund expenditure for 2009/2010 shown at Head 101 Sub-Head 2(c) Government Computerisation Programme, showing who the money was paid to, when and for what purpose is shown in the Schedule that I now hand to the Hon Member.

Head 101 Sub-Head 2(c) Government Computerisation Programme 2009-2010	
Date	Description
01-Apr-09	Mr A Crawford , Mr J Rodriguez & Mr A Perera subsistence allowance from 06-04-09 to 08-04-09 official visit Geneva icw New Customs System
02-Jul-09	Digital Corner - Portable External Hard Disk
02-Jul-09	Netgear - Toshiba 1 TB Ext Drive
02-Jul-09	Liberty Electronic Ltd - Sumsung TV / Monitor
02-Jul-09	Mediterranean Computer Services Ltd - Computer Services
03-Jul-09	Music Corner - Hard disk
03-Jul-09	E.J. Hammond and Sons Ltd - Torx Bits Set & Screwdriver
03-Jul-09	Automated Training Systems Ltd - Computer services and equipment
06-Jul-09	Spook Limited - Computer Maintenance
07-Aug-09	TQS Ltd - Travel Expenses in respect of M oyarzabal's visit, 28/06 - 01/07/09 and works in connection with budget & Tax year end changes
05-Aug-09	Icon Business Systems Ltd - Asus Monitor
05-Aug-09	Mediterranean Computer Services Ltd - Cable
05-Aug-09	Netgear - Computer Equipment
06-Aug-09	Building ConsultancyServices Ltd - Fibre Optic Panels & Cable Connection

Cont...

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Continued answer to Question 217

06-Aug-09	TQS Ltd - Works for DSS, Tax, Salaries, Wages, Pension June and Travel & Accommodation Expenses iro M Oyarzabal's visit, 10/03-20/03/09
06-Aug-09	Near Technologies - Consultation Fees
14-Sep-09	TQS Ltd - Works undertaken by Mike Oyarzabal IRO tax year end changes and budget changes
30-Sep-09	Adj IRO misallocation of TPV Sep-11 IRO TQS inv 4036 ICW Income Tax
01-Oct-09	Building Consultancy Services Ltd - (DSS & No 6) to supply and instal computer equipment
01-Oct-09	Icon Business Systems Ltd - Asus PC's, keyboard & mouse
01-Oct-09	Netgear - point switch
02-Oct-09	MCS Ltd - computer equipment & corporate labour
20-Oct-09	EDG Ltd - cables
20-Oct-09	Netgear - laptop, deynamode switch & computer equipment
20-Oct-09	MCS Ltd - computer equipment
20-Oct-09	Micro Business Systems - configure Imis software & installation on Server GDB1 & migrate data
22-Oct-09	ATS Ltd - computer equipment
22-Oct-09	Trident Freight Services Ltd - freight payment
29-Oct-09	Adj IRO misallocation of TPV Jul-2912
02-Nov-09	TQS - works undertaken icw Wages, Salaries & Pensions Dept
02-Nov-09	Near Technologies - Consultation Fees
04-Nov-09	Elite Travel Ltd - Hotel & air passages (Portugal) - H.Orfila & A. Crawford re: Interreg Disaster Recovery 09 to 11-Sept-09
17-Nov-09	Netgear - DVD Box, Switch & Router ADSL
18-Nov-09	ATS Ltd - Computer equipment, hardware transport costs and travel expenses for Mr J Cooper & Mr J Wake
01-Dec-09	Mediterranean Computer Service Limited - Computer Equipment
01-Dec-09	TQS Ltd - Works undertaken by Mike Oyarzabal IRO Tax
01-Dec-09	TQS - Professional services rendered in relation to DSS/TAX Intergration
03-Dec-09	O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel - Hotel accommodation on behalf of Mr J Cooper and Mr J Wake for the period 06/11/09-10/11/09
04-Dec-09	Near Technologies - Consultation fees

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 217

Continued answer to Question 217

04-Dec-09	MCS Ltd - network card - (M Llamas) - Laptop - (S Ramagge) - printer - (Technical Services) - Adobe Acrobat professional
04-Dec-09	E J Hammond & Sons Ltd - Electric Extensions -
04-Dec-09	Netgear - 2 GB Rom -
04-Dec-09	Saverland - adaptors
04-Dec-09	TQS Ltd - works undertaken icw DSS, Income Tax & access to GDC Salaries
04-Dec-09	Piranha Designs - Graphic design for Govt website
12-Jan-10	TQS Ltd - Air Fare & Accommodation re visit made by Mike Oyarzabal iro Tax Office -
12-Jan-10	Building Consultancy Services Ltd - cabling icw works carried out in Social Services Dept, Consumer Dept & Customs House
12-Jan-10	MCS Ltd - computer equipment & corporate labour
12-Jan-10	Netgear - computer equipment
12-Jan-10	Near Technologies - Consultation Fees
29-Jan-10	Adj regarding payment of \$668,745.00 to UNCTAD in respect of the Customs Asycuda
01-Mar-10	Near Technologies - Consultation Fees
01-Mar-10	TQS Ltd - works undertaken by Mike Oyarzabal icw Tax Office from 30-11 to 04-12-09
01-Mar-10	MCS Ltd - Netgear 24 Port Switch
11-Mar-10	MCS Ltd - Colour Laser Jet
23-Mar-10	M H Bland & Co Ltd - Calypso Tours Coach Transfer icw Disaster Recovery Project
23-Mar-10	Waterfront - Mr Crawford icw Disaster Recovery Project
23-Mar-10	MCS Ltd - Computer equipment
23-Mar-10	O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel - Conference room hire & refreshments ICW Disaster Recovery Project meeting on 04/02/10
23-Mar-10	Gatsby's - lunch on 04/02/10
23-Mar-10	TQS Ltd - Computer programming works undertaken ICW Salaries & DSS

NO. 218 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

WILLIS'S ROAD CAR PARK – FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Can Government state in what way the fire alarm system initially installed at the Willis's Road car park was inadequate?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 219 of 2011.

NO. 219 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

WILLIS'S ROAD CAR PARK – FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Can Government state what was the cost of the replacement in July 2010 of the fire alarm system at Willis's Road car park and who has met this cost?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The fire alarm system initially installed at the Willis's Road car park experienced problems with a number of detector heads and sections of cabling, which were replaced by the contractor at their cost.

The fire alarm system itself has not been replaced.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 218 AND 219 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

In answer to Question No. 1427 of 2010, the hon Member said, the fire alarm system that was initially installed by the contractor was found to be inadequate and this was replaced in July 2010. Is the position right then, or is the position right now?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. At the time and when preparing answers to questions going back to our last Question Time in the House, the information that I was given was that the fire alarm had been replaced. When preparing answers to questions this time round, I actually went deeper into the subject and wanted to know exactly what the issues were and then it all transpired that even though ... Obviously, the detector heads and sections of cabling are part of the alarm system as such. The actual alarm system itself was not being replaced but actual cabling and detector heads, which were the faulty part of the overall system, and therefore, strictly speaking, both questions are correct. Although the questions have been answered, the way that we have answered the questions today gives us additional information as to what the issues were.

ORAL

NO. 220 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

FLAT BASTION ROAD – REMOVAL OF STREET PARKING

Can Government state when it decided to remove the street parking which was available on Flat Bastion Road?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Government removed three street parking bays at Flat Bastion Road in September when the final trials for the use of the new buses that were serving the Upper Town area were carried out.

NO. 221 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

DIGITAL TACHOGRAPH CARD

When do Government expect to be in a position to introduce the Digital Tachograph Card for Gibraltar which will identify the driver and record and store the driving activities whilst engaged in the carriage by road of goods or passengers?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Government are in the process of putting into place the necessary mechanism to enable it to issue Digital Tachograph Cards for Gibraltar.

The Gibraltar Digital Tachograph Cards will be available during the course of this year.

NO. 222 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

THIRD EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ON DRIVING LICENCES

When do Government expect to start issuing driving licences which are in keeping with the requirements of the Third European Directive on Driving Licences?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Third European Directive on Driving Licences comes into force on 19th January 2013.

The Government will issue driving licences compliant with this Directive prior to the effective date.

NO. 223 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

CHILDREN'S PARK AT CATALAN BAY

In answer to Question No. 1179 of 2010, the Government stated that the children's park at Catalan Bay is contractually required to be reprovided by the developers of the Little Genoa project. Can Government state whether that contract required the reprovion of the children's park by a particular date and, if so, what is the date?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Supplemental Planning Permit No. 5135C stipulated that the children's playground had to be completed by the expiring date of that permit which was on 31st August 2010.

The developers have had meetings with me and members of the Town Planning Department in respect of this and other matters of the project and they say that the children's playground should be completed by the end of this financial year, as confirmed by my colleague the Hon Edwin Reyes in Question No. 1179 of 2010.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 223 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

As I understand it, the developer of that project is Little Genoa Limited. Are the Government aware that there was published a notice in the Gazette on the 2nd December 2010 relating to a petition to wind up that particular company which was due to be heard on 10th December 2010 and can the Government say whether that petition to wind up that particular company, the developer, makes any difference to the question that the hon Member has answered?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am not sure whether other members of the Town Planning Department are aware that there was such a notice. I am not aware of it. However, we continue to be in contact with the developers of Little Genoa as there are a number of issues that they have outstanding in respect of their obligations as a developer, which they have not yet delivered on, and one of them is the children's playground. They know that that,

together with the public amenities and toilets and showers, et cetera, at Catalan Bay, are two of the priority issues that need to be addressed within this specific timescale.

HON G H LICUDI:

I do not propose to go into, at this stage, what the consequences of this notice might be in respect of those issues that the hon Member has mentioned.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Unless the hon Member wishes to give me the free legal advice?

HON G H LICUDI:

No. It is not a question of free legal advice. I have just seen a notice in the Gazette. I do not know what has happened but given that the hon Member was not aware of this, I will give him time to look at this and then we might correspond on this issue but I give notice that it is a matter that I will raise at a later stage. Not at this sitting but ...

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Could the hon Member confirm again the date of the notice in the Gazette? The 10th of December 2010 he said?

HON G H LICUDI:

It appeared in the Gibraltar Gazette of 2nd December 2010 and it was a notice for a petition for the winding up of Little Genoa Limited. The petition was due to be heard on the 10th December 2010. I am happy to give the hon Member a copy of the notice.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am obliged, thank you.

NO. 224 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GIBRALTAR BUS COMPANY LIMITED – PAYING PASSENGERS

Can Government state the number of paying passengers that were transported and the value of fares from these passengers by the Gibraltar Bus Company Limited in the months of September 2010 to December 2010, giving a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The number of paying passengers that were transported by the Gibraltar Bus Company Limited and the value of fares from these passengers, in the months of September 2010 to December 2010, is as follows:

	Passengers	Revenue
September	178,623	£71,820
October	179,282	£69,745
November	159,943	£60,790
December	161,294	£61,572

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 224 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

I am not sure whether the hon Member will have this information. Does the hon Member know whether those numbers and that revenue, in fact, for Bus Route No. 2 where the new buses have been introduced, whether there has been an increase in the use of that service and, therefore, an increase reflected in the numbers which the hon Member has given for that particular route? In other words, we have seen the improved buses. Does it have a corresponding take-up by the passengers?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do have the information. I have not read the report yet. I get regular reports on use of different routes, et cetera, but judging by the way that the buses are being used, I think that there has been an increase but that is just purely speculation on my part. I can let the hon Member have information on that, if he so wishes, but I have not got the information here with me.

ORAL

NO. 225 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GIBRALTAR CAR PARKS LIMITED – REVENUE

Can Government state the total revenue received by Gibraltar Car Parks Limited for each month in 2010, giving a breakdown for each car park?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 226 and 227 of 2011.

NO. 226 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

DEVIL'S TOWER ROAD CAR PARK – USAGE

Can Government state the average number of cars per day using the Devil's Tower Road car park since the date on which the car park opened to 31st December 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 225 and 227 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 227 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

DEVIL'S TOWER ROAD CAR PARK – RENTAL OF PARKING SPACES

Can Government state what the take-up has been for the rental of parking spaces at the Devil's Tower Road car park?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

SCHEDULE TO QUESTION NO. 227 OF 2011

Answer to Question No. 225 of 2011

Below please find the revenue received by Gibraltar Car Parks Limited for January to October 2010. Figures for November and December are still not available.

	Sandpits	Willis's	New Harbours	Naval Ground	Europiazza	DTR	Total
Jan	3,157	6,802	7,019	12,083			29,061
Feb	4,510	8,410	10,230	10,468			33,618
Mar	4,510	8,410	10,230	11,939	1,207		36,296
Apr	4,730	8,410	10,285	10,538	344		34,307
May	4,554	8,357	10,170	11,143	748		34,972
Jun	3,960	8,190	8,085	11,217	1,284		32,736
Jul	4,455	8,300	9,735	11,229			33,719
Aug	4,422	8,127	9,438	12,314	1,035		35,336
Sep	4,059	7,230	9,064	11,063	685		32,101
Oct	4,381	8,611	7,920	11,405	1,948	441	34,706
Nov	4,325	8,320	8,550	11,125	1,960	11,887	46,167
Dec	4,360	8,295	8,430	11,095	1,995	12,310	46,485
Total:	51,423	97,462	109,156	135,620	11,206	24,638	429,505

The figures for November and December are still subject to internal audit.

Answer to Question No. 226 of 2011

Since the car park at Devil's Tower Road opened on the 1st October 2010, the daily average number of cars (excluding the monthly rentals) using the facility is as follows:

Daily average for October: 54

Daily average for November: 63

Daily average for December: 83

Daily average for the three months is 67.

Answer to Question No. 227 of 2011

A total of 166 car parking spaces were offered for monthly rentals and all have been taken up. This comprises the parking spaces on floors, 2, 3 and 4 of the first phase of the car park at Devil's Tower Road. Currently, we have ten people on the waiting list.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 225 TO 227 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

In relation to the number of cars using the car park, we have a daily average for three months, October, November and December of 67. Given the size of the car park, are the Government satisfied that appropriate use is being made of that particular car park and, if not, have the Government identified why it is that people do not appear to be using that car park. I say that because I pass by the car park every day and it always appears to be almost empty.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The Government would like to see more use of the short-term parking spaces that have been allocated within the car parking but I think we need to understand that the car park has a first floor, second floor, third floor, fourth floor and fifth floor and it is only the ground floor and the first floor that have been allocated for short-term parking. The second, third and fourth floor, these floors are on monthly rentals and these have all been taken up. So, whether they are being used at any specific moment in time or not, they are people using the car park on a monthly fee basis and so, therefore, ... Then the fifth floor is currently not in use but it is being offered as free parking to residents of the area as part of the residence permit holder parking scheme and that will shortly be used as well and I assume that that will be a very popular use of that fifth floor. So, really, your question is mainly targeted at the ground floor and the first floor and, in fact, if there is a particular issue it is in respect of the ground floor where there are 33 parking spaces of which 15 are marked as disabled and I think the Government feel that there has been an excessive number of disabled bays. So, if one actually looks at the ground floor, there are very, very few. There are probably about another 15/16 free spaces available for anybody who wants to go in the short-term car park. Most people tend to use the first floor because if there are 15 cars in the ground floor ..., roughly 18 parking, people tend to park in the first floor and, therefore, if you are a passer by, like I am, and I look inside as well to see the use, I think you will find that it is quite empty. Those disabled bays are now going to be changed to normal parking. Not in its totality. We are going to be leaving, possibly, four or five of these parkings for the disabled which we feel is more than ample, considering what our experience has been in the use of these in the last three months.

HON G H LICUDI:

I am grateful for that. The hon Member mentioned the fifth floor which is going to be made available for free use by residents of the area, can he give some further details as to what he means by resident of which area? Which is the catchment area and is there any reason why this is being delayed, because the car park has now been operational for a number of months?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

As part of our transport policy, there is such an initiative as the resident permit holders parking scheme for people who live in a specific area. Gibraltar has been segregated into different areas. Therefore you live in that area, you are entitled to a

permit which will allow you to park in the area in which you live on a free of charge basis. Obviously, the number of these permits will be well in excess of the parkings that are available. It does not mean that every resident will have a free parking but at least if you live in the area, you will find that you have a better chance of getting a parking within the area you live in, apart from the fact that each area will also have a "pay and display" facility for people who visit areas where they do not necessarily live. As part of the area of, I think it is Laguna and part of Devil's Tower Road, et cetera, there is an area which is area No. 1 which is actually going to be the first pilot scheme that we are going to be launching under this scheme. This is one of the facilities that will be available for those that have that particular residence permit to be able to park there on a free of charge basis.

HON G H LICUDI:

The second part of the supplementary was, is there any particular reason why that cannot be implemented straight away because the car park has been open for a number of months?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No, there is not. Apart from the fact that, obviously, we have got to get the holistic scheme ready before we allow people to be able to make use of that facility but, as I say, this will be the first pilot scheme that is going to be launched and, therefore, use of this particular facility, well actually, it is now quite imminent.

NO. 228 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SURVEY INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF LAND RECLAMATION NORTH OF RUNWAY BY WESTERN BEACH

What were the conclusions of the survey and concept design work conducted for the Government by DHV Environment and Transport relating to the possibility of reclaiming land north of the runway by Western Beach for which the company was paid £19,575 on 22nd February 2005?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

DHV were appointed to carry out the full design for a reclamation scheme to create a land mass from the sea of approximately 120,000m² adjoining the northern revetment of the Gibraltar Airport runway.

DHV produced a detailed design and tender specifications designing the following scope of works:

- A full design of the reclamation with a design life of 100 years including protection of the marine structures against wind and wave damage from a 1:100 year return period and in accordance with locally applied seismic criteria;
- The reclamation would require approximately 840,000m³ of sand-fill and 60,000 of rock armouring for the revetment structures;
- The extension of the drainage culvert that collects all discharges of surface water run-off from the runway into the open sea;
- The hoisting dock (l x w x d): 19 x 6.1 x 3.5 m at low water spring and concrete hard standing;
- A small boat berthing area: 80 berths of 6.0m length and 2.0m width;
80 berths of 8.0m length and 3.0m width;
40 berths of 9.5m length and 3.5m width;

Many technical issues that impact on the project have arisen since the production of the DHV report. The design has been revised on a number of occasions to take account of these issues.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 228 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the hon Member say when was the last revision made?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

In fact, as we speak, there is currently a revision being made. I think prior to that it must be eight or ten months ago or a year ago, but there is a current adjustment being considered at the moment for that scheme.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are the revisions being done by the same company or are they being done by somebody else?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

DHV was a company that did the full design. There have been a number of reports that have had to be done by other companies in respect of, for example, the effect on the airfield, the wind variation on the runway, bird migration and the effect that will have on the runway. It is quite a complex project because of its proximity to the runway and, therefore, that has meant that we have had to vary the specifications of the heights of buildings, the use of the land itself, et cetera, in order to try and see what represents best value for money, in terms of allowing a development to go through, and what the return this would have for the Government.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

So, as opposed to the £19,500, what has been the total cost of all these other studies and revisions? Does the hon Minister have that information?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Off the top of my head, I would not know, but I think the figure would be in excess of £400,000, as we speak today.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are the Government now at a stage where they can proceed with this development or are more studies still needed to confirm why they cannot?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

As I have just said, we are in the middle of another adjustment to make it possible and, if that delivers what is required, then the Government would be in a position to

do so. If it does not produce the results that we want, then we may have to consider an alternative way forward. Let me say that there is a company in the private sector that has an interest in this particular piece of land because its use is quite limited because of height restrictions, et cetera. So, there is one particular car, importer/exporter that has had an interest in this and has actually played a role with the Government in trying to develop the scheme and, in fact, they have contributed financially towards this as well. So, it has not just been a Government stand alone project. It is a project with a specific way forward which will hopefully deliver at some point in the future.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, in fact, the £400,000 then is not all Government funded. Part of it is funded by the private sector partners.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Absolutely, I do not have ... I would need notice to be able to give the hon Member ... I have given you a figure, off the top of my head, of what I envisage, trying to be helpful, in giving you an idea. I think the vast majority of it has been paid for by the private sector.

NO. 229 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES ARCADE COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government say how many applications they have received for each of the three vacant units at the Arcade in Casemates, which were put out to tender in September 2010 with a closing date of 15th October 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 230 of 2011.

NO. 230 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES ARCADE COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government say whether the tenders for the three vacant units at the Arcade in the Casemates development, which closed on 15th October 2010, have now been awarded and, if so, to whom, for what purpose and for what premium, if applicable?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answer to Question No. 229 of 2011

Fifteen applications were received in total for all three units. There were nine applications for any of the three units, three with no preference, and another three for unit 6F.

Answer to Question No. 230 of 2011

Tenders have been awarded as follows:

- Unit 1/6E to Mrs C Zammitt trading as “Celebrations by Carol” for use as Retailers for Handcrafted Party Favours and Gift Baskets;
- Unit 1/6F to Mr G Rodriguez and Miss A Wahnnon trading as “Andreax234 Limited” for use as a Speciality Gourmet Retail Shop;
- Unit 1/7F to Mrs K Celecia trading as “En Pointe” for use as a Dance Wear and Accessories Retail Shop;
- No premiums were paid as rent were fixed at £181.25 per month in respect of Unit 1/6E and £175.50 per month in respect of Units 1/6F and 7F.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 229 AND 230 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

What criteria was then used to select the successful applicant?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, the criteria used was mainly on presentation and type of products that they were selling and, obviously, the assortment of goods that would be available within the facility in order to offer variety and better customer experience.

ORAL

NO. 231 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TRANSCOMA FERRY – ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF PERSONS

Can Government say how many persons arrived at and departed from Gibraltar on the Algeciras ferry, on a monthly basis, since September 2010 inclusive?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 232 of 2011.

NO. 232 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TRANSCOMA FERRY – REGIME FOR MONITORING THE SALE AND EXPORTATION OF TOBACCO

Can Government give details of the very strict regime that they say is in place to monitor whether the sales of tobacco to and exportation of tobacco from Gibraltar by the ferry to Algeciras are for on-board sales to passengers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

The following numbers of persons have arrived and departed on the Transcoma Algeciras ferry, on a monthly basis, since September 2010:

Month	Arrivals	Departures
September	1,401	1,389
October	664	590
November	206	214
December	104	91

Export declarations for the supply of tobacco to the Algeciras ferry are produced for authorisation at the Customs Outfield Station which is located next to the ferry berth. These declarations are endorsed and the delivery of the tobacco on board is supervised by the officers on duty.

The tobacco is sealed on board and the ferry company have strict instructions that no sales are to take place until the vessel departs. The tobacco is spot checked and, to date, no irregularities have been recorded.

Exports are continuously monitored and have been verified to be reasonable.

NO. 233 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CONFERENCES SPONSORED OR CO-SPONSORED BY GOVERNMENT

Can Government list the conferences that they have sponsored or co-sponsored, both in Gibraltar or elsewhere, since the last Question Time in this Parliament, showing the dates when the conferences were held, the cost and the department that was most directly involved?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

My Ministry has not sponsored or co-sponsored, in Gibraltar or elsewhere, any conference since the last Question Time in this Parliament.

NO. 234 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

How often and on what dates have the following met since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament:

- (a) the Port Advisory Council;
- (b) the Business and Commerce Advisory Council;
- (c) the E-Business Advisory Council?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Since the information supplied at the last Question Time in the Parliament, the Port Advisory Council met on the 18th November 2010, the Business and Commerce Advisory Council and the E-Business Advisory Council have both met on the 13th October 2010 and on the 19th November 2010.

NO. 235 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU / GOVERNMENT FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Can Government list the parties who have applied for:

- (a) EU funding;
- (b) Gibraltar Government funding,

since the last Question Time in this Parliament, indicating the amount of funding requested and the purposes for which it was intended, listing those applications that have been successful, those that have been unsuccessful and those applications that are still pending?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

SCHEDULE TO QUESTION NO. 235/2011

Project No.	Sponsor	Status	ERDF	GOG	PS	Purpose of Grant
31	Pick-A-Bite	Active	£18,696-61p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£43,625-43p (70%)	Equipment, Creation of website and Signage and Rent Subsidy Scheme.
32	MIM Limited	Active	£19,802-19p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£46,205-14p (70%)	Building works, furniture and equipment.
33	21 Fifty Limited	Active	£8,704-53p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£20,310-58p (70%)	IT equipment, furniture and Rent Subsidy Scheme.
34	John J Ocaña Limited	Active	£18,273-21p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£42,637-50p (70%)	Buildings works, furniture and equipment.
35	Best Nurseries Limited	Active	£19,718-10p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£46,008-90p (70%)	Building works, equipment, Signage and Rent Subsidy Scheme.
36	C & J Holdings Limited	Active	£48,629-41p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£113,468-64p (70%)	Building works, equipment, furniture, advertising, Import Duty 12% and Rent Subsidy Scheme.
37	The Little Rock Café Limited	Active	£19,879-60p (30%)	£0-00p (0%)	£46,385-75p (70%)	Building works, furniture and fittings and IT equipment.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 235 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can I ask for clarification in relation to Question No. 235 of 2011? The column relating to the status of the project shows all the projects are active. Does that mean it is successful, or unsuccessful, or pending? That was the question.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. That they are active means that they are successful but they are going through the process at the moment. In other words, they have been approved, but money is not just given out the moment they are approved. They need to prove the expenditure and get verification, et cetera, and then they get paid as they go along and, therefore, all these projects, as we speak, are in that process at the moment, and are approved.

NO. 236 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

How often and on what dates has the Development Aid Advisory Committee met since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Since the last Question Time in Parliament, the Development Aid Advisory Council met on the 10th November 2010.

ORAL

NO. 237 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION

How many meetings of the DPC have taken place since the information supplied in the last Question Time in this Parliament and on what dates?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 238 and 239 of 2011.

NO. 238 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PLANNING PERMISSION APPLICATIONS

Can Government list the applications for planning permission in respect of projects that have been granted and rejected since the last meeting of this Parliament, showing those that are still under consideration, including the name of the applicant and of the project in question?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 237 and 239 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 239 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT PLANNING PERMISSION APPLICATIONS

Can Government confirm whether it is the policy to notify persons who make representations about applications for planning permission as to whether that application has been successful or not?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in this Schedule which I now hand to him.

ANSWERS TO QUESTION NOS. 237 TO 239 OF 2011

Answer to Question No. 237 of 2011

Since 29th September 2010 there have been four meetings of the Development and Planning Commission the dates of which were:

- 12th October 2010
- 11th November 2010
- 25th November 2010
- 9th December 2010

Schedule to Question 238/2011

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN: 29/9/10 AND 7/1/11

<i>App No</i>	<i>ApplicantName</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>SiteAddress</i>
11548	Metropolitan Properties Ltd	change of use, alterations/extensions.	Approved	59/61 Irish Town
11549	Bridge Consultants	Proposed shopfront replacement and internal alterations.	Approved	111 Main Street
11550	Xenda Properties Ltd.	Proposed internal alterations, glass roof to light well and new windows to rear.	Approved	92 Irish Town
11551	Donna Montegriffo	Proposed alterations.	Approved	23B Casemates Square
11552	European Financial Planning Group	Proposed office refurbishment.	Approved	15 Irish Town
11553	Mr Rodney Perera	Conversion and refurbishment of bedslitter, addition of bathroom and associated works.	Pending	Flat 4 Benoliel's Passage
11554	Mr Rodney Perera	Proposed extension to apartment and refurbishment of premises.	Approved	25/1 Hospital Ramp
11555	Mr M Gadd	Proposed enclosure of part of balcony.	Approved	115/116 Arcadia Both Worlds
11556	Mr Ashok Rupani	New insurance broker retail office at existing ground floor commercial premises.	Approved	Grand Ocean Plaza Ocean Village
11557	BWIN	Proposed refurbishment of offices.	Approved	Suite 641 Europort Road Europort
11558	Clifton Mews Leaseholders	Proposed roof level extensions and emergency staircase to west façade.	Approved	1-3 Clifton Mews Europa Road
11559	Ms J Baldachino & G Pincho	Carry out an attic conversion to the above residential premises		Approved 15 Rosia Court
11560	Mr C Licudi	Proposed extension to kitchen.	Approved	The Boardwalk Trade Winds
11561	GFI Limited	Proposed conversion of existing warehouse into storage warehouse and offices on a mezzanine level.	Approved	Ex-Postal Service Building North Mole Road
11562	Mr & Mrs O'Reilly	Proposed internal alterations and enclosure of east balcony.	Approved	206 Rosia Plaza Rosia Parade

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App No	ApplicantName	Description	Decision	SiteAddress
11563	Edery Holdings Ltd	Proposed internal refurbishment and change of use of first flatApproved to office use.	Approved	Flat 1, 3 Hospital Steps
11564	Mr A Hunter Lord Nelson Ltd	Proposed change of use from shop unit into a bar, restaurant, cafeteria (Class A3) and associated works.	Approved	255/257 Main Street
11565	J J De La Paz	Proposed demolition of 2 single storey structures.	Government Project	Public Market Fish Market Road
11566	Mr & Mrs J Ramagge	Proposed internal access stairs to existing loft space.	Approved	Admiral's Place
11567	Mr Marek Ratajczak	Proposed new floor over living room to create new bedroom.	Approved	Europiazza
11568	Christopher Yeats	To fit out a permanent cafeteria.	Withdrawn	Crown Daisy House Waterport Terraces
11569	Flamenco Holdings	Proposed conversion into restaurant and internal alterations.	Pending	Casemates House
11570	Ms V Serra	Proposed unblocking of opening to install new window.	Approved	34/6 Castle Ramp
11571	Pearlfree Limited	Proposed new development of a data centre and office units over 11 floors.	Pending	Europaort Road
11572	Alan Pereira	Proposed glass curtains for balcony.	Approved	1001 Block 2 Europiazza
11573	Napoleon Limited	Proposed partial refurbishment of shop premises including shopfront.	Approved	44 Main Street
11574	Mr R Perera	Proposed internal alterations.	Approved	5.3 Serfaty's Passage
11575	TSE Gibraltar LP	Proposed office fit-out.	Approved	Waterport Place Waterport Road
11576	Mr & Mrs Kripalani	Proposed enclosing of balcony using glass curtains.	Approved	Europiazza
11577	Bland Group Ltd.	Proposed internal alterations and general fit-out of existing unit (class A1).	Approved	Cloister Building Irish Town
11578	Rock 3D (Gibraltar) Ltd	Proposed Rock 3D in Morrison's Car Park	Withdrawn	Morrison's Car Park
11579	Cloud 9 Mobile (Gibraltar) Ltd.	Proposed installation of dish and cell antenna.	Approved	5 Sunnyside House Naval Hospital Road
11580	Katrina Diaz	Proposed internal alterations.	Approved	Nelson's View

<i>App No</i>	<i>Applicant Name</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Site Address</i>
11581	Lester Hotels Management Services	Proposed mixed use development comprising hotel and office accommodation and associated car parking.		Approved Redroofs Devils Tower Road
11582	Darren Cassano Esq	Proposed construction of a two-storey house inclusive of basement, swimming-pool and new boundary walls.	Approved	6A & B North Pavilion Road
11583	Mr Michael Russo	Proposed minor internal alterations.	Approved	403 Nelson's View Rosia Road
11584	Aylsham Ltd	Proposed replacement of window and door frame to entrance.	Approved	4A Ark Royal House Devils Tower Road
11585	Mr & Mrs Arora	Proposed enclosure to the outside balcony	Approved	402 Europa Plaza
11586	Cloud 9 Mobile (Gibraltar) Limited	Proposed installation of dish & cell antennae on rooftop.	Pending	Watergardens
11587	Gibtelecom LTD	Proposed telecom exchange to facility to a house a new telecoms equipment room, and an emergency backup generator room.	Pending	Sir Herbert Miles Road
11588	Montagu Crescent Management Co. Ltd	Timber trusses at 6th & 7th storeys spanning between masonry block of flats.	Approved	Queensway Montagu Crescent
11589	Cloud 9 Mobile (Gibraltar) Ltd	Installation of dish and cell antennae.	Pending	North Mole Road Waterport
11590	Cloud 9 Mobile (Gibraltar) Ltd	Installation of dish and cell antennae.	Approved	Signal Station Road Upper Rock
11591	Bland Limited	Refurbishment of premises and relocation of entrance.	Approved	104/106 Irish Town
11592	Baker Tilly (Gibraltar) Ltd	Proposed minor alterations and expansion of office premises (refurbishment)	Pending	Ground Floor Regal House
11593	Mr R Perera	Proposed internal alterations.	Pending	6 Bendriel's Passage
11594	M Noguera	Proposed creation of opening and infilling with glass blocks.	Approved	Barley Hill House Prince Edward's Road
11595	Gateway Ltd	Proposed removal of garage door.	Pending	Devils Tower Road
11596	Hassans	Proposed demolition of honeycomb wall and construction of new wall with door. Installation of generator.	Pending	57/63 Natwest House Line Wall Road
11597	Norbert V Borge	Proposed glass curtains on balcony.	Approved	Europa Plaza Harbour Views Road
11598	Ocean Village Business Plaza	Proposed placement of billboard.	Pending	6 Bayside Road

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<i>App No</i>	<i>ApplicantName</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>SiteAddress</i>
11599	Ms J Hoare & Mr A Newnham	Proposed internal alterations.	Approved	33 Almond Lodge Montagu Gardens
11600	Government of Gibraltar	Proposed conversion of existing building into nursery including internal and external alterations.		Pending Former USOC Bowling Alley Queensway
11601	J.J.B. Amar	Proposed conversion of office into shop.	Approved	3 Fountain Ramp
11602	Auto Sport (Gibraltar) Limited	Proposed new shopfront opening, new goods lift, new terrace storage deck and interior alterations.	Pending	2 Rosia Road
11603	Mr & Mrs M Alman	Proposed construction of pool in garden area.	Pending	1 South Pavillion Road
11604	Paglen Ltd.	Proposed refurbishment.	Pending	Watergardens
11605	Gib Corp Limited	Proposed ramp.	Pending	57/63 Natwest House Line Wall Road
11606	32 Red	Alterations to office layout.	Pending	Europoint Building
11607	Inverrigan Ltd	Proposed alterations to façade	Pending	17a Devils Tower Road
11608	Inverrigan Ltd	Proposed alterations to shopfront.	Pending	Bakewell House Devils Tower Road
11609	Mr R Sacarello	Proposed repairs and alterations to existing warehouse	Pending	North Mole Road
11610	The Finance & Guarantee Co Ltd	Proposed new feature balconies & roof terrace balustrade.	Pending	234 Main Street
11611	Line Ltd	Proposed replacement of roof terrace slab with timber joisted deck.	Pending	13/1 Line Wall Road
11612	Mr & Mrs M Ellul	Proposed internal refurbishment including new mezzanine floors.	Pending	3 Admiral's Close
11613	Paul Bacarese	Proposed pergola.	Pending	No 1 Collingwood Tower Brympton
11614	Ms R Azzopardi	Proposed erection of a new gabion retaining wall in garden area by Europa Road.	Pending	Beaulieu House
11615	Alexis Almeda	Proposed minor alterations to internal layout of premises.	Pending	Watergardens
11616	Churiana Ltd.	Proposed extension and loft conversion to building.	Pending	77 Main Street
11617	AKS Architects & Engineers Ltd.	Proposed construction of 43 dwellings and associated infrastructure.	Pending	40 Europa Road Buena Vista Barracks

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App No	ApplicantName	Description	Decision	SiteAddress
11618	K.I.T. (Gib) Limited	Proposed construction of 2 detached houses.	Pending	Ordinance Wharf Queensway Quay
11619	K.I.T (Gib) Ltd.	Proposed demolition of existing building and construction of new boutique hotel.	Pending	Queensway Queensway Quay
11620	Mr R Kumar Kochhar and Mrs K Kochhar	Proposed balcony enclosure.	Pending	Europa Plaza
11621	Partygaming PLC	Proposed new offices.	Pending	Atlantic Suites Europort Avenue
11622	BDO Limited	Proposed internal alterations.	Pending	Regal House Reclamation Road
11623	Mr William Parody	Proposed re-development of existing building and construction of new building.	Pending	2 Camp Bay
11624	William Hill Organisation	Proposed internal alterations of existing suites.	Pending	Waterport Place
11625	William Hill Organisation	Proposed internal alterations of existing suite.	Pending	Waterport Place

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 237 to 239 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 239 of 2011

Under section 19 of the Town Planning Act, it is not legally required to notify persons who make representations about applications for planning permission as to whether that application has been successful or not.

Under section 18 of the Town Planning Act, it is legally required to notify owners who make representations about applications for planning permission as to whether that application has been successful or not.

NO. 240 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CHATHAM COUNTERGUARD VAULTS

Can Government say whether the tender for five vacant vaults at Chatham Counter guard, which closed on 5th November 2010, have now been awarded and, if so, in each case to whom, for what purpose and in what amount?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The tender for the five vacant units at Chatham Counter guard, which closed on 5th November 2010, has not yet been awarded.

ORAL

NO. 241 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TENDERS RECEIVED FOR RE-DEVELOPMENT OF BUENA VISTA BARRACKS

Can Government now say how many tenders have been received for the re-development of Buena Vista Barracks which was advertised on 29th June 2010 with a closing date of 24th September 2010, has this now been awarded and, if so, to whom and in what amount?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 242 to 243 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 242 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BUENA VISTA BARRACKS – PREMIUM/DEVELOPER/SURFACE AREA

Can Government say what was the premium agreed for the Buena Vista Barracks site, who are the developers of that site and what is its surface area in square metres?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 241 and 243 of 2011.

NO. 243 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED BY DPC – HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON SITE OF BUENA VISTA BARRACKS

Can Government say how many representations have been received by the DPC in respect of the application for planning permission by AKS Architects and Engineers Limited to develop houses on the site known as Buena Vista Barracks, and how many houses do they propose to construct on this site?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

Four tenders were received for the re-development of Buena Vista Barracks.

When the answers to questions for this session of Parliament were being prepared, the tender had not yet been awarded.

No representations have been received to date. The expiry date of the public notice is the 9th January 2011.

The scheme consists of 43 new dwellings as proposed.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 241 TO 243 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The area of the site in square metres, did the hon Member give that information? I did not catch it.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

My apologies, I have not ... When grouping the questions together, I have omitted that particular part. I am happy to write to him to make it available.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

If the hon Member could write to me or, perhaps, he has the information available during this session of the House and just give me the information.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes, I may be able to find this out during this session of the House.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The hon Member said, the tender which has been submitted by the AKS Architects was to construct 43 houses. Is that correct?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Correct.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is that for 43 houses on the whole of the sites?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Are they semi-detached, or villas, or what type of houses are they?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I think it is a variety of different types. There are some semi-detached. There are some apartments and there are some villas, if you can call them that.

NO. 244 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED BY DPC – DETACHED HOUSES AND
BOUTIQUE HOTEL AT QUEENSWAY QUAY**

Can Government say how many representations have been received by the DPC in respect of the applications for planning permission by KIT (Gibraltar) Limited:

- (a) to construct two detached houses at Queensway Quay;
- (b) to construct a boutique hotel spa/gymnasium and restaurant at Queensway Quay?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 245 and 246 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 245 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED BY DPC – CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL PREMISES AT EX-RIALTO CINEMA

Can Government say how many representations have been received by the DPC in respect of the application dated 11th November 2010 from AKS Architects and Engineers Limited to construct commercial premises with retail units at ground floor at ex-Rialto Cinema, 12-26 Turnbull's Lane?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 244 and 246 of 2011.

NO. 246 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED BY DPC – DATA CENTRE AND OFFICE DEVELOPMENT AT EUROPORT ROAD

Can Government say how many representations have been received by the DPC in respect of the application dated 28th October 2010 from E & M Consulting Engineers Limited to construct a data centre and office development at Europort Road?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

The Development and Planning Commission has received 20 representations in respect of the Building Application to construct two detached houses at Queensway Quay. It has also received another 20 representations regarding the application to construct a boutique hotel spa/gymnasium and restaurant at Queensway Quay.

Two representations have been received in respect of the application dated 11th November 2010 from AKS Architects and Engineers Limited to construct commercial premises with retail units at ground floor at ex-Rialto Cinema, 12-26 Turnbull's Lane.

Eight representations have been received from the public in respect of the application dated 28th October 2010 from E&M Consulting Engineers Limited to construct a data centre and office development at Europort Road. One of the representations is a petition on behalf of 289 members of the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 244 TO 246 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to, first of all, the projects at Queensway Quay, the one for the two detached houses and for the hotel. The Government are the owners of part of the land, I believe, in relation to where the Bedenham Commemoration Memorial is. Have the Government met the developers beforehand to signal their consent as landlord in this case?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I and members of the Planning Department have met the proposed developers. The land is private land. It does not belong to the Government, either where the

detached houses are going to be built or proposed to be built or where they propose to build the boutique hotel. So therefore, the Government have not signalled anything one way or the other. Obviously, we will address the matter through the Development and Planning Commission. I think that there are issues but the Government ... I cannot comment on this because the application is still before the Development and Planning Commission, has not even been started to be considered and, therefore, it will be at that point, that the decision as to whether this goes forward or not ... But, as I said, there are issues that need to be taken into account when allowing this to happen.

ORAL

NO. 247 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

HOTEL IN DEVIL'S TOWER ROAD – PREMIUM / SURFACE AREA

What is the premium that the Lester Hotel Group has paid or will pay for the plot of land on which it plans to build a hotel in Devil's Tower Road and what is the surface area of the plot of land in square metres?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 248 of 2011.

NO. 248 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED BY DPC – MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT ON
SITE OF REDROOFS AND LADY WILLIAMS CENTRE**

Can Government say how many representations have been received by the DPC in respect of the application dated 28th October 2010 from Lester Hotels Management Services to demolish existing buildings and construct a new mixed use development comprising hotel and office accommodation at the site of Redroofs, 29 Devil's Tower Road and the Lady Williams Centre site?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

That part of the plot which contains a single house and used to be known as “Red Roofs” will be purchased by the developers from Taylor Woodrow. They may have done so already, I am not sure, and therefore no premium is paid to the Government.

However, in respect of that part of the plot which contains the Lady Williams Centre, a premium of £750,000 is being paid to Government. The area of this part of the plot is approximately 433 m² and the “Red Roofs” part contains approximately 840 m².

No public representations were received in respect of the application dated 28th October 2010 from the Lester Hotels Management Services.

NO. 249 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS – PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES

What was the value and number of private motor vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers,

on a monthly basis since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 250 and 251 of 2011.

NO. 250 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS – GOODS VEHICLES

What was the value and number of goods vehicles imported by:

- (a) individuals;
- (b) licensed dealers,

on a monthly basis since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 249 and 251 of 2011.

NO. 251 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORTS – COMPUTER HARDWARE

What was the value of computer hardware imported into Gibraltar on a monthly basis since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

ANSWERS TO QUESTION NOS. 249 TO 251 OF 2011

Answer to Question No. 249 of 2011

The number and value of private motor vehicles imported by individuals and licensed dealers on a monthly basis since July 2010 was as follows:

	<u>Private Motor Vehicles Imported by Individuals</u>		<u>Private Motor Vehicles Imported by Licensed Dealers</u>	
	Number	Value (£ thousands)	Number	Value (£ thousands)
July 2010	37	106	515	11.4
August 2010	26	82	497	8.6
September 2010	33	76	480	9.2

Answer to Question No. 250 of 2011

The number and value of goods vehicles imported by individuals and licensed dealers on a monthly basis since July 2010 was as follows:

	<u>Goods Vehicles Imported by Individuals</u>		<u>Goods Vehicles Imported by Licensed Dealers</u>	
	Number	Value (£ thousands)	Number	Value (£ thousands)
July 2010	-	-	1	7.0
August 2010	-	-	3	57.7
September 2010	-	-	7	40.1

Answer to Question No. 251 of 2011

The value of computer hardware imported into Gibraltar on a monthly basis since July 2010 was as follows:

	<u>Value of Computers (£ thousands)</u>
July 2010	1,155
August 2010	969
September 2010	725

NO. 252 OF 2011**THE HON DR J J GARCIA****GTB – REVENUE RAISED BY CHARGING COACHES THAT USE COACH PARK**

Can Government say how much revenue has been raised on a monthly basis, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, by charging coaches that use the coach park?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Coach Park revenue from 20th September 2010 to 2nd January 2011 is as follows:

MONTH	REVENUE AMOUNT
20 th to 30 th September 2010	£3160.00
Oct-10	£8580.00
Nov-10	£3940.00
Dec-10	£2660.00
1 st to 2 nd January 2011	£20.00
TOTAL	£18360.00

NO. 253 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

SHIP CALLS

How many ships have called at Gibraltar, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, 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 ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 254 to 256 of 2011.

NO. 254 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BUNKERING LICENCES

Can Government say whether any new bunkering licences have been issued, or whether any application for such a licence has been made, since the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 253, 255 and 256 of 2011.

NO. 255 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NUMBER AND REVENUE RAISED FROM SHIP TO SHIP TRANSFERS OF OIL/FUEL CARGO (NOT BUNKERING) IN GIBRALTAR TERRITORIAL WATERS

Can Government say how many ship to ship oil/fuel cargo transfers (not bunkering) have been carried out, on a monthly basis, in the territorial waters of Gibraltar since September 2010 inclusive and how much revenue has been raised as a result, also broken down by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 253, 254 and 256 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 256 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

REVENUE FROM VESSELS USING EAST SIDE ANCHORAGE

Can Government say how much revenue has been collected from vessels using the East Side anchorage, on a monthly basis, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

ANSWERS TO QUESTION NOS. 253 TO 256 OF 2011

Answer to Question No. 253 of 2011

The number of ships that have called at Gibraltar since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament is as follows:

	September	October	November	December
Bunkers	608	610	614	560
Cargo	10	15	11	16
Repairs	6	12	13	8

Bunker fuel sold since the last Question Time in this Parliament is as follows:

July 2010	389,859 tonnes
August 2010	390,414 tonnes
September 2010	393,786 tonnes
October 2010	375,052 tonnes
November 2010	391,111 tonnes
December 2010	382,425 tonnes

Answer to Question No. 254 of 2011

No new bunkering licences have been issued and no applications have been received since the last Question Time in this Parliament.

Answer to Question No. 255 of 2011

The following ship to ship oil/fuel transfers (not bunkering) have been carried out on a monthly basis since September 2010 and the following revenue has been raised as a result.

MONTH/YEAR	STS MOTHERSHIPS	STS COMMERCIAL	STS TOTAL	REVENUE TO PORT (£)
September, 2010	7	6	13	37,000
October, 2010	11	5	16	36,000
November, 2010	7	5	12	32,000
December, 2010	8	1	9	13,000

Answer to Question No. 256 of 2011

The revenue generated from vessels anchoring on the East Side is as follows:

MONTH	REVENUE EAST £
SEPTEMBER	35,676.98
OCTOBER	89,577.06
NOVEMBER	23,406.66
DECEMBER	51,359.85
TOTAL	200,020.55

NO. 257 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**ACCIDENTS IN BAY OF GIBRALTAR/TERRITORIAL WATERS REPORTED TO
PORT AUTHORITY**

How many accidents have been reported to the Port of Gibraltar as occurring in the Bay of Gibraltar or the territorial waters of Gibraltar since September 2010, and what was the nature, date and effect of any such accident, the name of the operator and of any vessels involved?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The information requested by the hon Member is set out in this schedule which I now hand over to him and I draw his attention, like I have done last time, in respect of the meaning of accident because, obviously, the list is quite voluminous and, obviously, the meaning of accident under the Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2006 must be borne in mind when reading that.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 257/2011

Date	Incident/Vessel Name	Incident Details
4.9.10	CELTIC NAVIGATOR	Hit exposed girder at extension jetty causing damage to starboard bow
6.9.10	Port Launch	Local boat reported engine problems - port launch attended
6.9.10	Port Launch	Pilot reported swimmers in water at A Head - Port launch sent to investigate - RGP in attendance - turned out to be two Moroccan nationals - illegal immigrants
15.9.10	PAMAKARISTOS	Problems with main engine - tug put on standby - repairs eventually carried out
19.9.10	Port Launch	Report of missing rib from Tarifa Traffic off Europa Point. RGP and Port launch despatched to search - rib found and towed back to Algeciras by Salvamento Marítimo
19.9.10	Port Launch	Assisted RGP Sir William Jackson which was making water
22.9.10	Yacht	Yacht near Ocean Village caught fire - attended to by Port launch and RGP - fire successfully managed - GMA informed
27.9.10	PACIFIC	Gear box high pressure repairs - tug on standby whilst repairs undertaken
6.10.10	Fishing Boat	Engine failure - launch crew despatched to assist
20.10.10	Mondo	Inspection after report of hole in ballast tank - cracks found. Vessel brought into port urgently to undergo repairs
28.10.10	ORIENT DREAM	Vessel anchored in position but lost engines – Eventually repaired
2.10.10	Oil Slick	Reported off GASA swimming club - Brightside commissioned to assist with clean up, culprit unknown.
9.11.10	AGIOS NICOLAS	AGIOS NICOLAS, engines only available at half power. Situation monitored until engines repaired in case weather picks up, in which case a tug will be instructed to stand by.
12.11.10	Port Launch	Information from RGP that a flare has been reported off Europa point, police launch and port launch proceeding out. Full search carried out but nothing found.
17.11.10	DODEKANISA	Vessel DODEKANISA instructed to proceed north of vessel at anchor off Camp Bay. Instead vessel passed south of the anchored ship causing pilot who at the time was onboard "Jin Zhou Hai" to go hard astern to avoid dangerous situation.
27.11.10	Body reported off Europa Point	Report received from RGP that a witness at Europa Point thought he had seen a body in the water. Port launch tasked to Europa Point and, assisted by RGP, searched area. Sighting appeared to be a large rubber object in the water which was recovered by the RGP.
25.11.10	Oil Spill from Algeciras	Oil spill coming from Algeciras. Oil spill response plan initiated. Culprit unknown.
30.11.10	Oil Sheen	Oil sheen reported off berths 41/42. Source investigated and found to be from the MoD generating station. Cause of leak to be repaired by QHM.
30.11.10	LYCASTE PEACE	2-3 litres of hydraulic oil from midship crane reported lost overboard from LYCASTE PEACE west of Rosia Bay near the Gibraltar/Spain median line. Due to poor weather conditions it was decided not to despatch launch or take any further action.
09/12/2010	VANDA and AMORGOS	Close quarters situation between VANDA and AMORGOS at N. Anchorage area close to the yellow buoy..

Cont....

CONTINUED ANSWER TO QUESTION 257

10/12/2010	VARG STAR	VARG STAR dragging anchor in high winds. Re-anchored using other anchor.
10/12/2010	DA YUAN HU	DA YUAN HU advised vessel dragging anchor. Vessel instructed to heave up anchor and proceed to East side.
16/12/2010	FEDERAL MACKINAC	FEDERAL MACKINAC drifting on the eastside reported a problem with starting their engine and declared themselves a 'dead ship'. Eventually rectified.
16/12/2010	"sinking launch or boat"	RGP requested assistance to search for a "sinking launch or boat" between East Head and the oil refinery. The GENERAL ELLIOT was tasked and further information requested from RGP. Subsequently RGP reported that the vessel (a semi-rigid inflatable) had been located and appeared to be a "smuggling" vessel which was then handed over to the Spanish Guardia Civil
22/12/2010	SUMMER WIND	The yacht SUMMER WIND collided with the DOLPHIN ADVENTURE opposite the reporting berth, Ocean Village. No injuries to crew but slight damage to hull.
22/12/2010	MILTADIS JUNIOR	One MedEvac from the MILTIADIS JUNIOR III in the Bay. Walking casualty transferred to Port Launch for onward transport to hospital.
23/12/2010	PEGASUS	Super yacht PEGASUS reported as colliding with 2 other yachts in Marina Bay as it departed. Vessel did not stop after the incident and headed towards Algeciras. Port Launch and RGP boat despatched to escort PEGASUS back into Marina Bay.
23/12/2010	SAR	Following a report from the VARG STAR that they had sighted an upturned vessel close to their position 5.5nm ESE from Europa Point, the Port Launch and the RGP launch were tasked to investigate. Casualty found and identified. Owner contacted by Spanish authorities, no-one on board. Unable to retrieve boat due to very severe weather conditions,
25/12/2010	AVALO	Vessel AVALO reported engine problems and drifted on Eastside until repairs were completed.
26/12/2010	Flares	Flare reported in the area of Europa Point. Port and RGP launches tasked to the position. Port launch found 3 Spanish nationals safe onboard 6m drifting boat in position 1nm SW of Europa Point. SALVAMAR tasked by Tarifa to casualty's position and towed boat to Algeciras. VTS Manager and SPO informed.
30/12/2010	LNG ABUJA	LNG ABUJA at anchor in Western Anchorage. Problem with windlass, unable to heave up anchor. Vessel rectified problem.

NO. 258 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

COALING ISLAND – COMMERCIAL VESSEL BERTHS

Can Government say how many berths for commercial vessels are available in Coaling Island, how many of these berths are allocated and occupied, by whom, and what procedure is used for such allocations?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Coaling Island is 205m long. Commercial vessels usually moor with a 20m separation to allow an adequate distance for bow and stern lines. The number of vessels that can berth is dependent upon the length of vessel, therefore, Coaling Island can accommodate a 160m long vessel or a number of smaller vessels according to their length.

The Gibraltar Port Authority has responsibility for allocating berths to commercial vessels. The criteria used for the allocation is as follows:-

- length and draught of vessel,
- activity vessel is going to carry out – i.e.: does it require cranes, fuel oil et cetera,
- length of time required to be in the Port.

Coaling Island is often used for 'long dwell' vessels that have no particular cargo activity, quite often vessels arrested for one reason or another.

ORAL

NO. 259 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

MV IRRATIONAL EXUBERANCE

Can Government explain why the M/V Irrational Exuberance was not sold for scrap before it sank, despite having received offers for it?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Port files do not hold any information that indicates than an offer was made for the sale for scrap of the 'Irrational Exuberance' before it sank. In fact, the records show that the Captain of the Port at the time (Capt. C Brand) did everything possible to sell the vessel and recover all outstanding monies before the vessel sank.

ORAL

NO. 260 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT RADAR AT WINDMILL HILL

Can Government say whether the provision of a Port radar at Windmill Hill has now been completed and whether this is now operational?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 261 of 2011.

NO. 261 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**PORT AUTHORITY – RETENTION OF INCOME TAX AND SOCIAL INSURANCE
FROM CONTRACTORS CARRYING OUT WORKS**

Were any retentions made in respect of tax and social insurance in respect of contractors not incorporated in Gibraltar carrying out works in the Port Office?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answer to Question No. 260 of 2011

The Port radar installation at Windmill Hill has been completed. The system is in working order, however, the project has allowed a period of time to ensure that all operating conditions are experienced, for example, weather conditions and compatibility with equipment used by the MOD at Windmill Hill. Although the system is working, it would not be classed as 'operational' until all the numerous situations have been experienced and adjustments made, as may be required.

Answer to Question No. 261 of 2011

There have been numerous contractors engaged in work in the Port Office both directly and indirectly employed to provide services in the past.

The question of retentions for tax and social insurance (until it can be demonstrated that the company is paying these sums within another EU country) is one currently being addressed. The Port Authority now has a policy that all new work will entail retention of monies for the above purposes.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 260 TO 261 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The hon Member will, I believe, recall that we discussed last time the question of the Port windows. There was a firm carrying out work on the windows of the Port Department and it was a UK firm that was not locally established. So, the question is really aimed at that particular case. Can he say whether in that case the monies were retained or not?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

If that is what the hon Member was intending to ask me, maybe he should have asked it. I am not sure whether that was the situation at the time. I can tell him that that particular work that he is referring to was brought to my attention by a member of the public, if I can say that, and I obtained information as to how this work had been allocated. There had been a selecting of quotes that had come in and the works had been allocated to the lowest tenderer. Whether the retention was made or not, in this particular case, I am sorry I cannot ... I can tell him that as a result of that particular incident, I actually gave instructions to the Port in respect of that. Whether that actually happened or not in respect of that particular case, I am unable to confirm to him as I speak today. If I had been asked the question more directly, I would have been able to check the situation. In fact, a few days ago I read a small article on that in one of the weekly magazines or newspapers and I intend to take it up myself. There was a report in a weekly newspaper in which I read about this particular contract, which I intend to take up myself because it is not something that I agree with.

NO. 262 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY – VACANCY FOR SEAMAN MECHANIC

Can Government say how many persons applied for the post of Seaman Mechanic with the Gibraltar Port Authority that was advertised on 10th December 2010, with a closing date of 10th January 2011, how many posts were available and how many applicants were Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 263 to 266 of 2011.

NO. 263 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY – VACANCY FOR MARINE SURVEYOR

Can Government say how many applications have been received for the vacancy of Marine Surveyor which was advertised on 25th October 2010, with a closing date of 10th December 2010, and what was the nationality of the applicants, showing how many are Gibraltarian?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 262 and 264 to 266 of 2011.

NO. 264 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY – VACANCY FOR MARINE SURVEYOR

Can Government say whether the vacancy for Marine Surveyor which was advertised on 25th October 2010, with a closing date of 10th December 2010, has now been filled and, if so, by whom?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 262, 263, 265 and 266 of 2011.

NO. 265 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY – POSITION ON SALARY SCALE FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

Can Government say whether it is the practice that new employees of the Port Authority, since the authority commenced, start their employment at the low end of their respective salary scale or have there been cases where they start further up the scale and, if so, provide a breakdown showing for which posts this have happened, showing the position on the salary scale in each case?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 262 to 264 and 266 of 2011.

NO. 266 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

PORT AUTHORITY – VACANCY FOR BUNKERING SUPERINTENDENT

Can Government say why the post of Bunkering Superintendent, which was advertised on 18th August 2010 with closing date of 31st August 2010 and again on 17th December 2010 with a closing date of 17th January 2011, was not filled the first time round?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answer to Question No. 262 of 2011

When the answers to questions for this session of Parliament were being prepared, this vacancy, referring to the Seaman Mechanic, was still open and, therefore, I am unable to supply the information requested.

Answer to Question No. 263 of 2011

A total of 27 applications were received for the vacancy of Marine Surveyor that was advertised on 25th October 2010. The applicants' nationalities are as follows:-

- 7 – British (1 Gibraltarian)
- 1 – Bulgarian
- 4 – Danish
- 1 – Dutch
- 1 – Greek
- 4 – Italian
- 1 – Latvian
- 1 – Lithuanian
- 1 – Norwegian
- 4 – Spanish
- 2 – Applicants did not specify their nationality in the documents received.

Answer to Question No. 264 of 2011

The interviews of the shortlisted candidates will take place during January and, in fact, they took place last week but I am still, therefore, unable to supply the information requested.

Answer to Question No. 265 of 2011

It is the practice that new employees of the Port Authority start their employment at the minimum of their respective salary scale.

However, there have been three instances when this practice was not followed, that is, in the recruitment of a Personal Assistant and two administrative staff, as the calibre of the individuals concerned was believed to warrant this.

Answer to Question No. 266 of 2011

The vacancy for Bunkering Superintendent was not filled the first time round as the selection board did not find any of the applicants suitable and, in fact, this has been re-advertised again.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 262 TO 266 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In relation to Question No. 263 of 2011, how many of the 27 applicants were shortlisted and interviewed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I would not know how many were shortlisted but interviews have taken place in London over a two day period. So I assume there must have been at least ten or twelve shortlisted, but that is just a guestimate based on the fact that I know that the interviews took place on Thursday and Friday this past week.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the fact that the interviews took place in London an indication that none of the applicants were resident in Gibraltar?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. What happens is that if there are any local applicants, they are interviewed locally and then if there are over a certain number in London, then the selection board moves to London. If the numbers that are shortlisted are actually quite small, then the applicants are brought down to Gibraltar because it is more economical than having ..., I think the selection board is at least three members and a secretary that go over from the Human Resources Department and so, therefore, it is more economical to bring them over. As it happened, this time it took place in London, so therefore, that is why I am speculating that they were there for two days. I know that interviews took place on Thursday and Friday. So there must have been at least eight or ten applicants at the minimum.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Were there any applicants interviewed in Gibraltar? Surely, the Gibraltar applicants are not taken to London.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I have said in my answer that there were seven British, one of whom was Gibraltarian. Whether that Gibraltar had been interviewed or not, I would not know, but I would have a guess that he would have been because, obviously, we would give some form of preference to employing a Gibraltarian rather than bringing anybody from abroad.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Presumably, the Gibraltarian could be a resident of the UK.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, absolutely, and so could the British be also resident in Gibraltar, as any of these. There could be an Italian or a Greek or ... resident in Gibraltar as well.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But, given that the hon Member has told us that there were interviews in London on Thursday and Friday, is it that he does not know whether interviews took place at all in Gibraltar before that or that he knows that they did not?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am not sure whether there were interviews taking place in Gibraltar. Sometimes I suffer from the sin of not getting involved in the recruitment of personnel and, therefore, I just find out because I know that one of my senior executives was part of the selection board and he was away in London on Thursday and Friday and, therefore, I know that. But I try to keep at an arms length until the final report is presented. So, I would not know whether somebody has been interviewed in Gibraltar.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In Question No. 266 of 2011 about the Bunkering Superintendent, can the hon Member say why none of those original candidates were found suitable?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The selection board decided that none of the applicants at that time really met the criteria. May be in terms of experience, may be in terms of ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

Qualifications?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

If they were interviewed, they must have met the criteria for qualifications. But maybe experience, personalities. The fact was that one possibility had industry interests, for example, and, therefore, I took the view, he was a possibility, but I took the view that one could not have a Bunkering Superintendent who had outside interests because a Bunkering Superintendent is privy to information as to customers' names, pricing, the volumes that are delivered by each individual supplier to customers and, therefore, one cannot have an individual that has outside interests being able to police that position effectively. So that person was ruled out and, therefore, we have now advertised again and I am not sure whether the closing date was Friday or today or ... It is in these few days and hopefully ... I hear that we may be getting some applications locally for it now and that is why I decided that we would advertise the second time round only in Gibraltar.

NO. 267 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – FLIGHTS DELAYED

Can Government say how many flights from Gibraltar to the following airports were delayed by more than half an hour on a monthly basis:

- (a) London Heathrow;
- (b) London Gatwick;
- (c) London Luton;
- (d) Manchester,

since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 268 of 2011.

NO. 268 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – FLIGHTS TIMETABLED AND CANCELLED

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 Heathrow (British Airways);
- (b) London Gatwick (Easyjet);
- (c) London Luton;
- (d) Manchester,

since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

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

ANSWERS TO QUESTION NOS. 267 AND 268 OF 2011

Answer to Question No. 267 of 2011

Flights delayed by more than half an hour

	LHR	LGW	LTN	MAN
September	4	7	4	2
October	3	6	4	3
November	5	7	1	2
December	2	1	2	1

Answer to Question No. 268 of 2011

Flights timetabled and cancelled

	LHR		LGW		LTN		MAN	
	SCH	CNX	SCH	CNX	SCH	CNX	SCH	CNX
Sept	30	-	30	-	30	-	12	1
Oct	31	-	31	-	31	-	12	-
Nov	30	-	30	-	30	-	12	-
Dec	30	7	30	7	30	-	12	-

NO. 269 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – PASSENGER TAX / LANDING CHARGES

Can Government say how much is owed in passenger tax and landing charges by airlines which fly between Gibraltar and the following airports:

- (a) London Heathrow;
- (b) London Gatwick;
- (c) London Luton;
- (d) Manchester?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question No. 270 of 2011.

NO. 270 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – PASSENGER TAX / LANDING CHARGES

Can Government say whether the arrears of passenger tax and landing charges owed by Andalus Airlines have now been paid?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

As stated in answers to similar questions in the past, the Government no longer considers that it is appropriate to provide details of sums due by individuals, named commercial entities or citizens. Between the three airlines that use Gibraltar Airport, £55,829 is due in respect of landing and parking fees and £131,670 in respect of departure tax.

The arrears of passenger tax and landing charges owed by Andalus Airlines have not yet been paid.

NO. 271 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

AIRLINES INTERESTED IN FLYING TO GIBRALTAR

Can Government say whether any of the seven airlines with which they were in active discussions in September plan to open new routes:

- (a) to the United Kingdom;
- (b) to the rest of Europe;
- (c) elsewhere?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Discussions are ongoing.

Any new routes will be made public when the airlines concerned have made the commercial decision to commence services to and from Gibraltar.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 271 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the hon Member say whether they are still in discussion with those seven airlines or has that figure changed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

We continue to be in contact with them.

NO. 272 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – COBUS BUS DRIVERS

How much has been paid for the provision of drivers for the airport Cobus buses whilst the new air terminal is being built, and to whom was payment made, with a monthly breakdown since the service commenced?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Government have an agreement with Blands who are the ground handlers who provide the Cobus service. The Government are invoiced for the services as a whole and is, therefore, unable to provide a breakdown of costs, including the provision of drivers.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 272 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the hon Member provide the cost of the service as a whole?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. There is a fixed monthly payment of £5,705.

NO. 273 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR AIRPORT – CEO OF GIBRALTAR AIR TERMINAL LIMITED

Can Government say how many of the eleven applicants for the post of Chief Executive Officer of Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited were interviewed for the post, on what dates each of the interviews were conducted, and whether anyone has now been selected for the post?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Of the eleven applicants for the post of Chief Executive Officer of Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited, nine were interviewed. The interviews were conducted on 8th October 2010. To date, no one has been selected for the post.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 273 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the company have any employees at all?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. Not to date.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In fact, in the advert that the Government have put out asking people to submit proposals for ATM machines to be directed to the company, who is at the company to receive them if there is nobody there?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

These are at the moment being handled by my Ministry and personnel within my Ministry and we are dying for the Chief Executive to come in because we are being overburdened with work at the moment in respect of the air terminal.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it that the air terminal company would actually own the air terminal and is that why they are involved in things like, granting tenders for services to be provided?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

That is correct.

NO. 274 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION MANAGER

Can Government say whether and, if so, when they have appointed a Deputy Accident Investigation Manager (AIM) to substitute for the Director of Civil Aviation when he is absent from Gibraltar?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

The Government can confirm that, with effect from 1st October 2010, Mr Christopher Murray was appointed the Deputy Accident Investigation Manager to cover for the Director of Civil Aviation when he is absent from Gibraltar.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 274 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is this person resident in Gibraltar or will he come over to provide a service only if needed?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

He is a resident of Gibraltar who has been living in Gibraltar for well over twenty years.

ORAL

NO. 275 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government give the area of each of the ten commercial units at the new air terminal building which were put out to tender in November 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 276 to 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 276 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – COMMERCIAL ENTITIES FROM OLD AIR TERMINAL

Can Government confirm whether all the commercial entities from the old air terminal building have decided to move to new premises in the new air terminal building and say how many there are?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 and 277 to 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 277 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – TENDERS RECEIVED FOR COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government say how many tenders they have received for each of the ten commercial units at the new air terminal building, for which the closing date for submission of bids was 26th November 2010?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 275, 276 and 278 to 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 278 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – CONCESSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN GIBRALTAR AIR TERMINAL LIMITED/AIRSIDE RETAILERS LIMITED AND COMMERCIAL ENTITIES

Can Government say which legal firm drafted the concession agreement for use between Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited /Airside Retailers Limited and the commercial entities at the new air terminal, referred to in the tender documents as Schedule 4B, at what cost and on what date?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 to 277 and 279 to 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 279 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS OF RETAIL CONCESSIONS

Can Government give the names of each of the successful tenderers in respect of the tender to operate retail concessions within the departure lounge of the new air terminal at Gibraltar airport, showing in each case the name of the directors and beneficial owners?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 to 278 and 280 to 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 280 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – TENDERERS OF RETAIL CONCESSIONS

Can Government confirm whether the tender to operate retail concessions within the departure lounge of the new air terminal at Gibraltar airport was/will be determined by the Treasury Tender Board and, if not, why not?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 to 279 and 281 to 283 of 2011.

NO. 281 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – ALLOCATION OF COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government say who made up the panel that determined the allocation of commercial units in respect of the tender to operate retail concessions within the departure lounge of the new air terminal at Gibraltar airport?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 to 280, 282 and 283 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 282 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIR TERMINAL – PRODUCTS AUTHORISED FOR SALE IN COMMERCIAL UNITS

Can Government say what products have been authorised for sale in each of the commercial units at the new air terminal building, with a breakdown by commercial unit?

ANSWER

THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORT

Answered together with Question Nos. 275 to 281 and 283 of 2011.

NO. 283 OF 2011**THE HON DR J J GARCIA****NEW AIR TERMINAL – TENDERS RECEIVED FOR PROVISION OF ATMs**

How many entities have submitted a tender for the provision of Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) for the new air terminal which was advertised on 14th December 2010 with a closing date of 14th January 2011?

ANSWER**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT****Answer to Question No. 275 of 2011**

The area of each of the ten commercial units at the new air terminal building which were put out to tender in November 2010 is as follows:

Unit	Retail	Actual Size (m ²)
F1	Shop	23.9
F2	Shop	31.6
F3	Shop	31.3
F4	Shop	31.0
F6	Shop	39.2
F8	Shop	28.0
F10	Shop	19.7
F11	Shop	57.0
F13	Shop	26.4
F14	Shop	26.5

Answer to Question No. 276 of 2011

All of the seven retail and two catering units currently operating from the old air terminal have decided to move to new premises in the new air terminal building.

Answer to Question No. 277 of 2011

A total of nine tenders were received for all ten units.

Answer to Question No. 278 of 2011

No draft concession agreement exists between Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited and Airside Retailers Limited because the latter company does not exist.

The draft concession agreement referred to in the tender documents as Schedule 4B is between Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited and [Airside Retailers] meaning the draft will be amended accordingly for each retailer.

The agreement was drafted by Isolac on 6th August 2010. It is not possible to quantify the cost of this particular draft as it forms part of other works being carried out by Isolac in conjunction with the new air terminal project.

Answer to Question No. 279 of 2011

The Government are not aware of the existence of Airside Retailers Limited, as I have explained before.

The information regarding the directors and beneficial owners of the successful tenderers cannot be made available at this moment in time as, even though units have been allocated to various entities, contracts have yet to be signed. Once the relevant documents have been signed the Government will make this information available to the hon Member.

Answer to Question No. 280 of 2011

The tender to operate retail concessions within the departure lounge of the new air terminal at Gibraltar airport was not determined by the Treasury Tender Board. Since there was no expense involved in the contracting of services or the purchasing of goods, there was no need to involve the Treasury Tender Board.

Answer to Question No. 281 of 2011

The allocation of commercial units in respect of the tender to operate retail concessions within the departure lounge of the new air terminal at Gibraltar was determined by the Government so as to ensure the desired product variety and standards of retailers desired for the new air terminal. The decisions were made jointly by the Chief Minister and myself supported by our respective officials.

Answer to Question No. 282 of 2011

For the same reason that I cannot divulge information on the directors and beneficial owners, I am not in a position to make information available of the products authorised for sale in each of the commercial units.

Answer to Question No. 283 of 2011

It is not possible to know how many entities have submitted a tender for the provision of Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) for the new air terminal until the tender box is opened after the closing date and I believe that happened on Friday but at the time of drafting that was the state of play.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 275 to 283 of 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA

The hon Member said nine tenders had been received for the ten commercial units, is that correct? Does that mean the same nine entities bid for each of the ten units?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. There were nine tenderers, each submitted tenders for different units. There were some clashes. I think there were one or two clashes in which case if they were successful they were called in and a draw was held. So there was one allocated the unit that they had chosen and the other had to opt for a second option. Let me say that out of the nine bidders, two did not meet the criteria and so there were seven units that were actually allocated out of the nine and, therefore, today as we speak, we have three unallocated units which will be going out to tender again.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Just to confirm the point. These ten allocations are additional to the people who have moved from the old air terminal. Is that correct?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

That is correct. Those that moved from one terminal to the other, although they have not moved physically but on paper, were given first choice. Right! There was one particular clash between those and a draw was held in front of both concerned and, basically, the seven that were in the current terminal were moved to the new terminal and those were eliminated. There were then ten units that were available and those ten units went out to tender. Nine bids were received. Two did not meet the criteria. Seven bid and seven were given the new units in the terminal. Right! Again, I think there was another clash there but that was sorted out. As we speak today, we now have three units that are empty. Have not been allocated and we intend to go out to tender again, giving ideas on the type of product that we are looking for, because what we do not want to do is to have unit after unit selling the same products and not having an experience as such, in the shopping experience for potential customers. So, we will be pointing out, this time round, specific areas we are looking for which were completely omitted either on the original lot that were moving and in the subsequent second lot that were allocated units. With the idea of being able to offer a variety in a number of areas, the product sector.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Can the hon Member say what is the rent in square metres, the charge per square metre in rent for these units?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I do not have the information in front of me. I need notice of the question but, basically, the formula ... In the current terminal, there are different people with different rates. In other words, one is paying £40 per square metre and the other one is paying £60. Others are paying 2½ per cent commission on sales. The other one is paying 5 per cent and it all depends ... So, we have done away with all that and what we did was that in terms of the rental, we have averaged more or less what the rent was. So some of them may have actually benefitted from the move, others have actually suffered an increase, but they have a standard sales commission attached to that and, therefore, we feel that that provides a level playing field. The only thing is that, obviously, the units are much bigger than they are today. Most of the units average about 30 metres in the new terminal whilst in the big one you are looking at 12 metres, 15 metres, which is half. So a lot of them are actually getting an increment in rental as such but, obviously, they are getting a much bigger unit for it. That is the basis. The actual rate as such I do not have the figures in front of me. But that is the basis of the thinking of how we have come about determining the rentals.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is the sales commission the same for all the units and if so, what is it?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Absolutely, which was not the case in the past. All units will now have a flat commission of 5 per cent.

NO. 284 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – SHAREHOLDERS AND DIRECTORS OF GIBRALTAR AIR
TERMINAL LIMITED AND AIRSIDE RETAILERS LIMITED**

Who are the shareholders and directors of Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited and Airside Retailers Limited?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Gibraltar Air Terminal Limited is a wholly-owned Government company, whose directors are Richard Armstrong, Dilip Dayaram-Tirathdas and Vanessa Ramos-Israel.

The Government are not aware of the existence of Airside Retailers Limited, as I have already explained to the hon Member.

ORAL

NO. 285 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Can Government confirm whether a Swiss company called Obrist Interiors has been selected to fit out and refurbish the commercial units at the new air terminal?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 286 to 292 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 286 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Can Government say what procedure was used to select Obrist Interiors for the fitting out and refurbishment of the commercial units at the new air terminal, whether this went out to tender and, if so, on what date?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285 and 287 to 292 of 2011.

NO. 287 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Are Government aware whether Obrist Interiors have any experience of fitting out and refurbishing commercial or office units in Gibraltar and can they say whether this firm has worked for the Government in the past?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285, 286 and 288 to 292 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 288 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Can Government say whether any locally established businesses were consulted and asked to quote before the contract to fit out and refurbish the commercial units at the new air terminal building was awarded to Obrist Interiors?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285 to 287 and 289 to 292 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 289 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Are Government aware whether Obrist Interiors have a permanent presence in Gibraltar, or are represented here by an agent, and, if so, where are its premises or the premises of the agent located and, if applicable, who is the agent?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285 to 288 and 290 to 292 of 2011.

NO. 290 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

What is the estimated total cost of the refurbishment and fitting out of the commercial units at the new air terminal building and is this cost additional to the published figure for the construction of the air terminal building itself?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285 to 289, 291 and 292 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 291 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Can Government say how many companies with experience in serving the airport industry were contacted to supply the furniture and fittings for the commercial units in the new air terminal building and who took the decision to award the contract to the successful firm?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answered together with Question Nos. 285 to 290 and 292 of 2011.

NO. 292 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

**NEW AIR TERMINAL – FITTING OUT AND REFURBISHING OF COMMERCIAL
UNITS BY OBRIST INTERIORS**

Can Government say on what date they took the policy decision that the tax payer, as opposed to the concessionaire, would pay for the fitting out and refurbishment of the commercial units in the new air terminal building?

ANSWER

**THE HON THE MINISTER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSPORT**

Answer to Question No. 285 of 2011

Obrist Interiors have been selected to fit out and refurbish the commercial units at the new air terminal.

Answer to Question No. 286 of 2011

The Government made a direct approach to Obrist Interiors for the fitting out and refurbishment of the commercial units at the new air terminal after considering other options.

Answer to Question No. 287 of 2011

Obrist Interiors have worked in Gibraltar in the field of shop-fitting and commercial refurbishment for over 20 years. They have not worked for the Government in the past.

Answer to Question No. 288 of 2011

No locally established businesses were consulted and asked to quote before the contract to fit out and refurbish the commercial units at the new air terminal building was awarded to Obrist Interiors.

Answer to Question No. 289 of 2011

Obrist Interiors do not have a permanent presence in Gibraltar, neither are they represented here by an agent.

Answer to Question No. 290 of 2011

Although the Government have an estimate of the total cost of the refurbishment and fitting out of the retail units at the new air terminal building, we cannot divulge a final figure as we are in the final stages of negotiation with Obrist Interiors and in consultation with the retail concessionaires in respect of their specific requirement. Once these are completed, we will know the total cost of this phase of the terminal project.

This cost is additional to the published figure for the construction of the air terminal building itself.

Answer to Question No. 291 of 2011

Only one company with experience in serving the airport industry was contacted to supply the furniture and fittings for the commercial units in the new air terminal building. The Government took the decision to award the contract on the basis of their experience, having worked at international airports like London Heathrow Terminal 5, Geneva Airport, Frankfurt, Zurich, Rome, et cetera, quality of their products and their reliability in adhering to strict timescales, which are of paramount contractual importance to this project.

Answer to Question No. 292 of 2011

The policy decision was taken on 16th July 2010.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 285 TO 292 OF 2011

HON DR J J GARCIA

The hon Member said the Government made a direct approach to this company after considering other options. What were the other options?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

The other option was, in discussions we thought, we examined whether we felt that there was any local company that could deliver such a project and we came to the conclusion that there were no local companies with the manufacturing skills to be able to produce the quality that we were aiming for. We also considered a number of UK suppliers but the reality was that the experience that had been had by some of the people in the industry was that there was no company that would deliver the sort of quality and experience and delivery on time of this company and, therefore, we opted to contract Obrist whom we knew had the experience, who had worked in Gibraltar before, who delivered the quality product that we were hoping to achieve

and most importantly that they were able to deliver this on time. Remember that these people are going to be working within the main contract building and, therefore, timing and the compatibility to be able to work under very strict time constraints is something that was important. I think we also have to understand that Obrist is not just a manufacturer of shop fittings. They have in house designers and, therefore, they are able to assist in the design of the different shops, assist in the pre-project working, the detailed planning, the manufacturing, the product delivery. The transport and installation which I think is extremely important in order to be able to comply with the main contractor and then, most importantly the after sales service, which I think is something that has to be borne in mind when you have an outlet such as this and you have a high profile shopping experience. So we took the decision after meeting them and considering what they had to offer, that we were in safe hands in going down this particular route.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is the hon Member confirming that, in the view of the Government, there is nobody in Gibraltar suitably qualified to fit out a shop?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Not of the quality that we are aiming for the new airport. Right! Apart from the fact, let me tell you, that, thankfully, most of the shop fitters in Gibraltar are extremely busy these days and to have a local outfit to be able to deliver on [*inaudible*]. This is not producing one project. This is producing ... twenty odd different units is a major project and would probably get a local company subcontracting somebody like Obrist anyway to deliver. So we went directly to the manufacturer and obtained direct contact and control over the project and not have an intermediary in something which is as important and time specific as this is.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

In terms of the estimate of the costs, I understand the way this company works is that they do provide an estimate at quite an early stage. In terms of the progression of the project, that may change, but they do provide an estimate at an early stage. Have they done that on this particular occasion?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. What they have done is they have produced approximate figures depending on the type of outlet. For example, some of the jewellery outlets that are going in the shop have a different cost base to, for example, some of the confectionery shops that are going in the same type of unit. So, therefore, the pricing will vary. We have estimates per square footage of furniture and we find and have tested the market and those represent value for money, considering that this is not the cheap end of the market. We are going for quality here. We cannot have a very prestigious looking building and then have internal units that look like kiosks and Mickey Mouse outfits. These are quality units that we are making sure are in line with the rest of what we are doing and, therefore, we need to get the right people to be able to deliver on the product. So we do have estimates but let me tell you that, for example, the units, the flooring is going to be common to all and we are laying the flooring as part of the

building. What these people are doing are actually putting in place the design and the actual units that are going to be purchased for each individual outlet in order to be able to ensure that we have a unison standard across the board. The idea is not to have an outlet that looks extremely upmarket and have a unit that may be inferior in quality. We want this to complete the experience of using the terminal and I think that once the terminal is finished and you have the experience of going through it, you will realise the sort of product that the Government have been working for and I think you will be proud of the money that we have spent in this particular project.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Is there a kind of figure in terms of the global cost? A general figure which the hon Member will be able to say?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I am not going to be able to give the hon Member any figures no matter what way he puts the question to me. At the moment we are going through a process. It is now in the third phase where each individual unit is meeting designers and is finalising the whole outfit of each individual unit. I am not prepared to give figures away because that could influence our negotiating potential with the supplier and I think that it is in our interests not to give this information away although when the final figures are concluded this will be made available to the hon Member in a very open and transparent way. But I do not think it is in anybody's interest to make this public because all that is going to happen is that we are going to get people that have been allocated units to go for more because they are not paying for it. The Government are paying for the units and, therefore, we need to keep this very much under tabs to make sure that we get what we want and that what we spend we get value for money for.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So the Government have decided on the rent for the units without knowing what the unit is going to cost to produce. Is that the position?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Could you repeat the question, please?

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes. Did the hon Member not say they have got a figure per square metre? I mean if they are not actually renting just empty floor space, they are renting the unit that is going to occupy that space, so they have actually already arrived at the rent without knowing what the cost of the unit is going to be to the Government.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. I think one thing is not relevant to the other.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it not?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Of course it is not because one, you have got the unit. It is 30 square metres. You determine the price per square metre and that is the rental. The actual cost of fitting it out, although it has been given to us as an estimate per square metre in order to give us a guideline of what those would be, when it actually comes to costing it, if one has three show cases that is what we will pay for. We will not pay for the square footage of the shop. We will only pay for what units are ordered for that particular unit. So, one thing is totally irrelevant to the other.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, then what is being paid for is for specific things that are going to be put in the units and not for the fitting out of the entire unit. It is not like, for example, what would be the cost of getting a void in Main Street or Casemates and having to fit it all out? That is not what is being done?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. It is not because the main contract includes the flooring of all the shops. For example, all the ceilings of the shops, electrical points and computer points and things but we will have to determine where those go. That is the only ... but the cost has already been covered under the main contract. What Obrist is supplying is, basically, shop furniture. In other words, the stand, the backdrops, the usual sort of point of sale material, et cetera and that is what they are supplying. They are not supplying the actual ... But, obviously, the whole thing is compatible with the main contractor who has to put the points in place, the electrical points, et cetera, which need to be fitted out and, therefore, this is why I said the importance of making sure that you are dealing with a contractor that has the experience of being able to work with a main contractor at this level in order to match both the fitting out contract with the main contract, in delivering certain aspects of that unit.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it that this company specialises in doing this in air terminals?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Not specifically. But, obviously, when we approached them we asked, specifically, for their experience in working in air terminals. At the end of the day, that is what ... Is there much difference between fitting out a shop in Main Street or fitting out in the terminal?

HON J J BOSSANO:

I do not know.

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Well, there is some difference but not a lot. In essence, they are, basically, the same thing but working within the air terminal means that they have to comply with certain security, certain health and safety issues. They are working within a construction site which is a bigger building and, therefore, we ask for their experience in this and I think in one of the answers I have specified, for example, some of the ... Zurich Airport, Rome Airport and Terminal 5. I have seen some of the works they have done at Terminal 5 because I specifically went to have a look on one of my trips to London, to just have a look at the quality and I think that they have vast experience in airports but they are not specialised airport fitters.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, what is the nature then of the work they have been doing in Gibraltar for the last twenty years then, shop fitting here?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

Yes. They have done a number of shops in the high street.

HON J J BOSSANO:

And in these twenty years that they have been operating here, have they been operating with a trading licence or not?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. I presume that they come and operate as an outside contractor who has registered their labour through the Employment and Training Board but they do not have a presence in Gibraltar. I asked the question, how long have you been working in Gibraltar, and that is why I know it is in excess of twenty years. I wanted to get some background details as to how much they knew about Gibraltar and what it entails to work in Gibraltar with the logistics of transportation, for example, in bringing furniture and fittings from Switzerland, et cetera, and, obviously, I wanted to make sure that they were conversant with the logistics of all this.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, is the hon Member saying then that they do not need a trade licence to do this work in the terminal?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

No. I do not think they do. They will come out as an outside contractor, like in the case of the windows in the Port Authority. They come out as an external operator who comes into Gibraltar and registers the labour. I do not know exactly what the ... detached workers and they register them for a period of time. They come, they undertake the works and then they move on.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

The hon Member mentions Zurich Airport, Rome and Terminal 5. Is it that these airports were done on the same basis as this one where one contractor did all the shops or have they done one shop in Terminal 5 or two? What is the situation?

HON J J HOLLIDAY:

I doubt whether they have been able to do all the shops in Terminal 5. I am sure they must have done a selection of shops. They must have been one of the many suppliers to Terminal 5 but they do have experience in the relevant field.

ORAL

NO. 293 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

DUDLEY WARD TUNNEL

What consultation took place with the City Fire Brigade in respect of the re-opening of Dudley Ward Tunnel?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The closure of Dudley Ward Way Tunnel was the result of rockfall safety issue along the tunnel's northern approach road. The construction of the rockfall canopy and the other associated rockfall protection measures required no involvement by the City Fire Brigade.

ORAL

NO. 294 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT – PRESENCE AT FOUR CORNERS COMMERCIAL GATE

On what date did the Government remove the Customs presence at the Commercial Gate barrier at Four Corners after 5 p.m.?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 295 to 298 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 295 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT – PRESENCE AT FOUR CORNERS COMMERCIAL GATE

Will Government state how many reports it has received from 2007 to date of concerns raised by Customs Officers about the absence of a Customs presence at the Commercial Gate barrier at Four Corners?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 294 and 296 to 298 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 296 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT – PRESENCE AT FOUR CORNERS COMMERCIAL GATE

Will Government say what risk assessments it has carried out as to the effect of the removal of Customs Officers from the Commercial barrier at Four Corners?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 294, 295, 297 and 298 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 297 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT – OFFICERS CARRYING BATONS

Can Government say since what date have patrol crews of Customs Officers (other than the FAST squad) been prevented, in exercise of their duties to enforce relevant legislation, from carrying batons during the daylight hours and who has given instructions that this should be the case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 294 to 296 and 298 of 2011.

NO. 298 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT – USE OF BLUE LIGHTS ON PATROL VEHICLES

Can Government say since what date have patrol crews of Customs Officers been prevented, in exercise of their duties to enforce relevant legislation, from using blue lights on their patrol vehicles and who has given instructions that this should be the case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question Nos. 294, 295 and 296 of 2011

The Customs presence after 5 p.m. was removed from the Commercial Gate in September 2008.

As far as I am aware and I am the Minister responsible for Customs, the Government have not received any reports from Customs Officers expressing concerns about the absence of a Customs presence at the Commercial Gate nor is it their function to do so. The operational deployment of Customs Officers is a matter for the Collector of Customs, having regard to Government policy.

Since September 2008, the Collector of Customs has carried out a number of exercises to ascertain whether there should be any operational changes at the Commercial Gate and in all instances it has not been deemed necessary, except during a period between July and September 2010, consequent upon delays on the Spanish side of the border to incoming commercial traffic, when a Customs Officer had to be deployed until 6 p.m. to clear these vehicles.

Answer to Question No. 297 of 2011

The carriage of truncheons by certain Customs Officers in certain circumstances was introduced by this Government in 2004 and rules of engagement regulating their use were established. They remain in place. The rules never extended to all Customs Officers in the day time and therefore no-one has, from any date, been prevented from doing what they could do before.

Answer to Question No. 298 of 2011

I am not aware that there has been any change of regulation or practice relating to the use by Customs patrol crews of blue lights.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 294 TO 298 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

In respect of the last answer the hon Gentleman has given which is the answer that relates to Question No. 298 of 2011, he says he is not aware of any change. Can he tell us any change from what? From the date that he first assumed the position of Minister responsible for Customs?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is not what the question asked. The question was, can Government say since what date Customs patrol crews have been prevented, in the exercise of their duties, from using blue lights? The answer is that I am not aware that there has been any change, at any time.

HON F R PICARDO:

At any time since the hon Gentleman ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. At any time. I do not want the hon Member, since he is not the asker of the original question, to be misled by that answer which is not to suggest that they are allowed to do so.

HON F R PICARDO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The answer is that there has been no change.

ORAL

NO. 299 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

**IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT – TOILET FACILITIES AT FOUR CORNERS
COMMERCIAL GATE**

What toilet facilities are made available for Immigration officials at the Commercial Gate at Four Corners?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There are no toilet facilities in that vicinity specifically for Security and Immigration Officers.

NO. 300 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

On behalf of the Hon S E Linares

INSTITUTO CERVANTES

On what date did Government allow the Director for Gibraltar of the Instituto Cervantes the use of a Government property (or part thereof) at Casemates, what property is it that has been used for this purpose, is the use allowed on the basis of a licence or a lease and what licence fee or rent is payable to the Government for the said use?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There appears to be no record of the date upon which I authorised the temporary use, on licence, of Unit 25, 1 Casemates Square, Casemates House by the Instituto Cervantes for the internal use of its Director here while their own premises are refurbished.

No fee is payable for such use.

ORAL

NO. 301 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – SALE OF 50 PER CENT SHARE OF CO-OWNERSHIP HOMES

Can Government state if there has been any sale of the Government 50 per cent share of co-ownership homes since the answer to Question No. 1430 of 2010, providing a breakdown by month and estate?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I will now hand the hon Members a statement giving the information that the hon Member has requested.

Sales of Government – Co-Ownership Share of Properties

	SWJG	Montagu Gardens	West View Park	Harbour Views	Montagu Crescent	Brympton	Totals
Sep-10	Monies Received	£0.00	£9,134.26	£0.00	£39,303.93	£0.00	£48,438.19
Oct-10	Monies Received	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Nov-10	Monies Received	£6,361.29	£47,010.26	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£53,371.55
Dec-10	Monies Received	£0.00	£31,533.14	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£31,533.14
Totals		£6,361.29	£87,677.66	£0.00	£39,303.93	£0.00	£133,342.88

NO. 302 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – COST OF WORKS CARRIED OUT BY GJBS LIMITED IN SOUTH DISTRICT HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEMES AND MID HARBOUR RENTAL ESTATE

Can Government now state what has been the cost of works done by GJBS Limited to remedy defects in the following projects which it took over from insolvent contractors in:

- (a) Waterport Terraces (including Albert Risso House);
- (b) Nelson's View;
- (c) Bayview Terraces;
- (d) Cumberland Terraces;
- (e) Mid Harbour Rental Scheme,

giving a breakdown by project and per item?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The position remains as explained in answer to Question No. 1429 of 2010. All the contracts remain live, even though construction of Cumberland Terraces and Waterport Terraces has been completed. It is still too soon to provide final project cost figures.

As explained during the previous Question Time, the Government will make a statement of the final cost of these projects, including the additional costs that may have resulted from having to change contractors, when these projects are completed.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 302 OF 2011

HON C A BRUZON:

The Chief Minister does appreciate, I am sure, that I put the question in again because he suggested that I should. I suppose it is a matter of timing, maybe. There has been enough time to provide the answer.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The answer is simply intended to remind the hon Member of the difference between the works being finished on site and the end of the contractual project. In other words, there is always a period of time after a job is finished, in terms of on the site, when there are defects remediation periods. There is time for the contractor to put in claims for exceeded costs, et cetera, et cetera. So, it is on the practical completion date. In other words, on the date that the contractor hands the building over to the employer, for example, as has happened, I think this week, in relation to the two other developments in the south district. On that date, that does not mean that there is already a tally done of all the costs and expenditure. That normally takes several months longer.

HON G H LICUDI:

To the extent that there are increased costs incurred by the Government in having taken over these projects from previous contractors or developers, do the Government envisage that it is going to be able to recover those costs from anyone?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

All the other parties involved in all of these projects are in liquidation and, therefore, fundless but certainly in the case of the three south district developers, the Government expect that all costs, including additional costs, will be covered by the proceeds of sale. So, because we have taken over the development, we get both the costs, including extra costs, and indeed we get also the proceeds which would have gone to the developer, the original developer. So, there is only a loss situation if the proceeds are exceeded by ... In other words, in that respect we stand in the shoes of the original developer and we do not think there will be a loss on these projects.

NO. 303 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – CUMBERLAND TERRACES - WATER INGRESS

What are Government doing about the water ingress and damp at Cumberland Terraces reported during the weekend of 27th and 28th November 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There are systems in place to deal with issues that may arise, including those raised by the residents themselves. Furthermore, there is a team of individuals, representatives of the Government's project managers, the employer's agents, the architects and indeed the Government's contractor GJBS, permanently based at the site dealing with all such issues and supervising their rectification, as necessary, which is how responsible developers always deal with the inevitable teething problems that would arise with any new development. The problem in the past has been that there has not been a responsible developer to stay around and, therefore, buyers have had to fend for themselves, but these sorts of relatively minor problems that have occurred are entirely usual in new buildings of this sort. That is why there is a defects liability period attached to the back of any contract where ... I am very happy to give the hon Member way to avoid him having to speak from a sedentary position but that ... there is a very well resourced facility and all these minor complaints that arise when they are justified, they are dealt with as is usual now.

ORAL

NO. 304 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES AND NELSON’S VIEW COMPLETION

With reference to Bayview Terraces and Nelson’s View, can Government state what is the current estimated date of completion for both of these home ownership schemes?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 305 to 311 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 305 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES, NELSON'S VIEW - REPLACEMENT DOORS

Can Government confirm that the water test that took place on the replacement front doors for Cumberland Terraces, Bayview and Nelson's View, which the door failed, took place with the doors fully installed on-site at one of these three mentioned buildings and, if so, on what date did this happen and in what building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304 and 306 to 311 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 306 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES, NELSON'S VIEW - REPLACEMENT DOORS

Can Government say how many front doors have been replaced to date at Cumberland Terraces, Bayview and Nelson's View and how many remain to be replaced, with a breakdown by each of the three mentioned buildings?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304, 305 and 307 to 311 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 307 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, NELSON’S VIEW - REPLACEMENT DOORS

Can Government say whether any front doors at Bayview and Nelson’s View have had to be physically replaced or whether the new replacement front door has been installed from the outset?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304 to 306 and 308 to 311 of 201.

NO. 308 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

HOUSING – CUMBERLAND TERRACES - REPLACEMENT DOORS

Why will all the front doors of flats at Cumberland Terraces now not be replaced, despite earlier indications that these would be replaced? The question reads as “the” and I have read it as “all”. I will explain why when I have the opportunity to make supplementaries. The question at 308 reads “Why will the front doors”, I have read it as “Why will all the front doors at Cumberland Terraces now not be replaced”. I think it will make more sense in that way.

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304 to 307 and 309 to 311 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 309 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES, NELSON'S VIEW - REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

Can Government say what is the cost to date and the estimated total cost of the replacement programme to make windows inward opening at Cumberland Terraces, Bayview and Nelson's View?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304 to 308, 310 and 311 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 310 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES, NELSON'S VIEW - REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

Can Government say how many windows will have to be replaced to make them inward opening thus eliminating the need for restrictors at Cumberland Terraces, Bayview and Nelson's View, with a breakdown by each of the three mentioned buildings?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 304 to 309 and 311 of 2011.

NO. 311 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES AND NELSON'S VIEW - REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

Can Government say how many windows have been replaced to make them inward opening and eliminate the need for restrictors at Cumberland Terraces, Bayview and Nelson's View, with a breakdown by each of the three mentioned buildings?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 304 of 2011

Construction of both Bayview Terraces and Nelson's View is complete and the Certificates of Fitness have been issued earlier this month. Both developments are due to be handed over by the contractor later this month and, indeed, I believe that purchasers have already snagged their flats.

Answer to Question No. 305 of 2011

As explained to the hon Member in answer to Question Nos. 1435 to 1446 of 2010, no door failed any proper or meaningful water test. No door failed the test conducted on a fully-installed door.

Answer to Question Nos. 306 and 307 of 2011

A total of 138 front doors in Nelson's View and 88 at Bayview Terraces, being all of them, have been replaced. The replacement programme, and that is because they were replaced before completion and before being handed over to their buyers, the replacement programme in Cumberland Terraces commenced earlier this week and that is, obviously, now a more laborious thing because it requires the owner of the flat to agree to have what is now his door on his flat changed because completions have taken place. A total of 11 front doors have been replaced up to close of business yesterday, since that process began. Basically, the developer, the Government's company wrote to all of the buyers at Cumberland asking them, telling them about this and they have been responding ...

Answer to Question No. 308 of 2011

The front doors to all flats at Cumberland Terraces which are exposed to the elements will be replaced. This is because the Government are concerned, even though they comply with all regulations and standards, nevertheless the Government are concerned that they may deteriorate too quickly if exposed to the elements and, as I explained last Question Time, leave the owners with premature maintenance burdens. This does not apply to the 62 flats in the two independent towers at the rear of the main building, given that their front doors are internal to the building and, therefore, the concerns relating to deterioration, in weather exposure, does not apply to them.

Answer to Question No. 309 of 2011

The cost to date of the windows replacement programme is £210,162.02. The total estimated cost will be the aforementioned sum plus the cost of additional windows replaced at Cumberland Terraces, which is not yet known in full since it depends on the level of take up by residents. In other words, the Government have offered to change the windows but it is the choice of the flat owners, given that it is now their flat, whether they want their windows changed or not.

Answer to Question Nos. 310 and 311 of 2011

A total of 498 windows in Nelson's View and 314 windows in Bayview Terraces were replaced. 37 windows have so far been replaced in Cumberland Terraces, with a further possible maximum of 727, assuming every flat owner opts to have them changed in respect of all their rooms.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 304 TO 311 OF 2011

HON C A BRUZON:

All their rooms, the Hon Chief Minister has said?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, of all the rooms with the relevant windows because it does not apply, for example, to the bay window, to the balcony.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the hon Member for his answer to Question No. 308 of 2011. He will see that on the Order Paper the question lies with the question about "the" front doors at Cumberland Terraces and I asked it in respect of "all" the front doors at Cumberland Terraces and I said that this would be clear when I ask my supplementaries whether that was the case. Now, in giving his answer, the hon Gentleman has told us that the reason why not all the front doors will be replaced is that not all of them are exposed to the elements and, therefore, the fear that they may deteriorate on exposure to the elements is not relevant to all of the front doors.

But will the hon Gentleman accept that purchasers at this residential development were told, regardless of where their flat was, that their front door would be changed because of the Government's concerns and that the Government did not limit its concerns to front doors which were exposed to the elements, although it has subsequently changed position in that respect?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot recall the terms of the very first letter that went out to the tenants but there is certainly ... Presumably, no one is suggesting that we should change perfectly good front doors, that are up to standard and that comply with regulations, completely unnecessarily, at least not for this reason. Now, in the defects liability period, if any defect arises in any of these doors, just as it arises in some other part of the building and it is a reckonable defect under the usual construction project defect liability principles, they will be changed but only because they are a defect not because of this reason which no longer applies. It will be completely ... It is barely even a question of money. It would just be nonsense. It would just be like digging a hole to fill it up again. There is no reason to change the doors and no reason ..., at least this reason does not exist for wanting to change the doors. If there were others, it would have to be considered separately, but the reason for the Government's decision to change front doors at all, namely that we are concerned that because the front doors on most of the flats are, as is not uncommon in areas of Gibraltar, in an exposed corridor ... In other words, a corridor that is open to the elements, that those front doors may suffer weather deterioration, but that consideration simply does not apply to the flats to which the hon Member is referring which are in a part of the development in which there is a lobby door and then the front door is in an inside hall just like ... and, therefore, the reason for the concern just does not arise. So, I do not know if the hon Member has there the text of the letter and it suggests that this distinction was not drawn in the first instance, that may or may not be true, but even if it were true, it does not necessarily follow that, therefore, one changes the door unnecessarily, unless there is another good reason for doing so, which I am not aware whether there is or there is not.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the hon Member for that answer. The letter which went out to, I believe everyone that was a purchaser at Cumberland Terraces, as recently as the 12th May of 2010, which is less than a year ago, said this: "the front door of your flat complies fully with buildings regulations and British standards", which is what the hon Member has told us today. It went on to say this: "however, despite this fact, we are not satisfied with its quality and we have a concern about it, a concern that it may deteriorate too quickly leaving you with a maintenance expense in the future". The "we" in this, just for those who are listening, I know the hon Gentleman will know who it is, the "we" is Gibraltar Residential Properties Limited, the vendor as far as the purchasers is concerned. The letter went on, "in order to avoid this and again to ensure the high standards that the Government seeks even in affordable housing, we will change your front door and install in its place a better one". That is what all the purchasers at Cumberland Terraces were told. They were specifically told by GRP, the company which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the company, that each of their doors would be changed because the developer, the GRP, was not satisfied with its quality and it had a concern that it may deteriorate too quickly leaving the purchasers with a maintenance expense in the future. Having received this letter in May of 2010, purchasers received on the 21st December 2010 another letter and I assume this is

the letter that the hon Gentleman was referring us to, which said this, and I assume this letter went only to a number of the purchasers namely those in the towers, "in earlier letters you were advised that we were concerned that the front doors may deteriorate too quickly if exposed to the elements. This does not apply to your flat given that your front door is internal to the building and the concerns relating to deterioration, therefore, do not apply". As I think the whole House will appreciate, the earlier letter did not, in fact, refer purchasers to the concerns about deterioration being about exposure to the elements. That question of exposure to the elements was only raised in the letter of the 21st December of 2010 and in the hon Gentleman's answer today. So can the hon Gentleman appreciate why it is that, having received the first letter that did not refer to the concerns about deterioration being relevant to exposure to the elements, some of those purchasers, who are the recipients of the second letter that does make that distinction, are concerned that the quality of their doors and the concerns that GRP had about the quality of their doors, being such that they might deteriorate in the future, did not really relate to exposure to the elements, and they now would like GRP to simply do what it said in its first letter which is ensure that they have a door that does not create any concerns about deterioration?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is possible to agree with almost everything that the hon Member has said except the conclusion to which it leads him. Look, it is obvious from what I said myself and indeed from what he has read now that there has been not one but two failures of communication. The first was in the first letter not to specify the reason for the concern being external weather exposure. The second failure in the communication process was not to send a different text of letter to those flat owners that had external doors and those that had internal front doors. So, a standard letter was drafted and it was sent to everybody, regardless of whether it was relevant to them in every particular respect. All that is true, but the error is not so grave that anybody needs to, sort of, be shot at dawn for it, but it is clearly a mistake, regrettable, and it would have been much better that it had not happened. But, surely, the hon Member is not suggesting that because there has been that mistake of communications, perfectly good front doors, that do not need changing, should be changed. One changes front doors when there is a problem with them, not when one has made a mistake in a letter to a tenant who has, therefore, received information that was not intended for him. So, everything that the hon Member has said, including the very gentle, critical, implied criticism of it, is entirely correct and justified but the conclusion that, therefore, the logical thing is to do as promised or to do as said, even though it is not necessary, ignoring the fact that it is a mistake of communication and not a mistake in door quality, therefore the door should be changed, is just not rational. There would have to be some rational reason related to the doors for the tax payers' money to be used in changing the doors, not the fact that somebody made a mistake in drafting a letter. If there is a problem with the doors, of course, they will be changed. If there is not a problem with the doors, they will not be changed just because there was a mistake in a letter, which I am very happy to acknowledge.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am very grateful to the hon Gentleman for that answer. He knows, of course, that not everybody has the privilege of coming to this House to hear his answers. People do not just turn up because they do not like the looks of our faces but people are working and sometimes people at work are not able to hear the debates in this

House. He will agree with me, no doubt, that the very clear position of the Government, that he has put today, is not what was set out even in the second communication. The second communication did not say, we are perfectly satisfied that those doors that are not exposed to the elements will not deteriorate. It simply said, you were told that the concern was exposure and, therefore, your door is not exposed, so it does not apply and, as he can see when he looks at these letters again, and I am sure that nobody needs to be taken out and shot at dawn, because the writer, I have no doubt, is the person sitting opposite me that ... and shooting him at dawn would be a political issue.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible]

HON F R PICARDO:

Exactly! Can I commend to the hon Gentleman that perhaps the position that he has put in the House today, about the quality of those doors which are not exposed to the elements, should at least be put directly to those who are not going to have the doors changed, so that they have that security about the quality of their door because at the moment the position that they have, which is not the Government's answer today, is simply that one day they were told that their doors were going to be changed and next they were told it was not going to be changed because it was not exposed to the elements.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I am not the person that communicates with the individual purchasers but I doubt that purchasers rely, welcome as discussion of all issues in this place is, this is not the forum upon which they rely to hear the Government's position. I believe that there are staff in No. 6 and in GRP that are in close communications with those buyers about that and I would hope to be sure that they have put that position, albeit in different terms, that basic position to them which is the one that I have put to you, is that this is a project to change doors for deterioration due to weathering. For that reason, and as part of that project, there is no justification for changing them but, of course, the doors are still part of the building. So, if there is some, which I am not aware of, some defect with the doors which is not the reason why the Government are changing them, then it will be looked at as any other defect would be looked at in their flats. So, I will certainly check to see that the message that I have given in this House today is the same, or not inconsistent with, whatever message has been given to buyers if they have made queries about this issue. I think they have because I have heard it generally discussed around the corridors.

HON F R PICARDO:

But some are still concerned.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Some are still concerned. Well, we shall do all that we can to put their minds at rest. If their front doors and their unnecessary replacement is the biggest of their concerns, that is a monument to the huge improvement that there has been in how affordable housing projects are built in Gibraltar.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am afraid, unfortunately, it is not, as the other sets of questions that the hon Gentleman has had to field today have show, but so be it.

ORAL

NO. 312 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – SALE OF BAYVIEW TERRACES, CUMBERLAND TERRACES AND NELSON'S VIEW

With reference to Bayview Terraces, Cumberland Terraces and Nelson's View, can Government give a breakdown of the current sales details for each, as follows:

- (a) how many flats are being sold with 100 per cent financing from the purchaser;
- (b) how many are being sold with the 50/50 ratio;
- (c) how many are being sold at any other ratio and specify what that ratio is?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 313 to 315 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 313 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – NUMBER OF FLATS SOLD AT CUMBERLAND TERRACES

Can Government confirm that all the flats at Cumberland Terraces have now been sold?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 312, 314 and 315 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 314 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

**HOUSING – RESERVE LIST FOR PURCHASE OF BAYVIEW TERRACES,
CUMBERLAND TERRACES AND NELSON'S VIEW**

Can Government state how many persons are currently listed as applicants on the reserve list for the purchase of a flat at each of Nelson's View, Cumberland Terraces and Bayview Terraces?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 312, 313 and 315 of 2011.

NO. 315 OF 2011

THE HON C A BRUZON

HOUSING – TENDERS RECEIVED FOR FLATS AT WATERPORT TERRACES

Can Government say how many tenders were received for each of the flats in Waterport Terraces which were advertised on 23rd September 2010 with a closing date of 22nd October 2010, have these now been allocated and, if so, to whom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 312 of 2011

I now hand the hon Member a schedule with the information that he requested about the breakdown of current sales details.

Answer to Question No. 313 of 2011

There are still 20 unallocated flats at Cumberland Terraces.

Answer to Question No. 314 of 2011

The reserve list has been exhausted.

Answer to Question No. 315 of 2011

A total of 499 valid applications were received for the properties at Waterport Terraces. The available flats are in the process of being allocated, with preference being given to applicants who are surrendering a Government flat.

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 312 to 315 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 312 of 2011

Development						Purchaser share						
	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%	75%	78%	80%	85%	88%	100%	Total
Nelson's View	27	2	15	0	21	3	1	5	1	0	43	118
Bayview Terraces	8	1	11	2	19	1	0	2	0	0	32	76
Cumberland Terraces	56	3	27	1	30	4	0	5	1	1	35	163
Total	91	6	53	3	70	8	1	12	2	1	110	357

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 312 TO 315 OF 2011

HON C A BRUZON:

So, the Chief Minister confirms that no preference is being given to those who are paying a higher proportion of the ..., the 100 per cent of the value of the property?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Oh yes. All of these flats at Waterport Terraces that are left, are being sold to people who have bid 100 per cent. Amongst those, there are some who, in addition to paying 100 per cent of the price, are offering to return their existing Government flat when they move into Waterport Terraces and the Government are minded to accept those bids, because it allows us then to solve the housing needs of an additional 20 families. In addition to them getting the flat that they want to buy.

ORAL

NO. 316 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

OLD ST BERNARD'S HOSPITAL – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS OR AMOSITE

Can Government confirm whether brown asbestos or amosite was present during the removal of the red ceiling tiles to the main car park area outside the porter's lodge in the old St Bernard's Hospital building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 317 to 319 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 317 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

OLD ST BERNARD'S HOSPITAL – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS OR AMOSITE

Can Government list the different types of asbestos that were present and where these were located during the works at the old St Bernard's Hospital building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 316, 318 and 319 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 318 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

OLD ST BERNARD'S HOSPITAL – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS OR AMOSITE

Can Government say which company undertook the work involving the removal of items which contained brown asbestos or amosite at the old St Bernard's Hospital building and can they say what training the operatives and supervisors that carried out this work have received in order to be able to carry out this kind of work?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 316, 317 and 319 of 2011.

NO. 319 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

OLD ST BERNARD'S HOSPITAL – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS OR AMOSITE

Can Government confirm what specialist equipment was used, if any, and what procedures were followed in the removal of any brown asbestos or amosite from the old St Bernard's Hospital building?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 316 of 2011

An initial Type 3 Asbestos survey report indicated that the red tiles contained brown or amosite asbestos. Subsequent laboratory tests indicated that the red tiles actually contained chrysotile or white asbestos. The actual removal was carried out as though the tiles contained brown asbestos.

Answer to Question 317 of 2011

Type 3 Asbestos surveys have been carried out and these and subsequent discoveries in the course of the works have indicated the presence, as I have said, of amosite in the case of the red tiles but mostly chrysotile which has been present in all of the buildings demolished and to be demolished.

Answer to Question No. 318 of 2011

The works have and are being carried out by HSE Consulting on behalf of and as a sub-contractor of Gibraltar Joinery and Building Services Limited.

Supervisors are fully trained in compliance with the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) and the operatives have received practical training in the removal of asbestos contaminated materials.

Answer to Question No. 319 of 2011

The equipment used included “H” type vacuum cleaners known as (Hepa Filters) and surfactant spraying equipment and procedures were adopted in compliance with prescribed working practices for the dealing with asbestos. The hon Member knows that there are rules and laws in Gibraltar about how asbestos has to be removed when it is being removed.

Continued Answer to Question No. 319 of 2011

In the specific instance questioned, the workplace was enclosed with a three-stage air lock formed with two layers of 1000g visqueen sheeting and all working surfaces were covered with 1000g visqueen. I hope the hon Member is not going to ask me what that is. The tiles, which have previously been painted, were sprayed with surfactant and removed intact to pallets which were wrapped with 2,000g visqueen for subsequent removal in accordance with the regulations.

ORAL

NO. 320 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GIBRALTAR AMBULANCE SERVICE – MOD SERVICE TRANSFER

What effect will the fact the Gibraltar Ambulance Service will be taking over the MOD Ambulance Service have on:

- (a) the number of emergency ambulances available in Gibraltar to cover at any one time;
- (b) the major incident cover available in Gibraltar?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 321 to 323 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 321 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GIBRALTAR AMBULANCE SERVICE – MOD SERVICE TRANSFER

What provision is being made for Gibraltar ambulances to have emergency security access to MOD areas after the take over of the MOD Ambulance Service?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 320, 322 and 323 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 322 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GIBRALTAR AMBULANCE SERVICE – MOD SERVICE TRANSFER

What training is being given to Gibraltar ambulance personnel to enable them to identify addresses within the MOD estate when they are called out to emergencies to MOD areas after the take over of the MOD Ambulance Service?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 320, 321 and 323 of 2011.

NO. 323 OF 2011

THE HON N F COSTA

GIBRALTAR AMBULANCE SERVICE – MOD SERVICE TRANSFER

What training is being provided to Gibraltar ambulance personnel in respect of the take over of the MOD Ambulance service to enable them to provide CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) services if called to an incident in the MOD estate requiring such services?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

This MOD service transfer remains under negotiation and no agreement has been signed yet. It is thus not appropriate to comment at this stage on those aspects.

However, it is not envisaged that the transfer of the service would result in any reduction in the quality or sufficiency of ambulance cover available in Gibraltar. Obviously, GHA ambulance staff and their vehicles would need to have normal access to the MOD Estate. It is not envisaged that any special training will be required. I am advised that GHA ambulance crews are already trained to a higher standard than current MOD ambulance crews. However, any training needs that may be identified will, obviously, be given.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 323 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

I note that the hon Member says that it is currently under negotiation. Is it the case that the Gibraltar Ambulance Service is already providing some of the service that was previously being carried out by the MOD Ambulance Service? In other words, has that, in practice, already been put in place, even though there might be negotiations about contractual arrangements?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think so but I would ask the hon Member just to give me an opportunity to check that. At one time, just before Christmas, it was mooted that that might happen, but I do not think it did and I am almost certain it has not, but I just ... the chronology in my memory is not sufficient to allow me ... I am almost certain that it is not. It is not so much a question of taking over the MOD Ambulance Service as extending emergency ambulance coverage to the MOD.

HON G H LICUDI:

Does by extending emergency ambulance coverage to the MOD mean that all those instances where we now will have, or have already if that is the case, GHA ambulances attending, then those patients, instead of being taken to an MOD facility which was previously the case, are now being taken and will be taken to St Bernard's Hospital?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The emergency ambulance negotiation are in parallel with a similar negotiation to provide accident and emergency facilities at the hospital. These incidents are very few in number in any year but, yes, it is ambulance and accident and emergency as separate contracts, separate negotiation but in parallel. So, it is not a case of taking them to ... emergency ambulance means emergency ambulance. Emergency ambulances take emergency patients and they take them to accident and emergency departments.

HON G H LICUDI:

Is the hon Member confirming that whenever a GHA ambulance attends to an MOD estate and picks up a patient, that patient will now be taken to St Bernard's Hospital?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I am saying more than that. We are not only negotiating an emergency ambulance transfer service agreement, we are also negotiating, separately and in parallel, an accident and emergency services equivalent. So, in the future, the GHA will extend its coverage of accident and emergency services in Gibraltar to the MOD which has hitherto not been the case. Not as a consequence of the emergency ambulance but as a separate transfer service agreement and, therefore, the MOD will not operate an accident and emergency department of their own and all accident and emergency cases will be dealt with by the GHA. Obviously, on a paying basis.

HON G H LICUDI:

So it would follow from that, that the resources which are available in the GHA will now be extended to all MOD personnel. Does the hon Member have any concerns about the extension of those resources and whether those resources will be stretched, will be sufficient? Will there be extra resources engaged in order to deal now with all MOD personnel?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

There is no need for extra resources. We are talking about accident and emergency facilities which are, by the way, provided to the seven or eight million visitors that are in Gibraltar during the course of the year at any one time. The Gibraltar Health Authority's accident and emergency resource capabilities are not quantified by reference to the population of 30,000 Gibraltarians and Gibraltar residents I have already indicated to the hon Member that the number of cases arising in the MOD of

accident and emergencies, for either treatment in the emergency department or for ambulance quantity of work purposes, are almost negligible.

HON G H LICUDI:

Is it the case that we are only talking about accident and emergency services, or is it the case that the GHA facilities, generally, are now being extended to all of the MOD personnel in Gibraltar? In other words, when somebody becomes ill in the MOD estate, in an MOD flat and now, as part of these new arrangements, the GHA ambulance attends, not necessarily an accident and emergency, just a normal somebody who becomes ill and a doctor advises that that person should be taken to hospital, where is that patient going to be taken?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That aspect of secondary health care is not included and the MOD will continue to provide that themselves, in their own facilities.

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I just come back to the hon Member on the question of the ambulance? He has told us that, of course, the calculation of the number of ambulances available does not relate to the head of population, or rather it does not change per head of population simply because of the larger numbers that would be covered when the MOD personnel are covered, because those larger numbers are negligible in respect of the calculation, but is it not actually, would the hon Member not agree with me that a calculation has to be done from another focus, from another angle, namely, that there is presently an MOD ambulance which is available should it be necessary, for example, in the case of a civil contingency in an emergency, to the GHA covered population? In other words, to all of Gibraltar, and that that ambulance will be lost and that, therefore, the whole population will be one ambulance down in a very severe emergency, if the MOD ambulance is lost?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

There are no shortages of ambulance vehicles in Gibraltar and the MOD's single remaining ambulance is not one that the GHA or anybody else would particularly wish to deploy to anything. It is well beyond its sell by date, and, as to service level issues, hon Members may be aware that the MOD still operate the so-called "scoop and run" system of ambulance service as we used to operate when the RGP used to man. People forget that amongst the developments that have taken place is that Gibraltar now has a specialist and dedicated ambulance service manned by trained operatives. It is not ... and they forget that this used to be manned by shift policemen in what is called a "scoop and run" system. In other words, ambulance crews do not deliver any treatment. They just pick you up, hopefully not do any more damage to you than you have, and take you as quickly as possible to the hospital, which actually is a system that is not as silly in Gibraltar as it is elsewhere because the hospital is so close by. So, this is why I said earlier that the GHA's ambulance crews are all ready better trained than their MOD counterparts who are basically just drivers. So, there is no issue of a reduction in the amount of equipment, or vehicles, or things of that sort, because what is available today, in the hands of the MOD in

that area, is next to nothing. It is one vehicle which would not be ... if they offered to give it to us, we might not accept it.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the hon Gentleman. Heaven forbid that we would ever be in a situation where we need actually to consider emergency cover of this sort, but it is the sort of contingency for which we have, of course, to be ready, and “scoop and run”, throw or put on a stretcher aside, they are available in any particular moment, apart from the ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Not they, it. One.

HON F R PICARDO:

It. It does not drive itself. They, meaning the two guys who would be on board and the vehicle, are available today, in the event of an emergency, together with our marvellous and better trained Ambulance Service, such number of them as there may be on duty at any one time. So, we have got that Gibraltar Ambulance Service and two guys and one vehicle, even if the hon Gentleman says that they may not be of the same high standard as the Gibraltar Ambulance Service, available at any one time should there be a civil contingency requiring them. The position is that once that vehicle and two guys, however low its standard may be, is not there, and I am not talking about the vehicle, I am talking about the service, we will have one less ambulance able to turn up “scoop and run” or otherwise, to a civil contingency. Are the Government envisaging providing that extra ambulance in the event of it being possible to agree with the MOD, eventually, that we should cover for that present ambulance?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The nature, extent and sufficiency, adequacy, sufficiency buffer, he can use whatever expression he likes, of the Ambulance service availability in Gibraltar does not factor in or rely on MOD resources any more. It is many years since the Government of Gibraltar have counted or relied on MOD resources in this area to provide coverage for Gibraltar for eventualities that might happen. So, the hon Member will have seen a programme of ambulance fleet expansion and of ambulance standard upgrading and of staff training. The days when Gibraltar used to look to the MOD for a pooling of resources in civil contingencies of this sort and ambulances are left behind at least fifteen years ago. The hon Member ... well, I am not going to argue whether it is fifteen or twelve or ten or twenty ... it has just been left behind in our history, and honestly, I would urge the hon Members to share with me the view that the MOD's existing ambulance capacity is such and is so practically non-existent, that it is not worth this House's time that we are devoting to it. What the Government are doing and what the hon Member is right to ask the Government whether it is satisfied that it has enough of, is, do we think that Gibraltar has enough ambulance capacity for the sort of civil contingencies that are envisageable, and the answer is that our civil contingency planners, who now exist, are indeed satisfied. The GHA ambulances, the St John's Ambulance fleet, which the Government have recently contributed to

renewing, precisely because we view them as reserve capacity. This is not just a Government ... The Government fund them and supports their equipment procurement, precisely, because they are a reserve recourse asset for circumstances such as the hon Member was envisaging in his question. It would be easy for us to have answered the question, look, yes, we have told the MOD that they have got to transfer the ambulance to us, and, of course, the MOD would happily transfer the ambulance to us, but the number of vehicles is not the issue, it is their standard, their quality, how they are equipped, whether they are road worthy, whether they can be manned, and in the event of a major disaster, or a disaster that could not be coped with by the duty shift of GHA ambulance crews, the recourse is not to call the MOD, the recourse is to recall off duty crews, as the Police do and the Fire Brigade do, to come and man additional vehicles available to the GHA. So, we do not rely either on their dilapidated vehicle or on their untrained driver. [*Inaudible*].

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful. Having understood the hon Gentleman's question, of course, the MOD ambulance, such as it may be, provides an element of headroom. Is the hon Gentleman telling us, in order so that we may fully comprehend the extent of his answer, that the Civil Contingency Committee, and I do not know whether these things are secret and he would have to kill me if he tells me however much he would like to, writes down the potential contribution of the MOD Ambulance Service as zero, in the event of a civil contingency in Gibraltar, and that, therefore, it is for that reason that there is no need to change the sort of resources available for that reason to the Gibraltar Ambulance Service? Is that the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. I am telling the hon Member, that is what I thought I had said to the hon Member, that the Government do not factor in the MOD's ambulance, and has not for many, many years, factored in the MOD's ambulance resources when it has decided on the sufficiency of this facility available, or the need to expand it, or invest more in it, or develop it further. We just have not relied on that. As is not the case yet, for example, in other areas like the Fire Brigade and that sort of thing, where there is still an element of cross cover that has historically been provided.

HON F R PICARDO:

Yes. In fact I was going to come back now on that issue because in his earlier example, the hon Gentleman had said, that that was the position also in respect of fire cover, but is it not, in fact, the case that the MOD Fire Service still provides, overnight, some element of cross cover in a moment where it might be necessary, known as the third pump, and that that continues to be the case today?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is known as the fourth pump, not the third pump, and there is another question on the Order Paper precisely about this subject.

HON G H LICUDI:

When the hon Member refers or explains the service that the Gibraltar Ambulance Service will provide to the MOD, does the hon Member include the ambulance which is currently being operated by the City Fire Brigade? In other words, is it envisaged that the Fire Brigade will also be required to provide ambulance service in the MOD estate?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Gibraltar Government, without distinction of which branch of it or through which of its Departments, Agencies or Authorities it acts, is including the MOD's estate and the MOD personnel in the coverage within Gibraltar of emergency ambulance cover, and, therefore, all of Gibraltar's emergency ambulance services will simply extend its coverage, as it does today to visiting ships and the passengers of visiting cruise ships and tourists and visiting workers and everybody else that might find themselves in Gibraltar. It is important that the hon Members do not lose sight of why the Government is doing all of this. This is not in isolation. This is part of a deal through which the Government of Gibraltar have been able to procure unprecedented degrees of job security for MOD employees across the whole Ministry of Defence in Gibraltar, even in these times of stringent, deep and far reaching budgetary cuts in the United Kingdom. Yes, but the hon Members talk about one dilapidated ambulance as if we were discussing the ambulance service in isolation. I think it is perfectly germane and apposite to remind the hon Members to just take half a step back and see the bigger picture and, perhaps, be a little bit less obsessive about the less important details.

ORAL

NO. 324 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

SEWAGE IN WATERS OFF WESTERN BEACH – COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE EU

Can Government provide details of all and any communications it has had with the EU Commission, or any other, relevant EU institutions, in relation to notifications by Gibraltar in respect of the sewage washed up on Western Beach?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 325 of 2011.

NO. 325 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

HABITATS DIRECTIVE – COMMUNICATIONS WITH EU

Can Government provide details of all and any communications it has had with the EU Commission, or any other relevant EU institutions, in relation to notifications by Gibraltar in respect of the Habitats Directives?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Government do not consider it appropriate to provide “details of all and any communications” it has with third parties on any issue, whilst that issue remains ongoing.

However, in relation to Western Beach, I can tell the hon Member that there has not yet been any communication, or any formal communication, by the Government to the EU Commission.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 324 AND 325 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

As a result of a conversation I had with my hon Friend for the Environment in respect of a subject similar to the question at No. 325 of 2011, I am not going to at all press the hon Gentleman across the floor of the House on that issue, but on this issue, which is an important issue for bathers at Western Beach, why have the Government not yet taken steps to communicate with the Commission?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Such importance does the Government, in general, and, I in particular, attach to it, that it featured prominently in my New Year address that appears to have gone down so badly with the hon Members opposite. It is an important issue but the hon Member knows the answer to the question. First of all, because an answer was given in that respect previously in the House and, secondly, that I have alluded to it in the aforementioned public address. Namely, that the ... whilst we in Gibraltar have always suspected that the source was the storm water drain in the corner there on the La Linea Beach, there was a time, firstly, when other sources could not be ruled out, and the Government's Chief Technical Officer and his staff have been working on preparing and doing the necessary tests to establish, in a way that would stand up

to scrutiny in Europe, that this is indeed the source. The Government cannot just go to Europe and make a formal complaint about this, on the basis that it is folklore in Gibraltar that this is where it must be. There has to be a technical study report that demonstrates it. That is now in hand and the Government will, before making a formal complaint, unlike what other nearby politicians do, which is just go to Brussels and complain to the Petitions Committee, or to hand in a letter to the MEP's which is ... That is not what we mean. When we decide to complain, we mean make a formal complaint of violation of a European Union obligation by the neighbouring Member State and, before taking that step, we are engaging with the Junta de Andalucia to see whether they will agree, in an acceptable period of time, to remedy the defect on the basis that, given that what interests us most is that the source of the pollution should be removed so that the necessary interruption to the usability of that beach should be kept to a minimum period of time, any outcome to that effect, which is brought about voluntarily by the Spanish [*inaudible*] is going to happen in much quicker order and in much quicker time than anything that is the result of following the European Union legal process which necessarily will take, as the hon Member knows, its time. So, before engaging in that step, we are engaging at a political level to see whether they will accept that this is a problem. That it is a problem that has to be resolved, and to see if they will resolve it. Now, they may not agree to it, and they may not do it, in which case we will have to have recourse and we will unquestionably have recourse to the formal EU legal sanction, but you cannot do both at the same time. We can hardly initiate a formal EU legal complaint and then at the same time say, look, politically, will you accept that this is a problem and deal with it. So, necessarily they have got to be in series and not in parallel. Of course, that approach risks that if they do not do it through political persuasion, you have wasted a bit of time on the legal front, so that there is a question of risk and reward assessment to be carried out and we have discussed this with interested parties in the ESG and, I think, they understand the logical sense of the Government's intended approach.

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the hon Gentleman for that answer. What he said in a public statement in his New Year message, or he did not say, is not a matter of record in this House, but what he said in answer to questions on the 29th September 2010 in this House, the last time the House met for questions, is a matter of record. He told the House then, in answer to a supplementary from the Hon Mr Bossano, that, and these are his words, that the Government's technical people are inching towards a conclusion as to whether it is the Spanish source or, perhaps, some source not in Spain. Can I take it from the hon Gentleman's answer today, that they have not yet inched all the way to the source of this and that it is still unclear whether the source is in Spain, or not?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He can draw the opposite conclusion from my answer, which is that they have now completed ... they have now stopped inching. They have reached the destination. They have completed the report which establishes to a level sufficient to sustain either and indeed both of a formal complaint, when the time comes for that, legally, and, in the meantime, to sustain a credible political approach for voluntary remedial action.

HON F R PICARDO:

The next thing that he told the House at that time which is a little like what he is indicated today but I think he said more explicitly then, was that the first point of call would be an attempt for a political solution from the Junta de Andalucia. Given that he has suggested to us that that has already started, does he think that that is going to be inching towards a favourable conclusion at any time this side of summer or not?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I dare not speculate on that and I do not think it is really fair for the hon Member to ask me to do so. We just cannot exclude the possibility that Western Beach may not be available this summer. We are not just in a position to know whether either of the two processes is capable of producing satisfaction by that date. We know that, certainly, the second one is not capable of producing. If it goes to EU, you will be lucky if they would use it any time the next three or four summers. So, the political route is the one that gives us the earliest opportunity for retrieval of the public amenity but whether that, even with a fair wind, can happen by June this year, I would not wish to speculate. If I was a betting man, I would tend to suggest pessimism rather than optimism, but only because I just do not know the extent of the civil works that might be required to identify the actual problem. I do not think they can just, sort of, put a lid on it. I mean, I just do not know the extent of the remedial works that would be necessary. I am told that the problem derives from the fact that there are illegal connections of urban sewage to their storm water drain and that in certain weather conditions, rainfalls, plus tide conditions, this flows through the storm water drain water outlet and gets as far as the sea.

HON F R PICARDO:

Given that he is the person who has dealt with the contacts to attempt to deliver the political solution with the Junta de Andalucia, can he tell the House whether in his political judgement, as a result of that, it is at all possible or helpful to run the EU route in parallel.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I am not going to let him press me further because I have already been totally candid with him on the Government strategy and tactics and to explicitly threaten plan B is almost the same as running it in parallel from day one. So, I have tried to choose my words carefully about the available options. Given that the alternative is so much slower anyway, I think it is worth allowing this first option to run its course. Of course, the judgement that was required is when to abandon the first course and go for the second course. That is what will require judgement, but I do not think we are there yet.

HON F R PICARDO:

Given that the hon Gentleman thinks it might be unhelpful if I were to press him further, and we all, across the floor of this House, want to see a solution to this sooner rather than later, I will not. I am grateful for the answers he has given already.

ORAL

NO. 326 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

SANDPITS VIEWS – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS

On what dates did Government first become aware that the ex-MOD properties at Sandpits Views, that were sold by tender by the Government, were built using asbestos that is still present in the render of the exterior of that development?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 327 to 328 of 2011.

NO. 327 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

SANDPITS VIEWS – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS

What precautions were taken by the Government's sub-contractor, in keeping with health and safety requirements, when doing works to the exterior of Sandpits Views when there is asbestos present in the render on the external walls?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 326 and 328 of 2011.

NO. 328 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

SANDPITS VIEWS – PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS

Do Government have access to the report on the presence of asbestos within ex-MOD properties prepared by the MOD before these were handed over to the Gibraltar Government?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 326 of 2011

There is no particular date of first becoming aware of the presence of asbestos. It is a well-known fact that asbestos is extensively present and used in almost all building materials and in all buildings constructed from the 1950s through to the 1980s. Almost all buildings constructed during those years contain asbestos.

Answer to Question No. 327 of 2011

All contractors and sub-contractors are required to operate in line with statutory health and safety requirements at all times in relation to handling and working with asbestos. Works carried out for the Government are not exempt from this requirement.

Answer to Question No. 328 of 2011

The Government have access to all official lands transfer documents from the MOD, together with any ancillary documents, including the asbestos survey report.

NO. 329 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

INCOME TAX – AGREEMENTS FOR PAYMENT OF ARREARS IN 2010/2011

Have the Government decided not to make agreements for payments of arrears by tax payers in respect of assessments for the financial year 2010/2011?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I am informed by the Commissioner of Income Tax that he does not intend to offer agreements for the payment of tax liabilities in respect of assessments raised for the tax year 2010/2011.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 329 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful to the hon Gentleman for telling us that he is informed of that by the Commissioner of Income Tax. Does the Commissioner of Income Tax inform the hon Gentleman ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible]

HON F R PICARDO:

No Mr Speaker. Does the hon Gentleman have any indication from the Commissioner of Income Tax of why he has decided to take that position in this particular year?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, indeed I do have an indication, for which purpose I will turn to my supplementary information. The hon Member is aware because we legislated it together in this House. We have a new Income Tax Act which seeks to create, what we have called in the past, a climate of compliance and for that purpose it creates a system of timetables, deadlines, financial consequences of not meeting your tax

liabilities in time. All of which would mean nothing if people could just not pay and then get an arrears agreement but there is, as the hon Member knows, provision giving the Commissioner of Income Tax discretion in the event of cases which he is persuaded derive from genuine financial hardship rather than just dilatoriness on the part of the tax payer. So, there will be no systematic arrears agreement so that people do not think, I will not pay and when the water comes up to the neck, I will just go to the Commissioner and ask for an arrears agreement. But there is discretion in the Commissioner to treat differently to that a case which he is satisfied is a case of genuine financial hardship. I think that is a perfectly sensible arrangement, consistent with the new regime of the Act. Presumably, the hon Members do not want us to be draconian with the construction companies that default on their social insurance contributions but lax with self-employed tax payers who are the ones who normally benefit from these arrears agreements. I will not mention lawyers because that would include both of us.

NO. 330 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

MARRACHE GROUP OF COMPANIES – ADMINISTRATION FEES AND CHARGES PAID BY FSC

Can Government provide a full breakdown of all fees and charges paid by the Financial Services Commission in respect of the administration of Gibland Secretarial Services Limited, Cabor Trustess Limited, Meridian Trustees Limited and associated entities referred to as “The Marrache Group of Companies” by the FSC in its letter to licencees raising a Special Levy to cover said costs, providing a full breakdown of fees, charges and itemised disbursements?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Financial Services Commission is an independent body and, in normal circumstances, that is the answer that I would have given to this question and I would not have obtained the information to give it to him. I do not think the Government can be held accountable in this House for information which does not derive from an activity for which the Government has powers, competences and responsibilities. I have taken a different view on this occasion and about this information because there is a tangential link to a power that I do exercise, and that is that when the Commissioner, under the legislation, is going to raise a levy, he needs the Minister's consent as to the manner in which he does so, and because the information requested is the amount to defray, which the levy is raised, and I have consented to the way the levy has been raised, I have, therefore, taken the view that on this occasion, and for these facts, there is a sufficient link with my public duties to obtaining the answer. But I would not wish this question or its answer to set a precedent for the hon Member asking me questions about the business, the internal business of the Financial Services Commission, which is not my responsibility or business. All that said, I have the pleasure, I have sought the information from the Commissioner, who has been gracious to give it to me and I am, therefore, graciously passing it on to him.

Answer to Question of 330 of 2011

Authorised Administration - Costs

	Gibland	Cabor	Meridian	Unallocated	Total
Isolas - Legal Expenses to 30.11.10	176,974.39	307,293.50	8,626.11		492,894.00
Grant Thornton to 31.12.10	254,235.78	67,317.40			321,553.18
Specialist Counsel		9,575.00			9,575.00
Salaries	115,798.31	6,509.32			122,307.63
Self-employed & agency				34,846.84	34,846.84
Telephone	4,824.67				4,824.67
Property Maintenance & Cleaning	5,406.00				5,406.00
Electricity and Water	7,654.11				7,654.11
Storage	4,544.68				4,544.68
Stationery, Postages and Office Supplies	6,123.92				6,123.92
Other Expenses (Petty Cash)	1,130.00				1,130.00
Bank Charges	473.63				473.63
Client Disbursements	1,925.00				1,925.00
Total Costs	579,090.49	390,695.22	8,626.11	34,846.84	1,013,258.66
Amounts Recovered	99,334.31	22,355.05			121,689.36
Net Costs	479,756.18	368,340.17	8,626.11	34,846.84	891,569.30

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 330 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

May I graciously thank the hon Gentleman for his answer and can I assure him that ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible].

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I assure the hon Member across the floor of the House that this question is designed to talk about the Special Levy just for the reason that he has said that it is appropriate for him to answer this question, but it would not be appropriate for him to answer other questions which might relate to the internal workings of costs of the running of the Financial Services Commission and that we accept that it is only in these circumstances that the House should become involved in asking questions of an important, independent statutory authority like the Financial Services Commission.

ORAL

NO. 331 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

GIBRALTAR STERLING NOTES – QUALITY OF DE LA RUE PAPER

Given the problems revealed in the international media by De La Rue Plc in respect of the quality of paper it has used in printing bank notes for international clients, are Government satisfied that the paper provided by De La Rue in respect of the printing of the Gibraltar Sterling notes is of the quality required?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I am advised that the Government is fully satisfied that the paper provided by De La Rue, in our case for the printing of Gibraltar Sterling notes, meets all our specifications and is of the quality required.

ORAL

NO. 332 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

**CHIEF MINISTER'S ATTENDANCE AT THE IMF FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING
IN WASHINGTON**

What was the cost of the Chief Minister attending the IMF Finance Ministers meeting in Washington in 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker, £1,907. I suppose applying the exchange rate at the time that the ...

NO. 333 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

**GIBRALTAR INVESTMENT HOLDINGS – SALARY/FEE PAID TO GIBRALTAR
LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY LIMITED AND LAND PROJECTS
CONSULTANTS LIMITED**

What further amounts in respect of salary or fee have, since the date of the last answer in this House to date, been paid by Gibraltar Investment Holdings Limited on the basis:

- (a) of the “on account formula”; and
- (b) of that part of the composite fee which comprises 20 per cent of the costs of the services to be provided by all project design consultants and the one per cent of the agreed project value, referred to in answer to Question No. 687 of 2008, to Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company Limited and Land Projects Consultants Limited in respect of any of the following contracts individually:
 - (i) Mid Harbour Phase I;
 - (ii) Mid Harbour Phase II;
 - (iii) GoG Relocations;
 - (iv) Terminal Building;
 - (v) New Road;
 - (vi) MoD Relocations;
 - (vii) Infrastructure;
 - (viii) GoG Housing;
 - (ix) Power Station;
 - (x) Car Parks;
 - (xi) Simple Approach Lighting System;
 - (xii) Sewage Treatment
 - (xiii) Energy to Waste; and
 - (xiv) Revetment Repairs?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes Mr Speaker, I hand the hon Member now a schedule with all the information that he has sought.

Answer to Question No. 333 of 2011

Payments made by Gibraltar Investments (Holdings) Limited
on the basis of the 'on account' and 'composite' formulae since September 2010:

	Composite Formula Payments £	On Account Formula Payments £	Total £
Mid Harbour I	-	-	-
Mid Harbour II	-	-	-
GoG Relocations	22,193	40,000	62,193
Terminal Building	78,566	20,000	98,566
New Road	62,158	40,000	102,158
MoD Relocations	53,672	-	53,672
Infrastructure	30,280	20,000	50,280
GoG Housing	46,760	40,000	86,760
Power Station	45,858	40,000	85,858
Car Parks	27,401	-	27,401
Simple Approach Lighting System	-	-	-
Sewage Treatment	-	-	-
Energy to Waste	-	-	-
Revetments Repairs	4,509	-	4,509
Total	£371,397	£200,000	£571,397

NO. 334 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

GIBRALTAR LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY LIMITED – APPLICATION OF EU DIRECTIVE 2004/18/EC

Given the provisions of EU Directive 2004/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, which requires contracts for services to be provided to Governments to be put out to tender, on what basis were the contracts awarded to Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company Limited in respect of consultancy services on (i) the development of the new Airport Terminal; and (ii) the Airport and Frontier Access Road works, given that the contract to provide said consultancy services were not put out to tender?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Nothing in the hon Member's question alters the Government's position, as set out in answer to Question No. 1460 of 2010, in relation to the contract for these services, which the Government believe are not required by the Directive to be put out to tender.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 334 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

The Directive is actually very clear in its application to contracts of this type. Can the hon Gentleman direct me to what exemption in the application of the Directive, which is now directly effective, the Government look to in order to justify its position?

MR SPEAKER:

Is that not a matter of law? [*Inaudible*].

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[*Inaudible*].

HON F R PICARDO:

Well, Mr Speaker, I would be grateful if the hon Gentleman were to give me that answer because I do not think it is a matter of law.

MR SPEAKER:

He may not be invited to give that answer. It is a question of law.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, I do not accept it is a question of law for this reason.

MR SPEAKER:

I have ruled it is a question of law.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, if you have ruled this question then that is a different thing. You have just asked me whether it was a question of law and I was about to tell you why I think it is not a question of law.

MR SPEAKER:

Perhaps I am being too polite. It is a question of law in my view.

HON F R PICARDO:

Right, Mr Speaker. I appreciate why you might say that. May I have an opportunity to address you on that?

MR SPEAKER:

Sure.

HON F R PICARDO:

The Directive makes, as a matter of law, very clear that contracts of this type are covered by the Directive. So, therefore, it can only be a question of law that contracts of this type are covered by the Directive. It may be a question of interpretation that the Government have decided that the, particularly, very clear law does not apply, and for that reason, Mr Speaker, I must ask Government which part of the Directive, it thinks, exempts it from the provisions of, or the requirement rather, that contracts for services in excess of €269,000 should go out to tender?

MR SPEAKER:

Well, the answer says that Government believe, so that is the view the Government have taken, rightly or wrongly. Now, the question asks the Government to justify on the basis of its interpretation of the law. That is still a matter of interpretation of law. I cannot accept that this is not a matter of law.

HON F R PICARDO:

Very well, Mr Speaker, let me put the question in another way if you will. Why do the Government believe that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government are not willing to get involved into an argument about why it believes what it believes. The Government believes it and that is that. Why the Government believes it or why the Government does not believe it, is not an appropriate subject matter for discussion across the floor of the House.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, this is a public procurement contract for services which is worth millions of pounds of tax payers' money. There is a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council which requires such contracts specifically to go out to tender. None of the exemptions in that Directive apply to this contract. I would ask the Government, Mr Speaker, to be a bit more transparent about why it believes it can shoehorn this contract into an exemption which does not exist.

MR SPEAKER:

I do not think the question really ... I think the hon Member is repeating the same question. Now, the answer, to my recollection, is very clear that Government believes they are not required by the Directive to put these out to tender. That is the belief and the hon the Chief Minister has repeated that belief. I do not see the basis upon which that supplementary can be really put.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, the supplementary is put on the same basis as the question, because the question specifically asks why it was not put despite the earlier answer. So, if you allowed the question, Mr Speaker, I am surprised you do not allow the supplementary.

MR SPEAKER:

No, the question was put, from what I read then, a question was put giving the Government the opportunity to state its position. The Government stated its position that it does not believe that the Directive requires the particular contracts to be put out to tender. That is the Government's position. Then the hon Member has gone

into an examination over what basis the law, on what basis [*inaudible*] the Government has based its belief upon. We are now going into the area of discussing points of law, and then the hon Member asked, in another form, why does the Government have a particular belief? The hon the Chief Minister has given his answer. I really cannot see what can be achieved by pursuing the same supplementary in different shapes or form.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, I am in this House to make the Government accountable for its actions.

MR SPEAKER:

Of course.

HON F R PICARDO:

In particular, for its use of tax payers' money. I am not in this House, and I would not pretend for one moment to be in this House, to argue with you on what the interpretation of the rules of this House are and if that is your ruling, that is your ruling. I will take it no higher than that, but I would simply emphasise that this is an issue of general public importance and, if we are going to get into the fine issue of whether something is a matter of law or not a matter of law, the fact is that the public will remain none the wiser as to why it is that the Government has not put out to tender a contract that clearly, in the application of the law of the European Union, should have been.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The hon Member is not at liberty to make that statement.

MR SPEAKER:

Exactly! I was wondering whether there was a question. There is no ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The hon Member can say, if he wants, that, in his opinion, the Directive requires it. The hon Member is not entitled to make assertive facts [*inaudible*] unquestionably requires the application of the law. The hon Member can think what he likes.

MR SPEAKER:

Is there a question there?

HON F R PICARDO:

I am grateful Mr Speaker. In fact, I will take that admonishment from the hon Gentleman with ease. He is right. This is what I believe the Directive provides for and I think that any objective third party, high ranking European lawyer, would take the same view once he analyses the Directive, but it is certainly my view. He is right, and not his. We do not share the view that this contract should have been put out to public competition in keeping with the provisions of the Directive on the procurement of services which applies throughout the EU but appears, in this particular instance, not to have been applied in Gibraltar.

MR SPEAKER:

The hon Member must know that there was no supplementary there. There is no function of Question Time for Members of the Opposition to make statements of the nature he has done.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker is absolutely right. I am sorry ...

MR SPEAKER:

No, no. That is alright.

HON F R PICARDO:

I was simply seeking ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible]

HON F R PICARDO:

I was seeking, in discourse with Mr Speaker and with the hon Gentleman ... I was seeking Mr Speaker, in keeping with what appears to be the much more civilised tone ...

MR SPEAKER:

Question please.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

... of this House to accept the admonishment of the Hon Chief Minister because of our difference of opinion. Nothing else.

MR SPEAKER:

I accept the hon Member's apology as long as it is not coupled with the unspoken words, but I will do it again.

HON F R PICARDO:

Certainly not Mr Speaker.

ORAL

NO. 335 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

WASTE-TO-ENERGY PLANT

Since the last answer in this House, have any conclusions now been reached in respect of the “technical issues under consideration” which the Hon Chief Minister referred to in his answer to Question No. 1035 of 2010 about “whether a waste to energy plant in Gibraltar is capable of complying with EU rules on the matter about waste recycling”?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No conclusion has, as yet, been reached, at least none that has been reported to me from the Technical Department.

NO. 336 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

CHIEF MINISTER / MINISTER'S – USAGE OF VIP LOUNGE AT HEATHROW AND GATWICK

Since the last answer in this House, what has been the total cost, giving a breakdown by trip, of each occasion on which the VIP lounge at Heathrow and Gatwick has been used by the Chief Ministers / any Ministers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker, with a caveat that the information that I now hand the hon Member is accurate up to the date that he asked the question and not up to today's date, because, only this morning, I had occasion to use the excellent service on the most recent occasion and, therefore, that information is not included there, but with that caveat, the information that he asks is now being handed to him.

Answer to Question No. 336 of 2011

Labour Party Conference (29 th September 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
Conservative Party Conference (3 rd & 5 th October 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
Chief Minister UN – New York (6 th & 9 th October 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
Chief Minister Visits Royal Gibraltar Regiment – Marrakech (9 th October 2010)	
VIP Suite Gatwick	£793.12
Gibraltar Day in London (16 th & 19 th October 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
Meetings in London – RBS (3 RD & 7 TH November 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
VIP Suite Gatwick	£793.12
Meetings in London – Gambling (14 th & 16 th December 2010)	
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
VIP Suite Heathrow	£470.00
TOTAL	£6286.24

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 336 OF 2011

HON F R PICARDO:

I accept that Mr Speaker, and I accept, of course, that the cost of the hon Gentleman not having to take off his shoes and show us his toothpaste is not included today. Having now had an opportunity to glance at the schedule, can I commend to the hon Gentleman, and would he agree with me, that he should really, in my view, stop using this lounge, but if he does, can I prevail upon him to at least ensure he goes to Heathrow as often as possible because the cost of the lounge at Gatwick is £793 per trip, whilst the cost of the suite at Heathrow is £470, and, although I think, and he does not agree, that £470 is already too much to pay, is it not at least better that the hon Member should pay that and not the £790 that it costs the hon Member when, I guess, he flies with Easyjet or any of the other carriers that take him to Gatwick.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

If I had been [*inaudible*] a question, I would have stood up. I hate to be impolite. I thought the hon Member was just making a statement.

HON F R PICARDO:

Oh, I am sorry. I did say, does he agree with me, but so be it.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. I do not know.

MR SPEAKER:

I think the hon Member said, can I commend.

HON F R PICARDO:

Can I commend, and I also said does he agree with me at some stage.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[*Inaudible*]

NO. 337 OF 2011

THE HON F R PICARDO

CLIFFTOP HOUSE – COST OF SETTLEMENT OF ACTION

What was the cost to Government (both of its legal costs and the claimants legal costs) of settling the action brought by residents of Clifftop House and what assurances did Government give the residents of Clifftop House as part of the withdrawal of their action?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

GoG's costs: £54,719 (including leading counsel costs)

Claimant's costs: £62,010 (including leading counsel and expert costs)

Following from the GoG filing supplemental information in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment with the Development and Planning Commission, it was agreed between the parties, that is to say the (Claimants, DPC & GoG) to amend the EIA certificate issued by the DPC on 3rd November 2009 by inclusion of the following condition:

"The noise level from any power station at Lathbury Barracks shall not exceed 42 dB(A) at a distance of 1 metre from the nearest façade of any apartment located in Clifftop House when measured generally in accordance with BS4142: 1997. This level includes a value of 3 dB for reflective effect, in comparison with a free-field level, by reason of the close proximity of the measuring location to the building. The noise shall not include any audible, tonal or impulsive content. In addition, the band sound pressure levels from the proposed power station shall not exceed 65 dB within the 31Hz and 63Hz octaves at the same position.

For the sake of clarity:-

- the noise level at the façade is defined as the sound pressure level, represented by the formula $L_{Aeq, 5mins}$ 42 dB. I hope it means more to him than it does to me, and secondly,
- the sound pressure level of 65 dB within the 31Hz and 63 Hz octave bands is the unweighted level before the application of A-weighting corrections, and includes a value of + 3dB reflective effect.

ORAL

NO. 338 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

NEW CAR PARK AT ENGINEER LANE

Can Government give details of all tenders received for a contract to build a new car park at Engineer Lane and state whether the contract has been awarded and, if so, to whom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 339 to 341 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 339 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

NEW CAR PARK AT ENGINEER LANE

Can Government state how many parking spaces currently available will be lost as a result of the building of the new car park at Engineer Lane and whether such parking spaces will be reprovided free of charge at the new car park?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 338, 340 and 341 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 340 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

NEW CAR PARK AT ARENGO'S PALACE

Can Government give details of all tenders received for a contract to build a new car park at Arengo's Palace and state whether the contract has been awarded and, if so, to whom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 338, 339 and 341 of 2011.

NO. 341 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

NEW CAR PARK AT ARENGO'S PALACE

Can Government state how many parking spaces currently available will be lost as a result of the building of the new car park at Arengo's Palace and whether such parking spaces will be reprovided free of charge at the new car park?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question Nos. 338 and 340 of 2011

The tender process is currently on-going and it is, therefore, not appropriate to provide details of the actual tenders at this stage.

Answer to Questions 339 and 341 of 2011

As stated in reply to Question No. 1488 of 2010, Government will announce the operating regime for the new car parks at an appropriate time which is a time closer to a car park coming into operation, as we did in the case of the Devil's Tower Road car park.

Engineer House car park presently provides 79 spaces and will provide 201. That is not 201 additional. That is 201 in total. Arengo's currently provides 43 spaces and will provide 217.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 338 TO 341 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

I note that the hon Member says that the tender process is on-going. On the 25th August of last year, the Government issued two press releases in respect of these two car parks. Dealing first with the press release in relation to Engineer Lane car park, the Government said in the press release, a tender has been issued. Presumably, there was a closing date for that tender which would have been ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Perhaps, I should clarify ... The tenders have not yet been formally awarded and, therefore, the winner does not know he is the winner and does not know the price or things like that, but the tenders are in and they are being considered and there is, I think, now a recommendation from the Board about who it should be awarded to.

HON G H LICUDI:

Is that the position in respect of both car parks? That tenders are in, in respect of both car parks?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes.

HON G H LICUDI:

Is there any reason for a delay, or has there been any delay, given that in both press releases that were issued in August 2010 the Government stated that it anticipated that the works would start in early January 2011. We have already passed early January 2011 and there has not even been an award of the tender process. So, there seems to have been a little bit of slippage. Is that the correct position and, if not, what is the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I think there has been a bit of slippage. Evidently, there has been a bit of slippage or the works would have been awarded by now, but I think they are going to be awarded very soon.

HON G H LICUDI:

With regard to the second aspect of these questions, the question of the free car parks or car parking spaces which are currently available. The hon Member has said that there are currently 79 in respect of Engineer Lane and there will be 201. Presumably, those 79 will be lost in their entirety. Are the Government not in a position to give any statement at all as to what will happen with those 79 spaces? Will those 79 spaces be reprovided? I ask that, although the hon Member has given the answer and the answer being that operational details will be given in due course, I detect an element of being a little bit shy or coy with the information that the hon Member is prepared to give out. Does that have to do at all with the fact that the Government have already been caught out in respect of these sort of pledges, given that in the last manifesto it actually pledged, as a manifesto commitment, to reprovide parking spaces which were on the road and which were lost in Willis's Road and to reprovide them free of charge in the Willis's Road car park. Given that the Government have been caught out and have not completed that pledge, are the Government, in fact, being coy about being transparent in giving full information, so as not to be caught out again and be in hot water once again?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Far from being coy about that, I gave him the same answer in respect of the Devil's Tower Road car park and, when they came to the time, the Government gloriously complied with its commitments, as I had been explaining them, by making facilities available, as had been announced, on the top floor of the car park on a free basis to residents. There are various formulas to be used and the Government are determined to use the formula that best serves the needs of the residents and businesses in that area and does not result in the parking facilities in the area being flooded by people that have got no nexus with the district. That is the essence of the new scheme, a pilot of which will soon be issued of dividing Gibraltar into districts. So, the hon Member may speculate as fantastically as he has just done about the reasons for it, but the reasons are logical and that is that the Government have plenty of time to decide on what a particular area's needs are and how they are best served and by what regime and there is absolutely no need, or logic, or compulsion, or absolutely nothing to suggest that it would be better to precipitate a decision now which affects nobody at this point in time. The Government makes its decisions at a time that suits it and suits the public need and suits the logic of the situation and not simply at the time that the hon Member chooses to ask about it.

HON G H LICUDI:

Does the hon Member not accept that what we are asking is about the Government's policy and not on operational matters? I do not ask the hon Member precisely how operationally this car park is going to work, what the charge is going to be, whether the first hour is going to be free or not. Those are operational matters which will come in due course, but what we are asking ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do accept that the hon Member is asking about Government policy, but it is precisely because he is asking about Government policy that the Government are free to announce its policy at a time of its choosing and not a time of his choosing. He can announce his policies at a time of his choosing and we can announce our policies at a time of our choosing. So we are agreed.

HON G H LICUDI:

Are we also agreed that the Government are refusing to say whether, as a matter of policy 79 car parks which were freely available today in the streets near Engineer Lane and 43 parking spaces which are freely available today in Arengo's Palace, are the Government realistically asking us to believe that, as a matter of policy, it is refusing to tell people whether those car parking spaces, which are available today, may or may not be available free of charge later on. Is that the Government's position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government's position is as I have explained it and as I explained it to him at least on a dozen previous occasions when he has asked the same question and made the same points and given the same speech in almost every car park that the

Government have built. It is all pursuant to this desperation that the hon Members have to find some way of controversialising every successful project that the Government undertake for fear of the electoral consequences of the barrage of excellent projects that the Government are doing.

HON F R PICARDO:

On a Point of Order, Mr Speaker.

CHIEF MINISTER:

But, Mr Speaker, ...No, Mr Speaker, I am in the middle of my ...

HON F R PICARDO:

Point of Order, Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER:

Order. Point of Order.

HON F R PICARDO:

Mr Speaker, just on a Point of Order, because I have been on the sharp end of your rulings today, the rules on questions that any answers in this House also require the person on his feet not to impute motive to anyone and that clearly imputes a motive which the hon Gentleman feels he is ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Oh, the hon Member means like being too coy, for example.

HON F R PICARDO:

... feels he is right about and we feel he is wrong about, Mr Speaker. So, I mean, I think on that issue the hon Gentleman should also be called to order.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. Mr Speaker, what the hon Member means is that the Government Ministers cannot impute motives but they can, because I am standing answering a supplementary which was, "Is it not the real motive for your refusal to explain that you are coy because you ...?" So, the hon Members can impute motives but we cannot impute motives for their imputation of motives. Well, I think, if he is going to deliver inappropriate lectures, he should start with his colleague, twice, two pews to his right, Mr Speaker, but I am very happy to await your ruling.

MR SPEAKER:

Well, the question did refer to motives as the Minister has said. But, in any event, there has been ... As far as I can recall, as far as the answer went, "no improper motives". The improper motive ...

HON F R PICARDO:

Rules for the same [*inaudible*], Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER:

Does one have the rule handy?

HON F R PICARDO:

I do not have them today, Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER:

My understanding is ... but I will bear that in mind but I will definitely look at that. In any event, if the question is based on motives surely the hon Member cannot complain when a motive is hurled back. I will allow the Hon Chief Minister to continue.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Therefore, the position is not that the Government want to keep anything secret from anybody, properly or improperly. Not all keeping secret ... It is not improper to retain information until the appropriate time and impropriety is not measured by whether the information is put in the public domain at the time that the hon Member chooses to ask it. We are at least a year away or longer from these car parks being ready for occupation and there is no need, at this early stage, for the regime and this is exactly the same position as the Government adopted with the Devil's Tower Road car parks and it will adopt it with all the car parks and, indeed, as you will hear with answers to questions in his name on the Order Paper, with all the policies contained in the Government's excellent integrated traffic parking plan.

MR SPEAKER:

May I just pause there? Standing Order 45, paragraph or sub-order (6), no Member shall impute improper motives to any other Member.

HON F R PICARDO:

Thank you Mr Speaker.

HON G H LICUDI:

Whether or not the hon Member wishes to impute a motive behind my question or not, improper or otherwise, and I am not suggesting an improper motive has been imputed by the hon Member ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible]

HON XXXXX:

[Inaudible]

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[Inaudible]

HON G H LICUDI:

No, no. Mr Speaker it is not ...

MR SPEAKER:

Order, order. Let us not digress, the Hon Gilbert Licudi's supplementary.

HON G H LICUDI:

It is not a question of conning the electorate. It is a question of providing a pledge and a commitment which is, in fact, broken. That does not necessarily mean that the electorate has been conned, although it may have been, but there has been a commitment made which has been broken and that is what goes to the root of this question. It is not in issue that there is any sign by this side of the House of any desperation or any electoral consequences or any of the sort of issues that the hon Member has indicated, but the difference here is that we have been there before. We have had pledges made in respect of parking spaces before and, although the hon Member says, well we are one year away and we will give operational details as we did with the Devil's Tower Road car park, the fundamental difference is that between now and when these car parks are going to be ready, there will be an election. Is the hon Member seriously saying that it is going to be the Government's position, come election time, that they will refuse to tell the electorate whether these parking spaces which are free today, will be free next year. Is that the Government's position? Is that what the Government are going to tell the electorate this year come election time?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think it is a little bit cheeky of the hon Member to ask me to give him an advance peep into what might be in my election manifesto. I realise that he would benefit considerably from hearing but, if he does not mind, I will keep my election tactics for the forthcoming election just a little bit closer to my chest for now, if that is alright with him that is? If he is not going to come up with some improper motive for wanting to do that as well. The Government's position is as I have said it and there is ... I know that when the hon Member has referred during this exchange to broken pledges, I think he was probably referring to what he believes to be a broken pledge in relation to Willis's Road and that he was not trying to suggest, as I am sure he was not, but I will just give him the opportunity to agree with me that he was not trying, to suggest that there is any similar pledge which he thinks may have been broken as well or may be broken, in relation to these two car parks, which is what the questions are about.

HON G H LICUDI:

Well, no. There is no suggestion of any broken pledge because no pledge has been given and that is precisely the purpose of these questions. To find out whether the Government have a policy, whether the Government are prepared to give a pledge. Whether the people who are out there, who use these car parks regularly and who will be interested as to what is going to happen because they are now going to lose these parking spaces when these buildings start. What is going to happen next year? That is what people want to know. That is what we are asking the Government and the Government are saying they will not tell us. Now we know that, come election time, the position might change and we might get a little bit of a peep later on in the year, but certainly not ... and I can forecast what is actually going to happen. These cards are not going to be kept close to the hon Member's chest until 2012. Will the hon Member agree with me on that?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The hon Member cannot even summarise, fairly and accurately, what I have told him forty five seconds ago. It is not the electorate that is only going to get a peep come the election. The only one who is not going to get a peep is him, now. I have not said that the electorate is only to get a peep, later. So, can I recommend to him just a little bit more rigour when it comes to attributing or to summarising what it is that I have said ... It cannot ...

HON G H LICUDI:

That is a matter of interpretation.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, no. It is not a matter of interpretation.

HON G H LICUDI:

Of course it is.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is not a matter of interpretation. It is a matter of the honest repetition of what he has heard somebody else say. That is what it is a matter of. Now, what the people want to know is that they have a Government, at last, for the first time in Gibraltar's political history, that is taking seriously the challenge of tackling Gibraltar's perennial parking problem.

HON C G BELTRAN:

That is the point.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Instead of recognising the fact that the Government have already provided several hundred additional car parking spaces in Devil's Tower Road and is about to do another four hundred there, instead of recognising the huge quantity of increased parking that is being provided all over the place and instead of recognising that in these two car parks there will be a very significant increase in parking, which is what people want, his concern is to see how he can find some contingently negative, some yarn that he can spin for twelve months, all of which, of course, comes to nothing when people see the building up and enjoy the benefit, but it gives him twelve months worth of political, opportunistic, mischief making. I am sorry, the real issue here and what people want to know is that the Government are investing their money, amongst other things, in solving their problems with parking and that is what they are interested in doing. That is what these two projects will do, in addition to the other one, and that is what the Government will stay focussed on. I do not agree with the hon Member in anything that he has said and he can stand up again if he wants to and explain it again for the fifth time with the same or a different formula of words. The answer will be the same. The Government have a capital projects programme. It makes its announcements in relation to that capital projects programme as and when, things in their appropriate order and at their appropriate times, and makes announcements at a time of its choosing and not at a time of the hon Member's choosing. If the hon Member wants to try and convert his choosing and the moment of his choosing into the only time which is proper, appropriate and honest, so that any different time frame anybody else chooses is improper, dishonest or some sort of ploy, or coy, then he can. But that is his view and the Government disagree with him and we will not agree with him.

HON G H LICUDI:

It appears from the speech that we have just heard, that the hon Member has completely misunderstood the question and has completely misunderstood the exchanges we have had on these matters on previous occasions, because the hon Member talks about me being engaged in mischief making and wanting to spin the yarn and extend this and criticise the Government. No criticism arises from these questions. It is simply a question of finding information. The Government have

announced that two car parks are going to be built and we are simply asking whether these car parks will cater for free parking facilities which will be lost. Where is the criticism in that? Where is the mischief making in that? Where is the spinning of the yarn in that? There is none. It is only in the hon Member's imagination where he has clearly misunderstood, misinterpreted our question. Does the hon Member not agree that it is quite legitimate and quite proper for Members on this side of the House to get up and question the Government as to its plans? We accept, although we do not agree at all, that it is the hon Member's privilege to say, we will tell you. We have had this story again and again and again in the last few sessions. Again and again and again we get told by the hon Members, we simply will not tell you. That is priority. That is privilege. He can do that but it is our privilege to ask questions and hold Government to account. Perhaps, the hon Member will give us a proper answer to our questions one day. I accept that he will not give us an answer today and, therefore, I will not ask any more supplementaries because we seem to be getting nowhere.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

So, that is not a speech?

MR SPEAKER:

The hon Members must know. In Question Time, I am allowing as many supplementaries as are reasonable and appropriate to the subject matter but the hon Member on this side cannot make a statement, just sit down and have a final say. There has to be a question.

HON F R PICARDO:

Hon Members on that side should not be making speeches.

MR SPEAKER:

Well, with respect, questions are asked, answers are given and I am allowing questions to be asked but I am sure hon Members are familiar with parliamentary practice. It is not the function of supplementaries to make a statement and then sit down. I think the hon Members do know that on that side. Next question.

ORAL

NO. 342 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

**CHANGE TO CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR CROSSING OF RUNWAY BY
CAR AND PEDESTRIANS**

Can Government state when it expects the change to the current arrangements for the crossing of the runway by car and pedestrians to occur?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 343 of 2011.

NO. 343 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO THE TUNNEL UNDER RUNWAY FOR PEDESTRIANS TRAVELLING TO AIRPORT OR SPAIN

Given that the Government have announced that pedestrians will not be allowed to walk across the runway once the tunnel under the runway becomes operational, can Government state whether it has now identified the route alternative to the tunnel under the runway for pedestrians travelling to the airport or Spain?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker, just coming back to what the hon Member was saying before, it is of course as appropriate for the hon Member to ask a proper question about the Government's policy, as it is appropriate for the Government to say that it does not consider it appropriate to make a statement about its policy at this time, and when the hon Member said a moment ago that he accepts that that is the Government's position, he could have fooled me. If he accepts that it is okay for the Government to do that, he would have accepted the answer the first time I gave him and not badger me for six more times, precisely, not accepting the fact that it was reasonable or acceptable for me. So, the answer to this question is ...

HON G H LICUDI:

Mr Speaker, the hon Member is putting words in my mouth. I did not say that we accept it is okay. I accept that it is the Government's position, but not that it is okay. We disagree entirely with the Government's position.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think the hon Member said that it was appropriate, that it was the Government's right not to answer it.

HON G H LICUDI:

It is your privilege not to answer the ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Of course it is. So, ... The answer to this question is ...

HON G H LICUDI:

It does not mean that I agree with it.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, Mr Speaker, if he agreed with everything that we agreed with, he would be sitting on this side of the House.

HON G H LICUDI:

[Inaudible].

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Sorry, there will be time, he said.

HON G H LICUDI:

[Inaudible]

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Oh I see, will retire.

HON G H LICUDI:

[Inaudible].

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Seriously now, Mr Speaker. Seriously.

MR SPEAKER:

Answer please.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No change will occur until the new tunnel is fully operational. Government will announce arrangements for pedestrian crossings of the runway nearer the date of any changes to the current arrangements.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 342 AND 343 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Is it, although again I understand that an announcement will be made in due course, is it envisaged that pedestrians will continue to be able to cross the runway on foot, pedestrians naturally travelling on foot?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No Mr Speaker. It is not so envisaged.

HON G H LICUDI:

So, therefore, does it follow from that, Mr Speaker, that the current arrangement which is that pedestrians coming in and out of Spain onto the airport currently cross through the current road, Winston Churchill Avenue across the runway, that arrangement will be discontinued? Pedestrians will not have to travel all the way down to Eastern Beach and all the way round to travel into Spain, and there will be an alternative arrangement which will be something similar to a shuttle service or a bus service which will be provided, so that nobody will be required to travel on foot. Is that the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government will announce arrangements for how pedestrians can cross the runway nearer the date of any changes to the current arrangements and when it is in a position of being able to do so.

HON G H LICUDI:

Does it follow from that, that pedestrians crossing the runway will be allowed, at some point, to cross the runway on foot?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I have already told him that pedestrians will not be crossing the runway on foot.

HON G H LICUDI:

Will pedestrians be allowed to cross over to the North Front area via the tunnel?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think I have already also said that there is a pedestrian tunnel in the new tunnel arrangements at Eastern Beach. Yes.

NO. 344 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

AMOUNTS SPENT ON NEW AIR TERMINAL, ACCESS ROADS AND TUNNEL

Can Government state the total amounts and provide a breakdown of the amounts that have been spent to date in respect of works for the new airport, new road to the North Front area, the tunnel under the runway and the new frontier access road including but not limited to:

- (a) Consultants' fees;
- (b) Architects' fees;
- (c) building contractors;
- (d) any sub-contractors paid directly by the Government;
- (e) relocation of MoD buildings or services;
- (f) all and any other fees (specifying exactly what such fees relate to),

and what fees remain to be paid in respect of these matters?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 345 to 348 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 345 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

COST OF WORKS OF NEW ACCESS ROAD TO NORTH FRONT AREA

Can Government state whether the costs of the works for the new access road to the North Front area have risen since the contract for these works was awarded and, if so, state the reason for the increase and the amount of the increase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 344 and 346 to 348 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 346 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

TUNNEL UNDER RUNWAY

Can Government state what sums additional to the contract sum may the contractor of the works for the tunnel under the runway become entitled to under the contract?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 344, 345, 347 and 348 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 347 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

COST OF WORKS OF ROAD LEADING FROM DEVIL'S TOWER ROAD TO THE TUNNEL UNDER RUNWAY

Can Government state whether the costs of the works for the road leading from Devil's Tower Road to the tunnel under the runway have risen since the contract for these works was awarded and, if so, state the reason for the increase and the amount of the increase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 344 to 346 and 348 of 2011.

NO. 348 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

TUNNEL UNDER RUNWAY

Can Government state whether the costs of the works for the tunnel under the runway have risen since the contract for these works was awarded and, if so, state the reason for the increase and the amount of the increase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 344 of 2011

Mr Speaker, in a moment I shall hand the hon Member a schedule with the information that he requests in Question No. 344 of 2011 about the fees, et cetera.

Answer to Question No. 345 of 2011

We have assumed that Question No. 345 of 2011 refers to the costs of the works for the new access road from the tunnel to the North Front area, given that he then has asked separate questions about the other chunk on the south side area, of which there has only been one adjustment since the contract for these works was awarded. This relates to a bus stop lay-by and the cost was £16,137, but has not yet been paid.

Answer to Question No. 346 of 2011

The contract provides for a number of instances and events where the contractor can claim for additional amounts if he feels he has an entitlement to it, and this is standard form of building contract. I am sure the hon Member is not seriously asking me to reveal what valid claims the Government think the contractor might have. So, he knows that that is not information we would give him publicly or, perhaps, even at all, but the contract provides for a number of ... it provides the usual grounds upon which contractors can make a claim and then there are contractual mechanisms for deciding whether those claims are justified or unjustified.

Contd ...

Answer to Question No. 347 of 2011

The cost for the road leading from Devil's Tower Road to the tunnel has been affected by variations issued under the provisions of the contract since the award of the contract in respect of

- (a) Alterations to the layout of the new roundabout construction resulting in an £81,000 addition; and
- (b) Omission of the proposed southern footbridge resulting in a saving of £149,360.

Answer to Question No. 348 of 2011

The cost of the tunnel under the runway has been affected following interference from communications antenna in the proximity of the works that resulted in a delay to the construction operations with an anticipated cost impact of £165,000.

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 344 to 348 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 344 of 2011

	<u>Paid to Date</u>
	(£)
1) Airport Access Road	
Building Contractor	10,924,833
Consultants Costs	5,174,592
Insurance	257,250
	<hr/>
	16,356,675
	<hr/>
2) Devil's Tower Road	
Building Contractor	3,690,419
Consultants Costs	576,935
Architect Fees – Landscaping	82,435
	<hr/>
	4,349,789
	<hr/>
3) Airport Terminal	
Building Contractor	25,471,570
Consultants Costs	3,443,310
Architect Fees	3,098,538
Insurance	244,750
	<hr/>
	32,258,168
	<hr/>
4) MOD Relocations (British Lines)	
Building Contractor	18,935,525
Consultants Costs	1,794,859
Architect Fees	1,468,109
	<hr/>
	22,198,493
	<hr/>
Grand Total	<hr/>
	£ 75,163,125
	<hr/>

NO. 349 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

ROSIA TO QUEENSWAY LINK ROAD

Given that the Chief Minister has described the new road linking Rosia to Queensway as “a major manifesto commitment”, can the Government now state when the works for this road will commence and when the road will be completed?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The road to which the question relates is part of the Government's plans to ease traffic fluidity to and from the South District.

Given the outstanding, nay spectacular, success of the Trafalgar Interchange in achieving this objective, the Government are reviewing the need for the other mentioned road. No decision has yet been made and planning for it continues, as if it were going to be done.

NO. 350 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION

Given the length of time which it is taking the Government to complete the review of health and safety legislation which it has announced, will the Government be readvertising the post at the health and safety inspectorate which it advertised and subsequently withdrew?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

No such decision has been made at this time.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 350 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The consequence of that, am I correct in assuming that the health and safety inspectorate is still one man short of its complement, unless, of course, there have been other changes or other people have retired, in which case there will be more than one man short. Is that the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

There are two Health and Safety Inspectors. There used to be three. Therefore, there is one less than there used to be. I do not think the question of complements actually exists as a formal thing, but they have one less than they had before the situation developed, yes.

NO. 351 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

COST OF WORKS TO DEVIL'S TOWER ROAD

Can Government state whether the costs of the works to Devil's Tower Road have risen since the contract for these works was awarded and, if so, state the reason for the increase and the amount of the increase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The costs for the Devil's Tower Road contract have been affected by a number of additional requirements resulting in a currently reported increase of about £380,000 since the works were awarded, the most significant of these involves the replacement of existing water mains and electrical supply cables along significant lengths of the affected section of Devil's Tower Road, which had not originally been intended to be replaced or included within the contracted scope of Works.

NO. 352 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

REPROVISIONING COSTS IN RELATION TO THE MID-HARBOUR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Can Government state what has been the cost to date of reprovisioning the facilities which existed in the area which was reclaimed for the mid-harbour housing development giving a breakdown of the user which was affected by this?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

For reasons that I cannot explain, this rather full answer with lots of lists and figures has not been provided to be in schedule form. So, I will have to read it. The alternative is just to provide him with a copy from one of my colleague's bundles. But anyway, here it goes.

The total cost to date of reprovisioning the facilities which existed in the area which was reclaimed for the mid-harbour housing development to date is £11,242,140 and this can be broken down as follows:

MoD Joint Physical Development Unit – Building	£1,841,147
MoD Joint Physical Development Unit – Marine Works	£1,020,455
MoD Boat Squadron – Building	£2,056,035
MoD Boat Squadron – Pontoon & other marine works	£ 450,070*
MoD Boat Squadron – Finger Jetty	£3,425,817
MoD Rooke – 40 parking spaces within Rooke, janitorial & store facilities	£ 641,184
Bishop Canilla House	£ 246,530
Royal Gibraltar Yacht Club – Sailing facilities	£ 633,927
Waterfront Tenant	£ 14,298
Calpe & Med Rowing Club boat shed	£ 517,830
Bishop Canilla amenity & parking area	£ 214,772
Sea Scouts (temporary facilities)	£ 6,387
New boundary wall	£ 173,688

* Note, an amount of £219,886 is recoverable from the MoD for the supply of pontoons.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 352 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

With respect to Bishop Canilla House, the hon Member has given two figures, one in respect of parking spaces and one simply in respect of Bishop Canilla House, about a quarter of a million.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That was the Club House, I beg your pardon. I omitted the word Club.

HON G H LICUDI:

Right. I was just wondering what it was for. Thank you.

NO. 353 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS IN DEFAULT OF PAYE AND SOCIAL INSURANCE PAYMENTS

Can Government state whether any Government contractor is currently in default in the payment of PAYE or Social Insurance?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There are four Government contractors (two of them are building contractors) that are currently in default of the payment of PAYE and/or Social Insurance. It is not clear from the question whether he was using the phrase contractor in the legal sense of any entity in contract with the Government, or whether it was just short for building contractor. So, I have given him all of it.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 353 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The question was intended to refer to any Government contractor and the reason for that and why it was phrased like that is that the hon Member has announced and we have discussed in this House, what the hon Member has called, the less benign approach, and that it was starting, in particular, with Government contractors and then thereafter it was going to be extended more generally, but there was going to be a less benign approach with contractors, Government contractors, who have sub-contractors, been required to withhold or retain certain payments. That is why the question asked whether any Government contractor is in default. Can the hon Member explain what is the consequence of the new policy decision of less benign approach on these matters and why there are four contractors currently in default?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Correct me if I am wrong, but is there not, specifically, a question, precisely that question, separately on the Order Paper. I think there is but I cannot remember whether it was asked of me and by whom. There was specifically a question of what ...

HON G H LICUDI:

Question No. 357 of 2011.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. By the hon Member?

HON G H LICUDI:

Yes, perhaps we can leave that.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The results of the policy. Yes, which is really what he has asked me now in supplementary.

NO. 354 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE (EUROPEAN UNION) ACT 2005 – EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS TO UK

Can Government state whether and, if so, when it proposes to introduce regulations under section 23 of the Mutual Legal Assistance (European Union) Act 2005 extending the provisions of that Act to the United Kingdom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

As the House knows, the answer to the question depends on statutory reciprocity by the United Kingdom in our favour in respect of the Schengen Mutual Legal Assistance Convention and I understand that that yet has not been forthcoming from the UK. So, as the hon Member may also know, in the meantime requests from the United Kingdom are dealt with under the Mutual Legal Assistance (International) Act which is invoked by the Transnational Organised Crime Act.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 354 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The question is, in fact, intended to find out what progress has been made following the previous question that we have had in this House where the hon Member has explained the difficulties and the issues which have to do with ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The progress is not for us to make. We have done our bit.

HON G H LICUDI:

Yes. Does the hon Member accept, given that he has referred to the International Act and this was a matter that was raised with the Hon Mr Feetham, the Minister for Justice, earlier on in this Question Time, there are some requests which come through the International Act, but as the Hon Minister for Justice explained and accepted last week, there are certain requirements for those requests which relate to transnational organised crime. In other words, the United Kingdom is only a state from which a request can be received in Gibraltar for the purposes of the

International Act if it is in connection with transnational organised crime. There are certain requirements that it has to be transnational in nature. It has to affect two countries and I seem to recall that there was a requirement of an offence of at least four years imprisonment for that to operate and, therefore, there is ... What I am trying to get at is whether there is a real difficulty as between Gibraltar and the United Kingdom in respect of mutual requests both ways and whether that is affecting anything in practice because the International Act affects a gateway, but is not a complete answer. The Evidence Act also provides a gateway but is not a complete answer because that in itself has certain limitations. So, are we envisaging any practical difficulties in getting and receiving requests which suggest that some new impetus needs to be given to this process?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. To my certain knowledge, Gibraltar handles a huge number of requests from the UK. In fact, the majority are from the UK. There are a number of gateways available, as the hon Member has just himself recognised. It has not yet been the case that any single case of the UK's request for assistance has not been able to be accommodated but, we believe, and I thought by his body language, that the hon Member agreed with this position of the Government last time we discussed this, that we should not find ourselves again in the position, as we have been in the past in some areas to do with financial services mutual recognition of passports, for example, that we recognise the UK, but the UK does not recognise us in reciprocity. So, we have prepared our legislation to deal with the UK as if it were another Member State. In other words, benefitting from the Schengen provisions, and we believe that the UK should do the same. We are hugely in favour of Gibraltar and the UK being able to operate this and every other EU measure bilaterally between themselves, but we do not think that we should always be doing it in favour of the UK without the UK also doing it in favour of us. I think that that is not an unreasonable position. So, I do not know whether anybody in the Government is pressing the UK or whether they have just been told what the position is. I would certainly take the hon Member's supplementaries and questions as a reminder to find out whether that matter is making any progress with the UK or whether it is not.

HON G H LICUDI:

We certainly agree that there is a need for reciprocity and, as we both acknowledge, there are certain gateways which allow requests coming from the UK. The concern is not so much in respect of avenues which the UK has to make requests of Gibraltar, but whether those avenues also exist for Gibraltar, when Gibraltar needs evidence, when Gibraltar needs assistance, for Gibraltar to be able to use those gateways.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is why we need reciprocity.

HON G H LICUDI:

Yes, and I understand that there is a need for reciprocity. Given that the Mutual Legal Assistance (European Union) Act 2005 deals, not just with requests coming in, but with empowering courts to make requests outside, and that is the importance of

adding the UK by legislation, by regulations issued under section 23. Will the hon Member agree with me that it is in the interests of Gibraltar, not just because it allows, through principles of comity and reciprocity, UK requests to come through, but requests the other way in respect of Gibraltar investigations whereby assistance is required. What I am really getting at is whether there are any new difficulties on that score because we are finding difficulties in that the UK itself is not being receptive to any request from Gibraltar.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. They take the same pragmatic approach with actual requests as we do theirs, and that is that we find a way of accommodating them, but the actual formal route provided by this particular gateway is something that, I think, is hugely in both Gibraltar's and the UK's interest that both our legislations should, specifically, enable us to deal with each other in the same way as either of us would deal with a request from France, for example. I think, we have said to the UK many times that I think that it is completely illogical that we should be treating each other less favourably than we treat foreigners in relation to each other, but that that is where the reciprocity element comes in. So, the answer is that there is, sort of, a statutory issue here. The UK, even when they decide to change their legislation, there are questions of legislative time availability. It is not as easy for them to change legislation as it is for us. So, there is all those, sort of, issues to go through. In the meantime, both sides are getting on with the business by whatever means, by some means or other, and I am not aware of any case, in either direction, that has not been processed by reason of this issue.

NO. 355 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

DEFENCE FIRE SERVICE – TRANSFER OF SERVICE NEGOTIATIONS

Can Government state whether and, if so, when it envisages a transfer of personnel from the Defence Fire Service to the Government, giving details of the number of persons to be transferred and whether such personnel as are transferred will form part of the City Fire Brigade?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Transfer of services negotiations with the MOD, including in relation to Defence Fire Services, continue. No agreement has yet been reached. It is, therefore, neither possible nor appropriate for me to inform the hon Member of what will emerge at the end.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 355 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

Can Government confirm that it is, in fact, envisaged that those transfers, whatever transfers will happen, will occur as from the 1st April, and that as from the 1st April the City Fire Brigade will assume responsibility for the MOD estate, except for the airfield?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, yes. The discussions and the negotiations that are taking place, if they are successfully concluded, would result in the City Fire Brigade assuming responsibility for fires and other events for which they are responsible on the MOD estate as they are in the remainder of Gibraltar.

HON G H LICUDI:

What we are really getting at is, during the course of those discussions and given that the ultimate goal is that the City Fire Brigade will assume responsibility for that part of the MOD estate, there will be a number of personnel from the Defence Fire Service that currently fulfill those functions which we assume will be transferred over

and, therefore, the complement of the City Fire Brigade will increase. Is that the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I refer the hon Member to my original answer.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Has the City Fire Brigade taken over any responsibility at the moment, or nothing has happened so far?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think nothing has happened so far.

NO. 356 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

INTEGRATED TRAFFIC, PARKING AND TRANSPORT PLAN – COMMITMENTS COMPLETED / IN PROGRESS

Can the Government state which of the 53 commitments which are listed in the Integrated Traffic, Parking and Transport Plan as not being “In Progress” or “Completed”, have now been completed or are in progress?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I repeat my answer to the hon Member on the last occasion that we discussed this at length and indeed to the eleven pages of tightly typed Hansard in answer to Question No. 1010 of 2010. I refer him to that and repeat to him now everything that I said to him then.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 356 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

But the question now is quite different. As I recall, and I do not have it in front of me, the question then was ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I will read it to him.

HON G H LICUDI:

In respect of that list, what dates can we now pencil in as the completion dates for each of these projects and the Government was unwilling, as it has been evident from answers to earlier questions, to give any such details until the Government, according to it, is in a position to make that announcement. This question is completely different because there is a list of projects in the Integrated, Traffic, Parking and Transport Plan. Of that list, 53 commitments were blank in terms of either being in progress or being completed. So, all we are saying now is when this list was published in April 2010, 53 commitments had not been started or had not been completed, can you give us a progress report in respect of the position today? Not what will happen next year when you expect to announce certain things, either

down the line in six months or in 2012, but what is the position today in respect of those 53 commitments? Which of those 53 commitments are now in progress which were not in progress when the plan was announced in April 2010? It is a completely different question.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I will read him the answer I gave him to Question No. 1489 of 2010 and he can gauge whether ...

HON G H LICUDI:

The eleven pages?

MR SPEAKER:

No. [*Inaudible*].

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

... he thinks it is a different answer or question. "The position remains unchanged from that stated in answer to Question No. 1014 of 2010. Government will make announcements relating to its policy initiatives as and when it considers it appropriate to do so. The Government does not consider it appropriate to account publicly for progress in internal preparatory works that is on-going", and then I went on to explain to the hon Member that what was in progress ... We are willing to give an account of internal preparatory works and what had physically started was the subject of an announcement, when it started, and, therefore, what had not physically started, of which he has notice himself, is either not being prepared for or is being prepared for and for those two we are not willing to give a progress report every time the hon Member asks. But he should not worry because, at some appropriate stage, the Government will update the progress check list which, of course, is exactly why it published it, so that it could be updated, and then the things that are in progress by that date will be apparent to him as, indeed, they will be to everybody else. Most people understand that things are in progress when they see it happening. Now, before they start seeing it happening, there is a period of time during which the matter is being designed, prepared for, or not even that may have started because it has not got to it in the priority list, and that is the debate which went into almost fifteen pages of Hansard, which is what we answered last time and which I was rather hoping that we would be able to avoid having again by me just adopting the same answer. We do not think it is appropriate to be required to give a progress report of our internal preparatory works. When things are going to be done, they are announced and, in any case, the hon Member can see it for himself that they are in progress or not in progress, and that is how ... We are not, sort of, budging from that position which I hope he does not also want to attribute to some skulduggery motive.

HON G H LICUDI:

The motive is quite clear. The hon Member says he will provide an update of that progress list. No doubt, that update will be given two weeks before the elections

which will happen this year. So that people will see how much progress has been made, even though none has been made for the last one and a half years. Does the hon Member ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I will wave a magic wand [*inaudible*].

HON G H LICUDI:

The hon Member does not have to wave a magic wand, but does he agree with me then that in respect of a plan which was announced in draft in October 2009 and which was subsequently published in full in April 2010, a plan which envisaged many, many commitments coming to fruition, not just starting and being in progress, in a timescale of two to three years, almost one year down the line, we now find that the answer to this question is the same as the answers to previous questions, that there has been no progress.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No progress!

HON G H LICUDI:

So, the 53 of the commitments ... When I say progress, progress in the sense that when, not completion, progress in the sense that when the list says, this is a project, here is one line that says in progress, here is one line that says completed, one can either tick one, tick the other, or tick neither. Fifty three commitments had neither box ticked, and the hon Member is telling us today that of those 53 commitments that had neither box ticked, all of them have neither box ticked, today. Is that the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, that is, obviously, not the position because otherwise I will not be in a position to wave the magic wand just in front of the next election year. If I want things in place just before the next election, which appears to be the hon Member's assessment of everything that motivates the Government, I have to start some time before because I cannot, sort of, wave the magic wand. So, obviously, it is not the case that things are not in progress. They are not visibly in progress and, at some appropriate time, the Government will update the check list, so that people can see what is in progress and what is not. But I think most people would recognise the demonstrable improvements and efforts that are being made in traffic flow schemes, in parking schemes. These matters are being dealt with wholesale and I hate to disappoint the hon Member but, obviously, it suits him best that we get to the next elections having done as few of these as possible. That would be a good result for him. Never mind the poor motorist. That would be a good political result for him. I hate to disappoint him. By the time we get to the next election, the vast majority of all of these things will have been complied. This is a programme which I think it said for two or three years, I cannot remember, perhaps he will remind me, and it is not for him to be clock watching throughout that period to see how many we have done and how many we

have not. If he wants a job as the Government's timekeeper, we can arrange it but, in the meantime, the deployment of Government policy is a matter for us, not for him, and the announcements about the deployment ... I beg your pardon. I will ...

HON G H LICUDI:

It would certainly not be good for us for no progress at all to be made on Government plans to improve the traffic and parking situation in Gibraltar. It would be good for Gibraltar for as much progress as possible to solve the problems that Gibraltar has, to be made as soon as possible. Regrettably, we have now come to the conclusion, and Gibraltar has come to the conclusion, that insufficient progress has been made by this Government and there is now required a change of Government in order for sufficient progress to be made for the good of Gibraltar.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Oh I see! If the hon Member means to elect a Government that did not have a traffic and parking plan in its last manifesto at all. So, I do not know whether progress is sufficient or insufficient but, presumably, it is more than there would have been during the last three years if they had been in office, given that they attach no importance to this in their manifesto. So, this is what I mean by the hon Member's status as a self-appointed timekeeper. He is not even a self-appointed timekeeper of a policy of the Government to which he attached the same degree of importance as the Government attaches politically because it is not as if the hon Member is saying, if we had been in office, this alternative plan which we announced in our manifesto would now be much more advanced. They had no plan in their manifesto. So, all the things that have happened, all the things that are happening and all the things that will happen between now and the next time that the electorate are invited to express a view as to whether they want a change of Government or not, are things that would not have happened, had the hon Members been elected unless, of course, traffic and parking, important issues as they were, were an after thought, after the last election, for them.

MR SPEAKER:

I do not think the hon Member got as far as putting the question for a rather full answer.

HON G H LICUDI:

I did not even get a chance to ask a question before getting a political speech.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I remember the supplementaries.

HON G H LICUDI:

I am happy to hear what the hon Member has to say. He conveniently forgets what our manifesto actually says and, if the hon Member wants, I can remind him. I can send him a copy of the manifesto on a weekly basis, so that he can be reminded on a weekly basis of all the marvellous things that we would have done, had we been in office and all the marvellous things that Gibraltar will achieve after we gain office this year, and in respect of traffic ... Does the hon Member not recall, and I will address that specifically, that we have a very specific manifesto commitment to publish a comprehensive traffic plan. That was ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

You mean like ours.

HON G H LICUDI:

No, but we would have done before the hon Member did it. It is not a matter of speculation. What is wrong is for the hon Member to say, nothing would have happened and they had no plans. Well, we did have plans, and those would have been announced in a plan shortly after the next elections. Now, the hon Member, getting back to my supplementary which I was asking earlier and which I was not allowed to finish, although I am always happy to give way to the hon Member if he wants to make a contribution to this place. It is not a question of being a timekeeper and it is not a question, as the hon Member likes to say when he gives his interviews, that the Opposition are obsessed by dates and want to hold Government to account to a specific date and a specific time. That is not the question, but this Government have nailed their colours to a particular mast. A mast which is called a traffic plan which has certain lists in progress and completed, and all we are asking is whether they are in a position now to update what they themselves have announced, and now they tell us they are unwilling to do so. Well, why did they hold themselves out as if this was the blueprint which was required for Gibraltar? Why did they tell us that it was necessary? Why did they believe that it was necessary for people to know in that check list, because it was actually a check list, which items were in progress and which items are completed, and why does the hon Member think that it is inappropriate for us to ask for progress on the check list itself? It is their check list. We just want to know when we can tick particular boxes. Why is that so wrong?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr Speaker, because the check list is published for the Government to update it at times convenient to it. Not at times demanded by him. Assuming that pursuant to his alleged concerns for traffic matters in Gibraltar, assuming that he takes the trouble to drive around Gibraltar and has time from his busy work schedule to do that, he, presumably, sees for himself the things that are in progress and the things that have started but not finished, and the things that are finished. Or is the hon Member coming to me to inform him of all the things that have been happening on Gibraltar's highways during the last few months that he, presumably, has not noticed, because he does not see them from his office in Line Wall Road. Well, it is not my job to be his clerk of works. It is not my job to be his researcher, and it is not my job to do his leg work or his homework for him. He has notice of the things that are available and in the knowledge of everybody that just cares to look.

HON G H LICUDI:

I will be more than happy to accept the hon Member as my researcher. In a few months time he might be amenable to take that job.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I have said [*inaudible*], not that I want to.

HON G H LICUDI:

That position may become available, certainly for the hon Member to take up in a few months time. We obviously see what is going on in Gibraltar but what we do not know is what the Government's policy is and what the Government's plans are, and given that they themselves have stated that certain things are determined to be in progress or not, it is legitimate for us to ask, well, when do they consider that certain things are in progress. Let me ask a very specific question in respect of this issue of being in progress. These two press releases which were issued in August 2010 in respect of the car parks in Engineer Lane and Arengo's Palace, are those now matters which are considered to be in progress or are they simply internal workings before matters get into progress. At what stage do we start ticking this check list? Can the hon Member say whether those two are now in progress for the purposes of the check list?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I repeat my original answer to the hon Member.

NO. 357 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS – COMPLIANCE BY EMPLOYERS

Can the Government state what have been the results of the policy it announced last year for a less benign approach to the enforcement of compliance with the requirements for all employers to register their workers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

As previously stated to the hon Member, the first sector to be targeted with such measures is the construction industry. Others will follow. The construction industry is now much more carefully monitored and a much stricter regime of deductions obligations is in place and the consequence is that there has been a huge reduction in the amount of arrears and in the number of companies engaged in arrears. Now that we have acquired the scheme and the expertise, we need to extend that to other sectors of the economy, having started with the construction industry which is the one that rung the alarm bell following the demise of Haymills and others.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 357 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Does the answer to this question imply that the registration of people employed in the ETB is now more accurate than it was before because, presumably, this is what we are talking about, people registering or terminating, notifying terminations? Is that what this refers to?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, although he is right that it is open to that interpretation, the question has been interpreted to be addressing the payment of, the compliance with the payments of social insurance, rather than the requirements for all employers to register their workers, which is a sub set of the first. In other words, contract ... Yes, because the scheme involves the Government monitoring this through its contractors and sub-contractors. That is where the scheme has started and part of that is ensuring that they are registered and paying. It is part of the check list process, but the scheme does not specifically focus on the registration process. It just ensures that companies that are working, or tries to ensure, monitors, that companies that are working on Government projects, whether they are the Government's initial

contractor or some sub-contractor down the line, but working on a Government project, is engaging registered labour and are up to date with their payments.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Given this last answer then, when the hon Member said that there had been progress in terms of compliance in the construction industry, he really means in the part of the construction industry that is working either directly or are sub-contractors for the Government.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, but happily, well unhappily, but happily for this project, happily for this exercise, I mean unhappily for the economy at large, but happily for this exercise, the commencement of the scheme has coincided with a period in which very little private sector construction industry is going on. So, we have really been able to launch this in a sort of laboratory which is almost entirely Government projects. By the way, I should add, I beg your pardon, that when the Government does the monitoring, it does it not just in respect of its own contract. So, if there is a contractor or sub-contractor engaged, he is monitored for all his obligations, even if they are working elsewhere. So, if a contractor is working for the Government and for somebody else, it is not that we disregard what does not relate to our contract.

NO. 358 OF 2011

THE HON G H LICUDI

CONSTRUCTION TRAINING INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Can Government state whether the construction training industry assistance scheme has now come into effect and give full details of that scheme?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The scheme has now begun to come into effect, and the Government will shortly be giving full details of that scheme, by means of a statement in this House during this meeting. We are assuming that the question includes the word “training”, erroneously. In other words, we are assuming that he means the construction industry assistance scheme that I announced in the budget, and not something called the construction training industry scheme. We are not assisting the construction training industry, assuming that there is a construction training industry in Gibraltar. So, we are assuming that the word “training”, there, is just an error and we have taken the question to read, “whether the construction industry assistance scheme”, which is the only question really that would make sense. There is not a construction training industry and there is not a construction training industry assistance scheme.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 358 OF 2011

HON G H LICUDI:

The wording of the question was actually derived from an answer given by the hon Member and accurately reflects the wording used by the hon Member. This was in relation to compliance, Question No. 1661 of 2010, relating to compliance by employers of employments regulations. When the hon Member said, talking about liability for PAYE and social insurance, this is intended to be the general scheme which will come into effect across the whole industry when the construction training industry assistance scheme comes into effect very shortly.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He must not adopt all ...

HON G H LICUDI:

Apologies for the hon Member for ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

He must not follow me over the edge of the dialectic cliff.

HON G H LICUDI:

I had no way of knowing whether that word “training” was appropriate or not appropriate. I was simply adopting the words that had been ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

“Training” is irrelevant to the assistance ... Alright, I accept that he has just been misled by my own mistake.

NO. 359 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU DIRECTIVES – INFRACTION PROCEEDINGS

Can Government say how many infraction proceedings have been opened against the United Kingdom for the non-implementation of EU Directives in Gibraltar, with a breakdown giving the name and number of the Directive, the date in which infraction proceedings were opened and the stage of the proceedings in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 360 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 360 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

EU DIRECTIVES – PENDING TRANSPOSITION

Can Government list the EU Directives which are pending transposition in Gibraltar, showing the name and number of the Directive and the date by which they were to have been implemented?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information that he requests.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 360

Answer to Question 359

<u>Title</u>	<u>Infraction stage & Date</u>
Directive 2008/65/EC amending Directive 91/439/EC on Driving Licences.	Article 226 Letter 01.12.08
Directive 2008/56/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive)	Article 258 Letter 20.09.10
Directive 2008/48/EC on credit agreements for consumers and repealing Council Directive 87/102/EEC	Article 258 Letter 20.09.10
Directive 79/409/EC on conservation of wild birds.	Article 226 Letter 10.04.06 Additional Letter 28.10.10
Directive 2000/60 the Water Framework Directive.	Article 226 Letter 17.10.08 Additional Letter 24.11.10
Directive 2007/65/EC amending Directive 89/552/EEC on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities.	Article 258 Letter 29.11.10
Directive 2009/27/EC amending certain annexes to Directive 2006/49/EC as regards technical provisions concerning risk management.	Article 258 Letter 29.11.10
Directive 2009/83/EC amending certain annexes to directive 2006/48.	Article 258 Letter 29.11.10
Directive 2009/111/EC amending Directives 2006/48/EC, 2006/49/EC and 2007/64/EC as regards banks affiliated to central institutions, certain own funds items, large exposures, supervisory arrangements and crisis management.	Article 258 Letter 29.11.10

Contid...

CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 360

Answer to Question 360

Transposition deadline	Title
6 Aug 1981	Directive 77/486 education of children of migrant workers.
19 Jan 2011	Directive 2006/126/EC on driving licences (recast). Directive 2009/113/EC (amends Directive 2006/126).
1 Oct 1993	Directive 92/6/EC on installation and use of speed limitation devices in certain categories of motor vehicles (Linked to PM 18).
1 Jan 2005	Directive 2002/85/EC amending Council Directive 92/6/EEC.
17 Sep 1997 9 Mar 2004 9 Mar 2005	Directive 96/53/EC on maximum dimensions/weights in traffic amended by Directive 2002/7/EC.
31 Dec 1998	Directive 97/36/EC on television broadcasting activities (see Directive 89/552 on broadcasting).
10 Feb 1999	Directive 97/67/EC on liberalisation of postal services as amended by Directive 2002/39/EC on the further opening to competition of Community postal services and by Directive 2008/06/EC.
31 Dec 2002	Directive 97/81/EC concerning the Framework Agreement on part-time work concluded by UNICE, CEEP and ETUC, extended to the United Kingdom amended by Directive 98/23 (on the extension of Directive 97/81/EC).
20 Jan 2000	Directive 98/6/EC on the pricing of goods.
7 Apr 2000	Directive 98/84/EC on legal protection of services on conditional access (linked to Directive 89/552/EC broadcasting and Directive 98/34/EC information society services). (Linked to PM 9).
18 Mar 2000	
28 May 2000	

Contd.....

Contd answer to Question 360

Directive 2001/11/EC adapting to technical progress Directive 96/96 on the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers functional testing of commercial vehicles' speed limitation device. (Linked to PM 6).	9 Mar 2003
Directive 2001/77/EC on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market.	27 Oct 2003
Directive 2003/26/EC on speed limiters and exhaust emissions of commercial vehicles.	1 Jan 2004
Directive 2003/27/EC on testing of exhaust emissions from motor vehicles.	1 Jan 2004
Directive 2003/73/EC amending Annex III to Directive 1999/94/EC (Fuel economy x CO ₂ emissions).	25 Jul 2004
Directive 2002/87/EC on supplementary supervision of credit institutions, insurance undertakings and investment firms in a financial conglomerate and amending Directives 73/239/EEC, 79/267/EEC, 92/49/EEC, 93/6/EEC, 93/22/EEC 98/78/EC and 2000/12/EC.	11 Aug 2004
Directive 2004/72 implementing Directive 2003/6/EC as regards accepted market practices, the definition of inside information in relation to derivatives on commodities, the drawing up of lists of insiders, the notification of managers' transactions and the notification of suspicious transactions.	12 Oct 2004
Directive 2002/8/EC to improve access to justice in cross-border disputes by establishing minimum common rules relating to legal aid for such disputes	30 Nov 2004 (30 May 2006 for Art 3(2)(a))
Directive 2005/1/EC amending Directives 73/239/EEC, 85/611/EEC, 91/675/EEC, 92/49/EEC and 93/6/EEC and Directives 94/19/EC, 98/78/EC, 2000/12/EC, 2001/34/EC, 2002/83/EC and 2002/87/EC in order to establish a new organizational structure for financial services committees.	13 May 2005
Directive 2002/74 amending Directive 80/987/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer. See now codification carried out by Directive 2008/94/EC on the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer.	8 Oct 2005
Directive 2004/101 amending Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a scheme for a greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community, in respect of the Kyoto Protocol's project mechanisms.	13 Nov 2005
Directive 2004/80/EC on compensation to crime victims.	1 Jan 2006
Directive 2004/17/EC coordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors.	31 Jan 2006
Directive 2005/51/EC amending Annex XX of Directive 2004/17/EC and Annex VIII of Directive 2004/18/EC on public procurement.	31 Jan 2006
Directive 2004/18/EC on the coordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts.	31 Jan 2006

Contd....

Contd answer to Question 360

Directive 2003/58 amending Directive 68/151 as regards disclosure requirements in respect of certain types of companies.	31 Dec 2006
Directive 2003/110/EC on assistance in cases of transit for the purposes of removal by air.	6 Dec 2006
Directive 2006/103/EC adapting certain directives in the field of transport policy, by reason of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania.	1 Jan 2007
Directive 2006/115/EC on rental right and lending right and on certain rights related to copyright in the field of intellectual property.	16 Jan 2007
Directive 2006/116/EC on the term of protection of copyright and certain related rights.	16 Jan 2007
Directive 2004/109/EC on the harmonization of transparency requirements in relation to information about issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market and amending Directive 2001/34/EC.	20 Jan 2007
Directive 2007/14/EC laying down the rules for the implementation of certain provisions of Directive 2004/109/EC.	8 Mar 2008
Directive 2006/24/EC on the retention of data generated or processed in connection with the provision of publicly available electronic communications services or of public communications networks and amending Directive 2002/58/EC.	15 Sep 2007 (telephones) 15 Mar 2009 (internet)
Directive 2005/85/EC on minimum standards on procedures for granting and withdrawing refugee status.	13 Dec 2007
Directive 2007/16/EC implementing Directive 85/611/EEC on the condition of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to UCITS as regards the clarification of certain definitions.	23 Mar 2008
Directive 2006/68/EC amending Directive 77/91/EEC on the formation of public limited liability companies and the maintenance and alteration of their capital.	15 Apr 2008
Directive 2004/40 on minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (electromagnetic fields).	20 Apr 2008
Directive 2006/66/EC on waste batteries and accumulators (repeals Directive 91/157/EEC).	28 Sep 2008
Directive 2006/117/EURATOM on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and spent fuel.	25 Dec 2008
Directive 2007/63/EC on the requirement of an independent expert's report on the occasion of merger or division of public limited liability companies.	31 Dec 2008

Contd.....

Contd answer to Question 360

Directive 2008/43/EC setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses.	5 April 2009
Directive 2007/36/EC on the exercise of certain rights of shareholders in listed companies	3 Aug 2009
Directive 2009/4/EC on counter measures to prevent and detect manipulation of records of tachographs, amending Directive 2006/22/EC on minimum conditions for the implementation of Council Regulations 3820/85 and 3821/85 concerning social legislation relating to road transport activities and repealing Council Directive 88/599/EEC.	31 Dec 2009
Directive 2009/5/EC amending Annex II to directive 2006/22/EC on minimum conditions for the implementation of Council Regulations 3820/85 and 3821/85 concerning social legislation relating to road transport activities.	31 Dec 2009
Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC	5 Dec 2010
Directive 2008/98/EC on waste and repealing certain Directives.	12 Dec 2010
Directive 2008/99/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law	26 Dec 2010
Directive 2009/44/EC amending Directive 98/26/EC on settlement finality in payment and securities settlement systems and Directive 2002/47/EC on financial collateral arrangements as regards linked systems and credit claims.	30 Dec 2010
Directive 2009/16/EC on port State control.	31 Dec 2010
Directive 2009/17/EC amending Directive 2002/59/EC establishing a Community vessel traffic monitoring and information system.	30 Nov 2010
Directive 2009/135/EC allowing temporary derogations to certain eligibility criteria for whole blood and blood components donors laid down in Annex III to Directive 2004/33/EC in the context of a risk of shortage caused by the Influenza A (H1N1) pandemic	31 Dec 2009
Directive 2009/123/EC amending Directive 2005/35/EC on ship-source pollution and on the introduction of penalties for infringements	16 Nov 2010

NO. 361 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR HOUSE IN LONDON

Can Government say on how many occasions the facilities at the Gibraltar Business Suites at Gibraltar House in London have been booked and used and what amounts have been paid for their use since the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Fourteen times by fee paying commercial members of the business community. The total amount received has been £1,755. It has, obviously, also been used many more times by non-fee paying users, including Government departments.

ORAL

NO. 362 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON

Can Government list the UK Government Ministers and UK MPs who attended Gibraltar Day in London this year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 363 to 364 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 363 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON

How many persons, normally based in Gibraltar, were invited by the Government to Gibraltar Day in London this year, how many attended and who were they?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 362 and 364 of 2011.

NO. 364 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

GIBRALTAR DAY IN LONDON

What was the cost, with a breakdown, of all the Gibraltar Day events in London in October 2010, including travel and accommodation costs for Gibraltar Government guests?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 362 of 2011

I now hand the hon Member a schedule with the information requested.

Answer to Question No. 363 of 2011

Finance Centre Lunch

Invitations are not sent out to specific firms for the Finance Centre lunch asking them whether they wish to attend. A general notice giving details of the lunch is sent out by e-mail by the Finance Centre Department to the Finance Centre Council and that notice is circulated to all members in Gibraltar by the seven respective associations that make up the Finance Centre Council. Seventy eight persons attended from Gibraltar.

Guildhall Evening Reception

One hundred and seventy five persons were invited to the Guildhall evening reception of which 136 attended.

It is not appropriate for the names of individuals who attended to be made available, publicly.

Answer to Question No. 364 of 2011

Guildhall Evening Reception

Hire of Guildhall	7,285.00
Interior / exterior lighting and laser projections	4,559.00
Invitation cards, programmes, postage and printing	7,469.04
Canapes and drinks	41,020.00
Air fares, accommodation and transport expenses for invited guests	11,125.92
First Aid Officer	141.00
Royal Gibraltar Regiment Band expenses	15,448.63
	<hr/>
	£87,048.59
	<hr/>

Finance Centre Lunch

Room hire and catering	<hr/>
	£23,164.17
	<hr/>

Church Service at St Mary's Clapham

Invitations, printing and refreshments	<hr/>
	£2,335.20
	<hr/>

Answer to Question Nos. 362 to 364 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 362 of 2011

Mr David Lidington MP – Minister of State for Europe
Mr Robert Neill MP – Minister of State for Local Government
Mr Peter Bottomly MP
Mr Graham Brady MP
Mr David Crausby MP
Mr Glyn Davies MP
Mr Jim Dobbie MP
Mr Michael Dugher MP
Mr Tobias Ellwood MP
Mr Nigel Evans MP
Mr David Hamilton MP
The Hon Lindsay Hoyle MP
Mr Eric Illsley MP
Ms Eleanor Laing MP
Mr Jack Lopresti MP
Mr Tim Loughton MP
Mrs Karen Lumley MP
Mr Stephen Metcalfe MP
Miss Madeleine Moon MP
Mr David Morris MP
Mr Mark Reckless MP
Mr Andrew Rosindell MP
Mr Robert Walter MP

ORAL

NO. 365 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES HOUSE

Can Government say how much money was paid by persons who purchased the flats in Casemates House, which had been previously occupied by persons who complained about the noise nuisance, with a breakdown showing the configuration of each flat, its surface area in square metres, and the amount paid for it in each case?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 366 to 369 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 366 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES HOUSE

Can Government say what procedure and what criteria was used to sell residential properties that they had acquired in Casemates House, following the relocation of the original occupiers who had complained about noise nuisance?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 365 and 367 to 369 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 367 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES HOUSE

Can Government say whether any flats at Casemates House remain the property of the Government, after the relocation of the original occupiers who had complained about noise nuisance?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 365, 366, 368 and 369 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 368 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES HOUSE

What was the procedure used by the Government to move out of Casemates House property owners who had complained about noise nuisance and how many properties were affected?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 365 to 367 and 369 of 2011.

NO. 369 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CASEMATES HOUSE

Can Government say how many properties they acquired at Casemates House, as a result of complaints of noise nuisance by the owners at the time, and what has happened to each of the properties that were acquired by the Government?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 365 of 2011

The properties in Casemates House which came to be owned by the Government remain so.

Answer to Question No. 366 of 2011

One of these units has recently been offered for sale by open tender.

Answer to Question No. 367 of 2011

As stated, all of these properties remain the property of the Government.

Answer to Question No. 368 of 2011

The owners of these four Casemates properties were offered alternative accommodation in properties owned by the Government. I believe in Portland House. Both the properties being surrendered and the alternative ones offered were valued. Given that the value of the properties offered exceeded that of the Casemates property, the owners were offered shared ownership in these alternative properties. These individuals were able to obtain 100 per cent ownership of the new properties on payment of the premium to buy the Government out in the usual way. So, they did not pay for the properties to the extent that the properties that they got were worth more. They just did not get 100 per cent of that property.

Answer to Question No. 369 of 2011

Again, as already stated, four properties were acquired via this process, all of which remain the property of the Government.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 365 TO 369 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it the case that in all cases the Portland House properties were valued higher than the ones in the Casemates or not?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, I think so. I think the problem was that with the conversion of Casemates into a leisure area, the properties were not sought after, and that was reflected in the market price. They were valued by the same valuer to ensure that the same valuation methods, both properties were valued by the same valuer to ensure that there was not any difference related, produced simply by difference of approach, but they were all more valuable.

HON DR J J GARCIA:

Do the Government still own four properties, did the hon Member say, and what use have they been put to at present?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. One has now gone out to tender but is still ...

HON DR J J GARCIA:

What use have they been put to at present, the three?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

One houses the Gibraltar Police Authority. One houses some Social Services Agency activity, I think, Childline. It has been lent to them. One is vacant and is the one that has been put out to tender, and one has been made available to the GGCA for occupation by its General Secretary.

NO. 370 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

POST-BOXING – BETWEEN GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN THROUGH UK

Can Government list the communications between Gibraltar and Spain, both incoming and outgoing, that were made through the UK post-box since the last Question Time in this Parliament, showing the date of the communication, the issuing authority and the receiving authority?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 371 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 371 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

POST-BOXING – BETWEEN GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN THROUGH UK

In respect of the communications between Gibraltar and Spain made through the UK post-box since the last Question Time in this Parliament, can Government say which were notifications between competent authorities and which were requests for information?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I now hand the hon Member a schedule with the information that he has requested.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 371**Answer to Question 370 and 371****September 2010 to January 2011 (Incoming)**

Post Box Ref and Date	Issuing Agency	Receiving Agency	Notification or Request for Information
(I)PB/54/10 22-Sept-2010	Ministerio de Justicia	Attorney General	Request for Information.
(I)PB/60/10 28-Oct-2010	Ministerio de Justicia	Attorney General	Request for Information.

September 2010 to January 2011 (Outgoing)

Post Box Ref and Date	Issuing Agency	Receiving Agency	Notification or Request for Information
PB/130/10 29-Sept-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/139/10 08-Oct-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/140/10 08-Oct-2010	Environmental Agency	Consejeria de Medio Ambiente, Ceuta	Notification.
PB/141/10 12-Oct-2010	Registrar of the Supreme Court	Ministerio de Justicia	Notification.
PB/145/10 29-Oct-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/147/10 05-Nov-2010	The Chief Secretary	Magistrates Court, No.4, Algeciras.	Notification.
PB/223/10 16-Nov-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/149/10 18-Nov-2010	Financial Services Commission	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/150/10 18-Nov-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Proteccion de la Naturaleza, Canarias	Notification.
PB/151/10 08-Nov-2010	Financial Services Commission	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Request for information.
PB/156/10 29-Nov-2010	Financial Services Commission	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/158/10 02-Dec-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/185/10 06-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Banco de Espana	Notification.

Contd....

CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 371

Contd answers to questions 370 and 371

PB/196/10 08-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/197/10 08-Dec-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/198/10 09-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/200/10 16-Dec-2010	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/207/12 24-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Comision Nacional de Mercados de Valores	Notification.
PB/215/10 24-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/220/10 24-Dec-2010	Financial Services Commissioner	Direccion General de Seguros y Fondos de Pensiones.	Notification.
PB/01/11 04-Jan-2011	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.
PB/02/11 04-Jan-2011	Environmental Agency	Direccion General de Prevencion y Calidad Ambiental, Sevilla	Notification.

NO. 372 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

BETTING INDUSTRY

Can Government say what is the total number of persons employed in the betting industry in Gibraltar giving a breakdown by company and by nationality, showing how many are Gibraltarian and the dates when the figures apply?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

There has been no further update of these figures since the information provided in answer to Question No. 1496 of 2010.

ORAL

NO. 373 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

CHIEF MINISTER / MINISTER'S OFFICIAL AIR TRAVEL COSTS

Can Government list the cost to the tax payer of air travel by each individual Minister and the Chief Minister on official business, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, with a breakdown showing the date of travel, the destination, the airline, the category of seat paid for and the travel agent that was used to make the booking?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I now hand the hon Member a schedule with the information that he has requested.

Answer to Question No. 373 of 2011

CHIEF MINISTER'S AIR TRAVEL

Destination	Dates	Amount	Airline	Seat Category	Travel Agent
London	3 rd – 5 th Oct	£1,877.00	BA	Club	Blands
New York	5 th – 6 th Oct	£5,343.50	BA	Club	Blands
Washington	6 th – 9 th Oct	£627.60	BA	Club	Blands
Marrakech	9 th – 11 th Oct	£605.70	Royal Air Maroc	Club	Blands
London	16 th – 19 th Oct	£1,467.20	BA	Club	Blands
London	3 rd – 7 th Nov	£929.80	BA	Club	Blands
London	14 th – 16 th Dec	£1,227.40	BA	Club	Blands

Continued Answer to Question No. 373 of 2011

MINISTER'S AIR TRAVEL

Minister	Destination	Dates	Amount	Airline	Seat Category	Travel Agent
Hon E Britto	London	8 th – 10 th Oct 10	£878.50	BA	Business	Blands
Hon F Vinet	London	23 rd – 25 th Nov 10	£621.00	BA	Business	Blands
Hon J Holliday	London	16 th – 19 th Oct 10	£367.00	BA	Business	Tourafrika
Hon E Reyes	India	10 th – 18 th Oct 10	£2,501.30	RA	Business	Blands
Hon C Beltran	London	9 th – 12 th Jan 11	£835.40	BA	Business	Blands

ORAL

NO. 374 OF 2011

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 the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 375 and 376 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 375 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORT DUTY COLLECTED – NON-COMMERCIAL GATE

How much import duty has been collected from persons entering Gibraltar through the non-commercial gate at the land frontier on a monthly basis since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 374 and 376 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 376 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

IMPORT DUTY COLLECTED – PASSENGERS ARRIVING BY AIR

How much import duty has been paid by passengers arriving in Gibraltar by air at Gibraltar Airport in each financial year since 2006/2007, giving a breakdown by month?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I now hand the hon Member a schedule setting out the information that he has sought.

Answer to Question Nos. 374 to 376 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 374 of 2011

Import duty paid on building materials:

September 2010	£95,215.93
October 2010	£110,189.74
November 2010	£101,496.92
December 2010	£46,708.06

Answer to Question No. 375 of 2011

Import duty collected from persons entering Gibraltar through the non-commercial gate:

September 2010	£15,385.44
October 2010	£18,149.86
November 2010	£23,670.19
December 2010	£21,697.31

Answer to Question No. 376 of 2011

Import duty paid by passengers arriving by air at Gibraltar Airport since financial years 2006/2007:

06/07	£6861.99
07/08	£3320.12
08/09	£3017.31
09/10	£2714.99
01/04/10-31/12/10	£3577.09

ORAL

NO. 377 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TENDERS SUBMITTED FOR GOVERNMENT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

How many tenders have been submitted for each of the Government residential properties that were advertised on 19th November 2010 with a closing date of 10th December 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 378 to 382 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 378 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

TENDERS RECEIVED FOR ROSIA COTTAGES

Can Government say how many tenders have been received for each of the Rosia Cottages and whether these have now been allocated and, if so, to whom and in what amount?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 377, 379 to 382 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 379 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

RESIDENTIAL TENDERS AWARDED

Can Government list the residential tenders they have awarded, since the information supplied at the last Question Time in this Parliament, showing the name and the amount paid by the successful tenderer, the name of the property in question and the date on which the payment was made?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 377, 378 and 380 to 382 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 380 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

LAND AND PROPERTY SALES

Can Government give a breakdown of the revenue collected from land and property sales, since the information supplied during the last Question Time in this Parliament, giving the date the revenue was received, the name of the land/property and the cash received in each case and from whom?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 377 to 379, 381 and 382 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 381 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SALES

Can Government provide the value and the number of all residential property sales in Gibraltar in 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 377 to 380 and 382 of 2011.

NO. 382 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

LAND AND PROPERTY SALES

Can Government state what property or land sales, if any, there have been in the current financial year, resulting in receipts to the Improvement and Development Fund, since the answer to Question No. 1557 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 377 of 2011

The tenders for the Government residential properties that were advertised on 19th November 2010 with a closing date of 10th December 2010 have not yet been adjudicated and this information is, therefore, still sensitive and confidential. I will be happy to provide it to them at a later date, once the adjudications have taken place.

Answer to Question No. 378 of 2011

A total of 146 valid bids were received for the Rosia Cottages properties. These properties have been adjudicated very recently. Details of the bid amounts will be published on completion. In other words, sometimes what happens is that when the winner realises that he has won, he pulls out. So, until we complete, we do not consider that there is a transaction, so to speak. Some of the information that the hon Members were seeking there can be elicited from the payment of deposit that they will see there, from which, at least in three cases, they can see the person and work out the price from the fact that it is a 10 per cent deposit. So, that is what we expect to conclude, but until it is concluded ... For example, if somebody, even after they have paid a deposit, if somebody decides to pull out, the Government do not take, sort of, the aggressive view of losing the deposit. So, although my answer remains correct, the information is available to them there, at least in three of the four cases, albeit that it is not yet cast in stone.

Answer to Question No. 379 of 2011

No residential tenders have been awarded since the information supplied at the last Question Time in Parliament.

Answer to Question No. 381 of 2011

The Government is not able to provide the information regarding the value and number of all residential property sales in Gibraltar in 2010.

Answer to Question Nos. 380 and 382 of 2011

I now hand the hon Member a schedule giving a breakdown of the revenue collected from land and property sales since this information was supplied during the last Question Time in Parliament, and also a statement giving the information requested in respect of property and land sales resulting in receipts to the Improvement and Development Fund since Question No. 1557 of 2010 was answered.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 382

Answer to Question 380

Residential Property Sales from 1 September 2010 to 31 December 2010 (Improvement and Development Fund)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
Sep-10	Mr & Mrs C Santos	Ext of Term for 8-12 Willis's Road to 99 Yrs	£3,400.00
Sep-10	Mr C Moore - Valverde	Ext of Term for Flat 2 Trafalgar House	£4,721.48
Dec-10	Mr E Labrador	10% Deposit iro No 2 Rosia Cottages	£22,700.00
Dec-10	Mr & Mrs Colombo	10% Deposit iro No 3 Rosia Cottages	£25,000.00
Dec-10	Mr & Mrs Canepa	10% Deposit iro No 4 Rosia Cottages	£28,100.00
			<u>£83,921.48</u>

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Contd Answer to Question 380

Residential Property Sales from 1 September 2010 to 31 December 2010 (Government-owned Companies)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
<u>Westside Two Co-Ownership Co Ltd</u>			
Sep-10	Odo - Walker	50% Sale of 14 Tilbury Court, Harbour Views	£39,303.93
<u>Gibraltar Co-Ownership Co Ltd</u>			
Sep-10	Feetham - Bradby	10% Sale of 15 Elm Tree Lodge, Montagu Gardens	£9,134.26
Nov-10	Mr P & J Linares	50% Sale of 15 Laburnum Lodge, Montagu Gardens	£47,010.26
Dec-10	Victory - Gonzalez	13% Sale of 1 Redwood Lodge, Montagu Gardens	£31,533.14
<u>Gibraltar Residential Properties Co Ltd</u>			
Sep-10	J D Neish	Reservation fee iro Flat 9, 14 Flat Bastion Road	£500.00
Sep-10	E M Perez	11 Harrington Buildings, 4-8 Cumberland Road	£28,600.00
Sep-10	J Fabre	45 Kingsway House, Alameda Estate	£53,100.00
Sep-10	M & M D L Posso	6 Penney House, 13 Naval Hospital Road	£40,100.00
Sep-10	T Gingell & B Tonna	32 Freesia House, Waterpot Terraces	£30,983.60
Sep-10	J & L Guerrero	18 Sea Daffodil House, Waterport Terraces	£38,165.40
Sep-10	M & D Galia	9 Sea Daffodil House, Waterport Terraces	£26,847.20
Sep-10	J T & P Jarman	6 Candytuft House, Waterport Terraces	£26,254.40
Sep-10	T Sene & S Milanta	6 Freesia House, Waterport Terraces	£23,778.00
Sep-10	A Wahnon & G Rodriguez		
Sep-10	De La Vega	9 Amayllis House, Waterport Terraces	£34,311.20
Sep-10	C J G & M D L A Galliano	50% Sale of 103 Cumberland Terraces	£55,411.00
Sep-10	B Moss	70% Sale of 308 Cumberland Terraces	£62,386.00
Sep-10	D Bossino	70% Sale of 615 Cumberland Terraces	£65,543.00

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Contd Answer to Question 380

Residential Property Sales from 1 September 2010 To 31 December 2010 (Government-owned Companies)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
Sep-10	J Fortuna	100% Sale of 102 Cumberland Terraces	£109,620.00
Sep-10	N Montegriffo & P Linares	60% Sale of 716 Cumberland Terraces	£71,601.00
Sep-10	J Rodriguez & R Manghani	50% Sale of 219 Cumberland Terraces	£56,736.00
Sep-10	A Menez	100% Sale of 204 Cumberland Terraces	£110,670.00
Sep-10	J Goodson	80% Sale of 217 Cumberland Terraces	£76,545.00
Sep-10	A Muscat	50% Sale of 315 Cumberland Terraces	£46,131.00
Sep-10	F & A Ferro	6 Sea Daffodil House, Waterport Terraces	£52,901.00
Oct-10	E & M I Ramognin	14 Freesia House, Waterport Terraces	£24,676.55
Oct-10	D Pisharello	2 Shamrock House, Catalan Bay	£32,100.00
Oct-10	A Avellano	21 Rosia House, 2A Naval Hospital Road	£34,400.00
Oct-10	C Gaiviso	65% Sale of 121 Cumberland Terraces	£61,939.50
Oct-10	A Martinez & E Chipolina	50% Sale of 211 Cumberland Terraces	£54,536.00
Oct-10	M Olivero & S Alvarez	70% Sale of 201 Cumberland Terraces	£78,710.00
Oct-10	J Ghio & K A Garcia	60% Sale of 518 Cumberland Terraces	£57,579.00
Oct-10	J Davis & M Azzopardi	50% Sale of G05 Cumberland Terraces	£41,846.00
Oct-10	A Freeth	70% Sale of 208 Cumberland Terraces	£62,246.00
Oct-10	L Buttigieg	34 Victoria House, Alameda Estate	£45,800.00
Oct-10	P Bran	13 St Joseph's West Mews	£25,700.00
Nov-10	C & K Gerada	18 Candytuft House, Waterport Terraces	£114,000.00

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Contd Answer to Question 380

<u>Residential Property Sales from 1 September 2010 to 31 December 2010 (Government-owned Companies)</u>			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
Nov-10	A & E Montero	60 % Sale of 306 Cumberland Terraces	£95,301.00
Nov-10	R Danino	60 % Sale of 403 Cumberland Terraces	£68,282.00
Nov-10	Mrs C L Rabelo	10% Sale of 04:02:02 Rose Court, SWJG	£6,361.29
Nov-10	S Alvarez	Reservation fee iro Flat 2, 14 Flat Bastion Road	£500.00
Nov-10	P Lennane	Reservation fee iro Flat 3, 14 Flat Bastion Road	£500.00
Dec-10	P & N Ochello	Deposit for Unit 7, Calpe Married Quarters	£4,783.00
Dec-10	C Figueras	Deposit for Unit 4, Calpe Married Quarters	£5,686.00
Dec-10	I Peralta & A Rose	Deposit for Unit 2, Calpe Married Quarters	£4,588.00
Dec-10	D Ramos & M Walsh	Deposit for Unit 3, Calpe Married Quarters	£5,644.00
Dec-10	K Menez & T Sacramento	Deposit for Unit 6, Calpe Married Quarters	£7,282.00
Dec-10	Mr & Mrs Vinet	Deposit for Unit 1, Calpe Married Quarters	£5,152.00
Dec-10	J & A Dyer	Reservation fee iro Flat 6, 14 Flat Bastion Road	£500.00
Dec-10	Mr & Mrs Sweet	Balance iro Flat 5, 14 Flat Bastion Road	£126,003.00
Dec-10	A Zapata & R Garcia	Deposit for Unit 10, Calpe Married Quarters	£4,852.00
Dec-10	J & N Sacramento	Deposit for Unit 8, Calpe Married Quarters	£5,158.00
Dec-10	S & J Figueras	Deposit for Unit 9, Calpe Married Quarters	£4,921.00
Dec-10	T Sebtaoui	16 Freesia House, Waterport Terraces	£27,046.80
Dec-10	P I & M Victor	22 Rock Rose House, Waterport Terraces	£115,000.00
			<u>£2,131,276.94</u>
			<u>£2,258,258.53</u>

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Contd Answer to Question 380

Commercial Property Sales from 1 September 2010 to 31 December 2010 (Government-owned Companies)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
<u>Gibraltar Commercial Property Co Ltd</u>			
Sep-10	D Montegriffo	Payment iro Miscellaneous items adjacent to Unit 23B Casemates	£500.00 £500.00
<u>Gibraltar Residential Properties Ltd</u>			
Sep-10	Cynthia Properties	Sale of Commercial Unit at 10 Sea Daffodil House, Waterport Terraces	£228,400.00
Sep-10	Saki Holdings	Sale of Commercial Unit at 11 Freesia House, Waterport Terraces	£228,400.00
Oct-10	Millard Holdings Ltd	Sale of Commercial Unit at 3 Rock Rose House, Waterport Terraces	£228,400.00
Dec-10	B Martinez	Sale of Commercial Unit at East and West Sea Clover House, Waterport Terraces	£494,000.00 £1,179,200.00 £1,179,700.00

Answer to Question 382

Residential Property Sales for the Period 1st September 2010 to 31st December 2010

Sep-10	Extension of term for 8-12 Willis's Road to 99 yrs wef 1.10.10	£3,400.00
Sep-10	Premium iro extension of term for Flat 2 Trafalgar House	£4,721.48
Dec-10	Deposit iro No 2 Rosia Cottages	£22,700.00
Dec-10	Deposit iro No 3 Rosia Cottages	£25,000.00
Dec-10	Deposit iro No 4 Rosia Cottages	£28,100.00
		<u>£83,921.48</u>

Commercial Property Sales for the Period 1st September 2010 to 31st December 2010

Sep-10	Part Payment iro 51 Line Wall Road	£982.00
Oct-10	Part Payment iro 51 Line Wall Road	£982.00
Nov-10	Part Payment iro 51 Line Wall Road	£982.00
Dec-10	Premium for surrender & granting of new lease for 39 Rosia Road	£11,740.00
		<u>£14,686.00</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 377 TO 382 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In Question No. 381 of 2011, the Government said they could not provide that information. The value and the number of residential property sales in 2010?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, I am told by Land Property Services Limited that they are able to generate a printout of the land registry showing the total number of transactions in the year, together with their total value, but this will not differentiate between residential and commercial property sales, nor will it differentiate ... In other words, it will include all transactions recorded in the land registry including lease extensions, et cetera, mortgages and things which are not sales. So, they can list all transactions but cannot disaggregate from them particular types of transactions that go towards the total.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But did the Government, a couple of years ago, not announce in the budget that they were monitoring what was happening in the housing market and they gave us figures. I think it was, in fact, that in one year they said that although the total number of transactions had gone down, in terms of sales for residential property, the value had gone up which showed that the average unit prices had gone up. This really was a question of seeking an update of that picture. I do not know where the hon Member got the information from, but he has provided it before, a single figure. So many properties, so much value.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The information can be elicited but with a considerable amount of work. In other words, for example, in the whole list of transactions they could identify the property conveyances or assignments. So, it is not that the information is impossible to get to, but it requires a specific exercise. In other words, it is not available to them in that form without collating it for that purpose as to the value of those. So, I suppose they could sit and count what they think are property sales and, indeed, from stamp duty records. They must have information of the property sales, but what they have said to me in the supplementary information which they have prepared for me is that the printout that their computer produces to them, does not differentiate between residential and commercial nor between the types of property transactions. So, I suppose any repetition of the exercise to which the hon Member is alluding would require ... I suppose they did it by sitting down for endless hours because I had asked for it and worked it out. I cannot really say anything more to him. I hope he can understand that there is no reason why the Government would not wish to give him this information if it were available.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I accept that, but it must imply that the Government have abandoned its monitoring of this. I remember, specifically, that when the Government announced that they were doing this, the hon Member said that this was to see what was happening, whether we had a problem in the residential property market and where it was going, because in the past, previous to that particular announcement, he was not able to give me this information and he told me at the time that he could not obtain it and I stopped asking, until he volunteered it at a later stage without being asked. So, I assumed that having started the process, it was an ongoing thing because really there is not much point in finding what was happening, say, in 2008 and 2009 and then not bothering with what was happening in 2010. I was not expecting that it would require a specific exercise for the purpose of answering the question. I took it for granted that having thought it was worth, as it were, keeping an eye on how the property market was performing, that that had been a continuing exercise, but I take it from the answer that it is not. That it has been done once and then abandoned. Is that the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I hope it is not the case, but I agree with the apparent logic of the hon Member that it would appear to be, because monitoring would have required them to have armed themselves with the wherewithal to have provided the same information. Well, if not to provide it, at least to have it for the monitoring purposes. So, I will take the hon Member's point as a prompt. Certainly, I have not revisited this issue myself since that last time, but I will find out whether the monitoring has been abandoned by them as well. It is not for me to do the number crunching but, certainly, no information has been provided to me beyond the original one and I will follow it up.

ORAL

NO. 383 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

RESPONSIBILITY FOR AVIATION SECURITY

Can Government say on what date the United Kingdom agreed that responsibility for Aviation Security should pass on to the Government of Gibraltar, and can they say whether this was at the request of the Gibraltar Government or of the UK Government?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Gibraltar Government now exercises responsibility for Aviation Safety on the terms of the Civil Aviation Act.

Aviation Security has not yet been the subject of any new legislation. This remains under discussion and has not yet been settled.

ORAL

NO. 384 OF 2011

THE HON DR J J GARCIA

NEW AIRPORT TERMINAL – DEMOLITION OF STAIRCASE

What changes were made to a staircase within the new airport terminal development that was demolished as a result of a consultant believing it had been built incorrectly and what was the cost of the demolition and reconstruction of the said staircase?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The air terminal remains a construction site in the possession of the contractor on the terms and obligations set out in the construction contract. For legal and contractual reasons, the Government are unwilling to comment on any specific matter relating to the construction contract. However, the Government are pleased with how the project is going.

NO. 385 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EDUCATION – SERVICE PUPILS IN FIRST AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Can Government confirm that it is anticipated that Service pupils will be included in First and Middle schools in the current calendar year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Transfer of services negotiations with the Ministry of Defence continue, including in relation to extending the schooling services currently provided to them. It is, therefore, inappropriate to comment at this stage.

In anticipation of a successful negotiation and the entering into, in due course, of an agreement, Government have informed the MOD that it would accept a small number of children of newcomers to Gibraltar, ahead of agreement, to prevent unnecessary disruption to the children's schooling in the event of an agreement being put in place. In other words, if a Service family were to come to Gibraltar, now, to avoid them having to insert their children into a school and then only to be moved in a couple of months' time, they are being allowed to place them directly into a Government school.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 385 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

But then, surely, the answer is that he is anticipating that it will proceed along these lines, otherwise he would not be doing that.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. I am not aware whether there has been any take up yet. This is a facility and I just do not know whether there has been any take up. I do not know whether there have been any arrivals with children of that age that have gone into the school but, certainly we have agreed to allow it, if it happens and, therefore, it is envisaged that it will if the circumstances arise.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Presumably, the Government have got an idea of the numbers that would be involved in the event that the negotiations were successful and they moved to our schools, because, of course, in the figures that I was given in answers to previous questions in this meeting, the figure for the Secondary school includes the Service children but not the First and Middle. So, if the Government have an idea, does that mean that, in the event that it goes, it would require any additional resources to the present system or is the system capable of absorbing the numbers?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, the numbers is a variable feast because it depends on how many there are of an age group at a given time, but it is not envisaged that there will be a problem because these would not all be placed in one school. So, it is a question of distribution and, on that basis, the numbers being what they are, it is not envisaged to be a problem, but these are the sort of details that have not yet been fully negotiated. In other words, how they will be distributed.

NO. 386 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

MOD DIRECT EMPLOYMENT COVERED BY 2007 AGREEMENT

Can Government confirm whether all the remaining areas of MOD direct employment are covered by the 2007 agreement which provided for transfer to a Government company and, if not, can Government list which areas are a) included; and b) excluded and the number of employees currently in each such area?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Global Agreement of May 2007, in so far as concerns its job security provisions, applies to all Gibraltar belonger directly employed MOD staff then remaining, in all areas, by virtue of one of, the MOD's commitment to retain them; or the Gibraltar Government's "safety net" commitment to take them on if made compulsorily redundant; or the Government taking them on if they are engaged in a service that is transferred to the Government.

I now hand the hon Member, in case it is of any assistance to him, a copy of the joint press release dated 24th May 2007 issued jointly by the Government and the Trade Unions explaining the various aspects of the Global Agreement.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 386



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

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PRESS RELEASE

No: 121/2007

Date: 24 May 2007

**Joint Statement by the Gibraltar Government,
and the Trades Unions TGWU/ACTS and GGCA/Prospect**

During the last eight weeks the Government of Gibraltar, the Ministry of Defence (MoD), the Trades Unions TGWU/ACTS and GGCA/Prospect (Trades Unions), and Serco Limited (Serco) have been engaged in intense, constructive discussions and negotiations of proposals formulated by the Government of Gibraltar following the dispute about the ISP contract award by the MoD.

The Government's proposals related not just to the ISP contract itself, but to all MoD's support activities in Gibraltar, with a view to bringing as much certainty and stability as possible to MoD's workforce in Gibraltar now and for the future.

The Government's proposals have the following three objectives:

- 1) To enable MoD to pursue its objective of value for money in its non-core activities in Gibraltar and thus achieve efficiency savings in a manner acceptable to all parties;
- 2) To enable GoG to pursue its objective of protecting the job security and conditions of MoD and WSM staff affected by the ISP Contract, as well as all other MoD staff in order to bring stability for the future;
- 3) To rationalize local resources, skills and capacity and to address environmental issues arising from some of these activities.

GoG, MoD, the Trades Unions and Serco are close to reaching agreements which would not only enable the ISP contract to proceed on terms acceptable to everyone, but also achieves the three objectives set out above, including of course, addressing the principal concerns of the staff.

The intended Agreements would have five key elements:

- An enhanced voluntary early exit scheme for all MoD employees;

- The transfer to GoG of certain non-core MoD services and staff of which MoD then becomes a customer;
- A secondment model of staffing for the ISP contract. This means that MoD staff will have the option to be employed by a company owned by the Gibraltar Government and be seconded by that company to Serco, rather than be employed directly by Serco;
- Agreed efficiency savings throughout the remainder of MoD support operations in Gibraltar, in the form of a limited and agreed number of redundancies.
- No one stays without a job against their wish and the Agreements would provide stability of employment for the future.

The main features of each of these five key elements of these wide-ranging and innovative agreements would be as follows:

- Enhanced Early Exit Scheme
MoD staff across the Command will be offered an early exit package comprising enhanced early retirement or severance benefits. This package represents an improvement over the 1997 Package, which was itself an improved package.

- Transfer of Services to GoG
Under the Agreements the Government and MoD would agree in principle, but subject to detailed agreements for each, for the transfer of Electricity Generation and distribution, Defence Fire Service, MoD Laundry, and Water distribution, including staff, to Government or a GoG entity. It is envisaged that water distribution would be incorporated into the AquaGib contract with staff transferring to that company. Government would then provide all these services to MoD on contract on a full cost recovery basis.

Government and MoD will also agree to enter into exploratory discussions in good faith to examine the scope that exists for Government to provide the following services to the MoD with the transfer of staff to GoG:-

- Secondary health care
- Primary education
- Certain policing services
- Sewer services
- Fuel depot facilities
- Water production

- Remaining MoD activities
 - Once the ISP Contract is in place and the electricity, laundry, water distribution and fire service have been transferred to Government, it is envisaged that there will be about 700 staff left in the MoD (less any that have exited under the Enhanced Voluntary Early Exit Scheme).
 - It has been agreed that, after that, the remaining numbers will be reduced to around 600. The GoG Company will offer a job to such entitled persons as are affected by this stage of the process. This arrangement will involve staff depositing their redundancy money to be held until their future exit from GoG Co.
 - Project Pegasus (affecting around 300 staff) would not be subjected to market testing, so that staff will remain in the MoD.
 - Under the agreements there would be no further compulsory redundancies of MoD staff for at least 7 years, and should any further redundancies be required during the 3 years after that, they would be sought by voluntary means, thereby providing stability for at least 10 years.

- ISP Contract
 - Electricity generation and distribution, and water distribution would be taken out of the scope of ISP Contract and would thus not transfer to Serco.
 - MoD staff affected by the ISP Contract will have the option of becoming employees of a company owned by GoG and then being seconded to Serco. Staff will be required to work to the principle of multiskilling and flexibility within their competences.
 - initial staff numbers would be agreed, together with a mechanism to avoid compulsory redundancies in the future.
 - Employees seconded by the Government company to Serco under this secondment model will be paid in accordance with the pay parity principle (as it applies to MoD) now and in the future.
 - Current WSM (Turner) staff are also included in the scope of the ISP Contract. These staff will have the right to transfer from Turner to Serco, with the benefit of a good occupational pension scheme under the Gibraltar Provident Scheme. It has been agreed with Serco that the WSM industrial DEL (about 61 people) will be preserved intact, and will suffer no redundancies. A minimum of around 15 WSM non-industrial staff will be retained by Serco.
 - In all around 315 staff are now affected by the ISP Contract (210 in MoD and 105 in the WSM). Of these 110 are surplus. This number will be reduced by the Enhanced Voluntary Early Exit Scheme, but any that are facing redundancy from both MoD or WSM Gibraltar belonger staff will be offered employment by the Gibraltar Government company. This arrangement will involve affected staff depositing their redundancy money with GoG to be held until their future exit from the GoG Company.
 - If the Agreements are finalised the MoD will proceed with its ISP Contract with Serco. On the basis of such Agreements, the Government and the Trades Unions would discontinue their opposition to the ISP Contract.

Commenting on the state of the negotiations, Chief Minister Peter Caruana, who has conducted the negotiations personally, said: "All the parties have to-date negotiated in good faith. The negotiations have been tough but constructive, and I am hopeful that it may be possible to reach agreements that are good for all sides as early as next week. The negotiated texts are still subject to approval by UK Ministers. But we are very hopeful that it may be possible to sign agreements as early as next week."

The Trades Unions officials who have been involved in this process, Louis Montiel, Charles Sisarello, Michael Tampin, Victor Ochello and Ralph Capurro said: " These look like being very good agreements for employees both in MoD and WSM who were facing a very difficult and uncertain future and for Gibraltar as a whole. We hope that they can be finalised. We will certainly recommend them to staff. The agreements take care of all major concerns of the Unions and Staff and lift a massive cloud hanging over the workforce."

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 386 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Am I interpreting this correctly in thinking that the people that would be taken on then would be, either those who transfer because the service is transferred or those who are made compulsorily redundant, but not those who opt to avail themselves of the early exit scheme. Is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. Of course, the first line of defence is the MOD's commitment not to reduce below a certain number. Beyond that number is when the Government commitment for the "safety net" arises, and from memory, I think the way the numbers pan out, there is a maximum of 108 people that could fall into the "safety net", conceivably.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

In any event, there is no "safety net" for those who choose to take early exit. No.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Presumably, that figure of 108 was based on the MOD's plans at the time that the agreement was entered into in 2007 and may, in fact, be affected by any changes that are being introduced currently as a result of the review taking place in the UK, is it?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, no, this is the value of the agreement. That they are now committed to these numbers and they cannot cut below the figure that they have agreed not to cut below, and that is precisely the value of having pre-empted ... What we did not realise was how heavy, we thought that the MOD budget would come under renewed pressure, but not the scale of the pressure that it would come out. Remember at the time we were only concerned about the ISP contract.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yet we extended the Global Agreement to the whole of the MOD workforce, precisely, because we feared that ISP was just the first of a number of areas and we wanted to buy, get as much stability as possible. So, now that what is come to pass has come to pass, the MOD is committed to these numbers and cannot now say, well, we are not holding to the commitment because it is a different ball game, in terms of their budget. That is, precisely, what we think is the value. That is the reason why we put it in and the value of it is, precisely, that it provides protection in circumstances where there would be a lot of uncertainty about.

HON G H LICUDI:

The hon Member has mentioned the commitment under those agreements to take on staff if the Government take on a service. Of course, staff which are available and are not part of an exit scheme. That suggests, does it not, that, when the Government take on a service from the MOD, there is additional staff which comes over in order to provide that service. The service that used to be provided by the Government and the additional service which it is now taken over. Can the Government confirm that that is not, in fact, what is going to happen? That when, if a member of staff is taken on and that person, for example, reaches retirement age or simply leaves the service, there is no commitment by the Government to maintain that post. In other words, there will be a reduced staff complement, eventually, to provide an enhanced service than what is provided at the moment, because additional services will have to be provided to the MOD estate.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. Well, it goes much beyond that. Under the terms of the agreements ... because the Global Agreements are not just between the MOD and the Government, there are also agreements with the Unions. There are agreements bilaterally between the Unions and the MOD. There are agreements bilaterally between the Government and the Unions and between the Government and the MOD and then there is, what is called, an Omnibus Agreement. It goes beyond that. The Government are not required to retain transferring staff in the sector. In other words, if anybody falls into the "safety net", the Government are not required to keep them. Let us be clear. Let us discuss the "safety net" first, not the transfer services. In the case of the "safety net", the Government are not required to employ them for the same function as they have fallen out of. There are agreements that they will be redeployed in the nearest possible, sort of, activity, that sort of thing. In the case of the transfer service, the basis of the negotiation with the MOD is that the Government will not make anybody redundant and the MOD has to pay for the cost of the service when it buys it from the Government, on a basis of a charging mechanism that includes the labour element of the retained labour. So, that is to ensure that the Gibraltar tax payer does not end up subsidising any of the labour costs that we inherit. So, the charging mechanism makes it perfectly clear. This is understood by the MOD. It has been the subject of detailed negotiation that the staff will come across under a TUPE transfer arrangement and the Government will not make anybody redundant. There may be voluntary redundancy schemes, but certainly nobody will be made compulsorily redundant and the MOD pays for the service on the basis of a delivery cost to the Government that includes the full cost of the labour that is being transferred.

HON G H LICUDI:

As I understand the position and the explanation that the hon Member has given, there is no commitment to retain that labour complement further down the line. So that if someone who does transfer, say resigns, what happens then? There will be a service which will be provided to the MOD but with a reduced complement because it will no longer include that person who has been transferred. In other words, when you take over a service and, say, five people come over, that does not increase the Government complement by five with a commitment by the Government to keep it at that level of plus five.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Far from it. The agreement with the Union say that there is no commitment and there is no manning level agreement at those levels. The Government do not need all the MOD electricity generators simply to supply MOD with electricity generated from what are, in any event, new engines at the new power station. But, certainly, whilst the old power station is in place, and whilst the MOD power station remains in place, everyone will be retained generating electricity. In due course, the MOD electricity generating staff that we take over will not have a long-term future in electricity generation in Gibraltar, unless they are successful in obtaining any vacancies that arise in the Gibraltar Electricity Authority, but they will be redeployed to some other activity.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can I just seek final clarification on that final ... So, the initial thing would be that the MOD station would be operated by the employees, but there will be a Government company specifically operating that station and they would not be, in fact, part of the Authority? That would be the starting position, would it?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, there has been no agreement yet, but that is what is envisaged. It is not envisaged that the MOD generating staff will join the Gibraltar Electricity Authority.

ORAL

NO. 387 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SEWAGE IN WATERS OFF WESTERN BEACH

Can Government confirm whether, since the answer to Question No. 1467 of 2010, they have been able to confirm if the source of the pollution in the Western Beach area is in Spain?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, Mr Speaker.

NO. 388 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INSOLVENCY FUND – HAYMILLS’ EMPLOYEES

Can Government confirm that Haymills’ employees were informed by letter by the administrator of the Insolvency Fund of their redundancy entitlement and, if so, on what date and how many such employees were written to?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I can confirm that 124 ex-Haymills Group employees were written to by the Administrator of the Insolvency Fund, advising them of their redundancy entitlements. These employees collected their letter from the Ministry of Employment offices between the end November and the beginning of December 2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 388 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it not the case that the amount of the entitlement mentioned in those letters was calculated in accordance with the statutory provisions for the payment of redundancy?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I imagine that that would be the case. I would assume that the administrator correctly calculated the amount. I understand that at some point there was some disagreement about the basis of calculation but I think that it was done on the basis of the way it has always been calculated, but I do not have the letter. I have not seen it. Is the hon Member just asking me to confirm whether it was done in accordance with the provisions of the fund rule regulations? I do not know off hand what those provisions are.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am asking the question because it is a matter that I have raised before in previous meetings of the House and a matter that has been dealt with by the Government saying that in the construction industry, the statutory provisions did not apply, and that they were paid according to the CATA agreement, which is less.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Then that is what was done.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, I know that that is what was done, but that is not what the letter said was going to be done, and that is the whole point. That the letters that were sent out by the Ministry actually specified sums provided according to the statutory provisions in the law and, eventually, when they got paid, they did not get paid what the letter said. Therefore, I raised this matter in the House previously, on the basis that I found it strange that the interpretation that apparently had been given was that it was possible for an employer to enter into an agreement with the Union to pay less than the statutory minimum, even though people had been originally sent letters by the Employment Service telling them that what they were getting was the statutory minimum. So, given that situation, are the Government aware that there have been representations made and explanations sought for this discrepancy and that none have been provided to the affected parties?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I believe what happened was that some people suited ..., it suited some employees to be paid on one basis, and others to be paid on a different basis, depending on their personal circumstances. When the administrator was faced with these conflicting expectations and claims from beneficiaries of the same scheme, the administrator took legal advice and that legal advice was that on a proper interpretation of the insolvency regulations, the proper basis for the calculation was by reference to the CATA agreement, which benefited some and displeased others. If the opposite decision had been made, there would still have been some that benefited more than others and others that did not.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, did the administrator, having been given the advice, send letters out telling people that the letters he had sent out originally were flawed and that the figures were not what they were going to get?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, they must ... I do not know how he communicated with these people. At some point, each of them must have been told what the fund administrator then thought he was entitled to. In respect of some, it was more, and in respect of others, it was less.

HON J J BOSSANO:

My information is that people found the payment that had been paid into their bank account did not correlate with the letter, with no explanation being given why that was not the case, and that they had been pursuing the matter for a year now, without getting anywhere.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I cannot say whether that is the way it administratively happened or did not. If it did happen that way, then I agree with the insinuation in the hon Member's point, which is that it would have been preferable for the administrator to have written a second letter correcting himself, or giving the final decision, or saying contrary to what I said to you the first time, it is not that, it is this. That would certainly have been the preferable way to do it. If it did not happen in some such way, then it is regrettable. I think, you know, if what the hon Member is saying is that people got a letter and then after a period of a passage of time, they simply received a sum of money into a bank account, without any type of communication in between, then I do not think that that is particularly sound administrative practice and, certainly, it would have been preferable for it to have happened differently, but I do not have that information about that sort of administrative detail and how it happened. I can agree. I am not even agreeing, I doubt very much that there was no communication at all because I know that people were ringing. People were coming in to see the administrator. So, there must have been some form of communication. But if a formal letter was written, it would have been better for a second formal letter to have been written. I would agree with the hon Member that that would have been the preferable way to do it. I cannot really go further than that.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But does the hon Member not think that really it is not acceptable that people should get an official letter saying, I am the administrator of the Insolvency Fund and according to the law, you are entitled to x thousand pounds and then, instead of the sum in the letter, a different amount appears in a man's bank account. According to the people who have come to complain about this matter to me, they have not been able to pin anybody down who can give them a logical explanation for the apparent discrepancy. I was, in fact, able to give them the explanation that I had been given in questions that I had previously put and, certainly, I find it odd that it should be possible to negotiate a lesser amount than the statutory minimum. The law makes very clear that the minimum is the minimum and that there is nothing to stop employers, and many do, paying better. The MOD pays better payments but, surely, something should be done, still even at this stage, for those who are not satisfied, to be able to get a written explanation of the discrepancy.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think they know the explanation for the discrepancy and I think the supplementary just invites me to repeat what I have already said. It, certainly, would have been preferable for it to be done more explicitly and in writing and for the first letter if it ... I suppose the people that got more than the first letter suggested, are not complaining that they did not get a second letter. The people that are complaining are the people who got less than in the first letter. So, the unhappiness does not come from the non receipt of the letter, it comes from the receipt of a reduced sum of money but, in either case, I agree that preferable administrative good practice would have issued a letter to both of them for the sake of the record.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am not sure that there were people who were better off, because if the hon Member was familiar with the redundancy scheme of the construction industry, and the redundancy scheme required by law, he would realise that one pays up to one year, depending on the length of service and that, therefore, the only people who could possibly be better off are those with less than two years employment who get paid a week for a year, and who get a couple of weeks, and under the other scheme they would have got nothing. So, there may be some people who had been such recent employees that they would have been not entitled to redundancy under the law, and those people will have got something because they would not have been entitled to anything. As a whole, the answer that I got in the last Question Time of the House was that if they had gone by the statutory, it would have finished costing the Insolvency Fund more money. So, there were many more losers, by the answers given by the Minister for Employment to me in this House, than there were winners.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, in the end the decision was not made by reference to which method cost the Insolvency Fund more money. It was made on the basis of a legal advice as to what the Insolvency Fund regulations required. The hon Member may think that the position should be different, but the administrator applies the fund rules that exist, and if a dispute or a controversy, or a disagreement arises about the proper interpretation of the regulations, the administrator can do no more than seek and rely on legal advice. Now, some people may have preferred a different outcome. That would require either to find a lawyer that gives a different legal opinion, or to change the Insolvency Fund Regulations, but I am not willing to criticise the administrator for doing what he is told is the proper interpretation of the law. That is what administrators do when doubt is raised about the proper interpretation of a statute that they administer. We have moved from the administrative practices now to the substance, and we have had this debate before. There are people whom it suited to rely on the CATA basis because they did not have enough length of service to get any or any significant statutory compensation, and there are people who had a longer length of service whom the statutory minimum delivered more than the CATA formula did. Well, fine. There are winners and losers. Whenever there are people in two different categories, and you choose one interpretation of the regulations, there are winners and losers. The hon Member is defending the losers. I suppose somebody else would defend the winners. What the Government are certainly not going to do is to pay out under both formulas so that all of them are winners, by the Government applying both formulas. Now, I do not think that there is anybody left today, however desirable it might have been for the administrative exercise to have been done

differently in terms of this writing of a second letter explaining, which I agree with the hon Member is what should have happened. I do not think there is anybody left today that does not understand the reasons why they received a lower sum of money, just as the ones who received a higher sum of money understand why they received a higher sum of money without a second letter. Now, all that is different to whether the Insolvency Regulations meant and should mean, and should say, statutory minimum, or statutory minimum or CATA, if lower. That is a matter of substance which is for the legislature. If we conclude that that is what the rule should be. In other words, that the legal advice is correct, but that that was not the intention of the law maker when he made it, then we have got to clarify the law. I think we have had this discussion before, but no one has made a proposal to me about that and no legislative proposal has reached my desk, to any such effect.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Given that the administrator, until somebody came along, apparently, this is information that we were not provided with at the last time I raised this matter, but apparently, it was only when somebody came along and said, why have I not been given a redundancy payment under CATA that the administrator decided that he needed to obtain legal advice ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Of course.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Because until that point, presumably, all previous construction redundancies have been paid for according to the statutory minimum?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know what the answer to that question is.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is it not...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know whether there have been any. I mean, there may have been some, and ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

[Inaudible].

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not know what the basis of the calculation is, but certainly, the administrator at that time had a view, and when a different view was put to him, the man said, well look I have already ... I have got one view, you are putting to me another. I will consult the Government's lawyers and ask them what is the proper position. I think that is unimpeachably correct behaviour.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I am not questioning whether the behaviour is unimpeachable or not. What I am asking the Government, would they not agree that if the administrator had to go for legal advice and before the legal advice the administrator wrote to one hundred and twenty four workers telling them, your entitlement is so much calculated in accordance with what the law requires, it must follow that the view of the administrator, until that letter of November/December, was that the statutory provisions applied in the construction industry, and that for the first time since construction redundancies have taken place, the view was taken that that law did not apply, that the CATA agreement applied. So, therefore, we have a situation where this view, which operated for the first time on this occasion, has created a precedent where a lot of other people, that have nothing to do with this or with Haymills, are actually getting lower payments than they had an expectation to get under the law that was introduced by the Government.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That might very well be so, but the fact that laws have been administered incorrectly and people have received payments possibly higher than they might have been entitled to, and the Government could, or could not, choose to try and recover the money, but the fact that it chooses not to try and recover the money, does not oblige the Government to continue to administer the scheme for the future, continuing with the error, and that is the position. So, whether there have been people that have benefited from the administrator's view which turns out to be incorrect, before this case, and the fact that these, therefore, are the first victims of the alleged correct interpretation ... I mean, for example, none of these victims, none of these people who suffer the consequences of this legal opinion, none of them have challenged. They are all free to challenge in law the administrator and say, no you have not paid me correctly. You have underpaid me. This is a statutory benefit. But no one has challenged it. So, the administrator takes a legal opinion which causes him to change the position and the view that evidently he held up to that point, and starts making payments in accordance with what he is advised is the correct position. Then, if the people who are the victims of that, there are people who are beneficiaries of that and they go away happily with their money, and if the people who are the victims of that, who have the right in law to challenge him do not, well then, they choose not to challenge him. They are free to challenge him.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It is obviously the case that unemployed redundant workers have got the right in law to get a lawyer and challenge it, but it is easier to contact a Member of Parliament who does not charge and allow them to bring the matter to this House.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Member of Parliament is not a judge and this is not a Court of Law.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I accept that.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Workers are normally represented by their Trade Unions in matters of the enforcement of their workers rights and of their collective rights as workers.

HON J J BOSSANO:

But given that the Trade Union that would represent them is the one that signed the CATA agreement, which is less than the statutory amount, in the overwhelming number of cases, except for people with under two year's service, surely, the Government will agree that the intention of the law was to set a minimum and that it was not intended that it should be the case that there should be agreements undermining that minimum that the Government established. I think the reality is that, in all probability, the CATA agreement existed before the law came in and that, therefore, it is an unintended effect. Surely, it is not something that the Government would want to perpetuate. What is the use of having an agreement that says this is the minimum and then if there is a loophole that allows people to sign agreements for less than the minimum.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is not for me to defend the CATA agreement. I did not negotiate it. I did not sign it. It is there. It has always been there. The CATA agreement was probably negotiated with construction workers in mind and the beneficiaries of the application of this decision are precisely the construction workers because construction workers, that is to say, the ones who get their hands dirty on building sites, they usually have very short period of service. So, they benefit more by a calculation under CATA than under the statutory minimum which requires a minimum length of service which most construction workers do not have. The victims in this discussion are not construction workers, in the main, that get their hands dirty, but office workers, highly paid office workers who are not the intended beneficiary of the CATA agreement, but they appear to have become the victims of the fact that the CATA agreement has been applied in their favour. I understand the facts that the hon Member is describing. What I am not conceding is that there is anything wrong. I have gone so far as to concede that there has been an element of unfortunate administrative lack of communication, and that I have also gone on to say that the question of what the rules should be, can always be revisited and changed if the correct legal interpretation of them is not the desired position, but all of that cannot be confused with a debate about whether the existing rules, as they are, have been correctly or incorrectly applied. Assuming that the legal advice is correct, the regulations have been correctly applied and the fact that there are losers is regrettable but unavoidable. Now, we can have a debate in a legislative context about whether the law should be changed to make sure that this does not happen. To make sure that

the current situation does not prevail into the future, but that is a legislative question. That does not arise under questioning about how the present rules have been implemented.

HON G H LICUDI:

Though the hon Member says this latter point is a legislative question, would he not agree with us that it is, in fact, a policy issue. What he seems to be saying is that there is a provision of law which is supposed to set minimum standards, minimum rights for employees, and which allows, because that is the legal interpretation that has been given, it allows people to contract out of those provisions. Does the hon Member not agree that, as a matter of policy when it comes to employee rights, the general principle is that employees are not allowed to contract out, for example, minimum wage, you cannot enter into a contract for somebody to be paid £2 an hour because the law sets minimum standards for employees. Does the hon Member not agree that this is in the same category and when you have minimum standards set by legislation, as a matter of policy, those employee rights should not be able to be contracted out by the employee. As I have seen it read in other judgements by judges, sometimes employees have to be defended from their own folly and, therefore, they have to be prevented from being able to enter into agreements which may not be in their interest after all. That is why we have got legislative minimum requirements for employee rights. Does the hon Member not agree that this is such a policy consideration, rather than just leaving it for another day for legislative context?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No, I do not. All legislation is a matter of policy. At the end of the day, the Government promotes legislation that reflects its policy on a particular issue and then Parliament votes, for or against the legislation, to reflect its policy on that question. So, of course, it is a matter of policy. All legislative content is a matter of the policy of the legislators that make the law. I think what the hon Member means is that he thinks it is a matter of over arching principle that beneficiaries of statutory benefits cannot alienate those rights. There is no such principle. There is a specific provision to that effect in the pensions legislation which actually contains a section that says, that it is legally impossible and any attempt to do it is void and ineffective for an old age pensioner to alienate their old age pension. The fact that there is a specific provision in an Act, to bring that about in the case of a particular benefit, suggests that there is no such general principle, because if there were a general principle, it would not be necessary to legislate it for a particular case. Now, in this particular piece of legislation, if my memory is not failing me, I believe that there is a provision that specifically allows different arrangements to be legislated, and the legal dispute that arose was whether you could negotiate down for everybody or whether you could say, if the statutory minimum is less than CATA, then it is CATA, but in any event, not less than the statutory minimum, which I think is the interpretation that the Hon Leader of the Opposition is urging should be the correct one, but which the lawyers said was not the correct one. Well, fine. It is open to this House. I do not really remember whether it was primary legislation or subsidiary legislation. I think this is regulation. It is available to us to debate. The hon Member is free to bring a motion in this House, recommending to the Government that it amends the Insolvency Fund Regulations to reflect the interpretation that they want to put in it. We could do that at any time.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It has nothing at all to do with the Insolvency Fund Regulations. This is affecting people who are not covered by the Insolvency Fund. Until now, the statutory right to redundancy payment, introduced by the Government, has been interpreted in one way because the statutory rights, the minimum is laid down and it has got a final clause that says, this shall not prevent an employee from negotiating better terms. Now, because the Government recognised the CATA agreement, which until then had not been recognised, the CATA agreement had never been used in substitution of. The CATA agreement contains a termination of employment payment, independent of redundancy, which is paid to everybody. So, if people are not entitled to redundancy by virtue of the law, they are then entitled to a short-term payment which gives them the same money. So, it is not true that there are winners and losers. There are two clauses in the CATA agreement and one clause says, you shall be entitled to one [inaudible] per year and the other clause is the redundancy payment with exactly the same terms. When the law came in, introduced by the Government, the minimum that the law paid is the one that everybody has been paid until this incident.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Right, but it [inaudible] affects CATA people.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, but when we talk about CATA, for example, it affects people who are putting air conditioning, who have been working in a company for twenty five years and they suddenly find that instead of getting £20,000, they get £5,000, because they are being considered as covered by the construction industry.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

All covered by the CATA agreement. People covered by the CATA agreement.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The point that I am making is that, in my view, the Government unintentionally created this because it was not anticipated that it would be interpreted in the way that it has been done, because it was not a fault in the Insolvency Fund Regulations and it is not a fault in the statutory entitlement of redundancy pay regulation. It is a consequence of the recognition by the Government of CATA which only happened recently at the request of the Union. Before it was recognised, the interpretation that was given was that ... The recognition by the Government as the binding agreement ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Joint Industrial Council Agreement, [inaudible] which has always been the case.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, but the Government has told this House, in answer to different questions, that if there is a breach of that agreement, it is not enforceable by the Government or the Employment Office. So, if somebody fails to pay the CATA term, then the individual has to take the employer to court, or the Union has to take the employer to court, but they are still made to be paid by that because they are told that this is a statutory obligation. Well, I do not see how it is a statutory obligation to pay them less than the statutory minimum, but it is not a statutory obligation which is enforced by the Employment Service, when they do not pay it, but that is the answer that we were given the last time that I raised this question.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is the position in law. The CATA agreement is an agreement between construction companies and Unions representing construction company workers in respect of construction company employees. It does not create law. It is a private agreement between two private constituencies in society, and it does not create law and, therefore, the administration cannot enforce the breach of an agreement between two citizens, or two groups of citizens. But if that agreement says something about redundancy payments and the legislature, rightly or wrongly, sensibly or less sensibly, has passed a law that says, for the purposes of calculating statutory redundancy payment entitlements in the event of your employer going insolvent, without having paid you your redundancy payment, the Government will pay it out of this Insolvency Fund at this rate, unless you have entered into an agreement that provides for it to be paid at a different rate, then the law, which is what the lawyers have advised is the effect, then that agreement has that effect for the purposes of calculating the statutory redundancy payment payable by the tax payer, in default of payment by the bankrupt employer. That does not say that, therefore, everything else in the agreement between workforce and employers' organisations, is law also in every other provision of that document, is sometimes elevated to an official law that the administration is able to. This is exactly the same debate and exactly the same discussion as we had last time, and the position has not changed.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, but first of all the Insolvency Regulations do not say anything like that. What the Insolvency Regulations say is that if the employer is insolvent, then the Insolvency Fund pays him what the employer would have paid. So, the fact that it is paid by the Insolvency Fund or is paid by the employer, is not the issue. The issue is that by recognising the agreement as a Joint Industrial Council, the unintended effect of it has been that a lot of people, who previously were covered by the law, are now no longer able to get the protection of the law in getting the minimum, as a consequence.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is true but where the hon Member is wrong is in saying that as a consequence of the recognition, as if the recognition were recent.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. I am sorry the hon Member is wrong. The CATA agreement has been a recognised Joint Industrial Council agreement from the day that it was first signed in the 1970s or 1980s. I do not remember its date. Nothing has happened recently by way of bestowing on it a recognition of anything that has altered the effect that it has had on the Insolvency Regulations and their administration. This is simply not correct.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes, I am afraid the hon Member's information is incorrect and I ought to know because the original CATA's agreement were not recognised in the JIC and I was the one who negotiated them and it is only in recent years that the Union was able to persuade the construction industry that they should jointly go to the Government, because it requires the agreement of both sides of the industry to get them recognition. It has been a long aim of the Unions to get it done, but it was not with the intention of finishing up affecting people adversely.

MR SPEAKER:

I do not think the matter is going to get very much further from this point. I think we should move to the next question.

ORAL

NO. 389 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GJBS LIMITED – TAKEOVER OF RENTAL HOUSING ESTATE PREVIOUSLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY BRUESA

Can Government state how much has been paid to GJBS Limited in respect of the takeover of the rental housing estate previously under construction by BRUESA and how much has GJBS Limited paid sub-contractors since the answer to Question No. 1556 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 390 to 391 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 390 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

RELOCATION COSTS GIBRALTAR BOAT SQUADRON

Can Government state what further payments have been made in respect of the relocation of the Gibraltar Boat Squadron since the answer to Question No. 1555 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 389 and 391 of 2011.

NO. 391 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

WATERPORT DEVELOPMENT – PAYMENT TO CONTRACTORS

Can Government state what further payments, if any, have been made to the contractors or other parties in respect of the Waterport Terraces Development since the answer to Question No. 1108 of 2009?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 389 of 2011

A total of £6,319,397.34 has been paid to Gibraltar Joinery and Building Services Limited since the answer to Question No. 1556 of 2010, of which it has paid £5,479,611.78 to sub-contractors.

Answer to Question No. 390 of 2011

A total of £1,585,244 has been paid in respect of the relocation of the Gibraltar Boat Squadron since the answer to Question No. 1555 of 2010.

Answer to Question No. 391 of 2011

I now hand the hon Member a schedule setting out the large volume of information that he seeks.

Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
01/10/2009	-	-	-	-	£4,037.50
01/10/2009	-	-	-	-	£5,160.50
02/10/2009	£821,909.67	-	-	-	-
02/10/2009	£527,000.00	-	-	-	-
06/10/2009	-	-	£16,065.00	-	-
06/10/2009	-	£9,000.00	-	-	-
06/10/2009	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
06/10/2009	-	-	-	£4,500.00	-
13/10/2009	-	-	£2,111.36	-	-
13/10/2009	-	-	£2,005.44	-	-
16/10/2009	-	-	-	-	£8,586.00
23/10/2009	£176,640.00	-	-	-	-
23/10/2009	£1,440.00	-	-	-	-
29/10/2009	-	-	£11,675.00	-	-
29/10/2009	-	-	£1,540.00	-	-
29/10/2009	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
29/10/2009	-	£9,000.00	-	-	-
03/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£10,991.00
03/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£5,427.88
03/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£6,000.00
04/11/2009	-	£13,323.30	-	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£11,675.00	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£472.50	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£315.00	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£1,076.25	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£892.50	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£557.50	-	-
12/11/2009	-	-	£420.00	-	-
17/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£5,114.39
17/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£6,000.00
17/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£1,700.00
18/11/2009	-	-	-	-	£2,800.00
25/11/2009	£150,695.00	-	-	-	-
25/11/2009	£1,305.00	-	-	-	-
02/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£164.23
02/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£108.00
02/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£8,535.00
04/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£4,987.23
04/12/2009	-	£7,808.98	-	-	-
08/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£9,860.00
08/12/2009	-	-	-	-	£13,296.17

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Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
15/12/2009	-	-	£11,675.00	-	-
15/12/2009	-	-	£9,000.00	-	-
15/12/2009	-	-	£2,170.88	-	-
15/12/2009	-	-	£3,740.53	-	-
18/01/2010	-	£12,022.24	-	-	-
19/01/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,965.25
19/01/2010	-	-	-	-	£6,000.00
19/01/2010	-	-	-	-	£26,133.50
28/01/2010	£52,911.80	-	-	-	-
31/01/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,965.47
02/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
02/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
02/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£460.00	-	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£172.50	-	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£287.50	-	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£172.50	-	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£2,357.50	-	-
02/02/2010	-	-	£3,924.50	-	-
05/02/2010	-	£12,975.00	-	-	-
09/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£51,967.46
09/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£5,100.00
09/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,040.00
09/02/2010	-	-	£6,254.50	-	-
09/02/2010	-	-	£11,518.85	-	-
09/02/2010	-	-	£11,675.00	-	-
09/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£27,150.69
09/02/2010	-	£43,000.00	-	-	-
09/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
09/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
09/02/2010	-	-	-	£26,258.72	-
16/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£20,748.75
25/02/2010	-	-	-	-	£19,841.25
01/03/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£900.00
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£800.00
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£790.69
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£29,520.52
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£240.75
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£6,000.00

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Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
02/03/2010	-	-	£8,903.75	-	-
02/03/2010	-	-	£3,740.53	-	-
02/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,248.98
02/03/2010	-	-	-	£5,985.00	-
02/03/2010	-	£9,851.85	-	-	-
02/03/2010	-	£6,793.12	-	-	-
05/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
12/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£55.00
12/03/2010	£741,000.00	-	-	-	-
12/03/2010	£41,645.59	-	-	-	-
16/03/2010	-	-	£3,086.35	-	-
16/03/2010	-	-	£5,060.00	-	-
16/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,520.00
16/03/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
17/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£418.75
22/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,600.00
22/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
24/03/2010	-	£12,602.13	-	-	-
25/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,000.00
25/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,040.00
25/03/2010	-	-	-	-	£17,647.73
25/03/2010	-	-	-	£20,178.05	-
25/03/2010	-	-	-	£6,295.00	-
25/03/2010	-	-	-	£31,002.00	-
25/03/2010	-	£28,300.37	-	-	-
08/04/2010	-	£9,000.00	-	-	-
16/04/2010	£1,076,965.57	-	-	-	-
16/04/2010	£56,682.40	-	-	-	-
27/04/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,890.50
27/04/2010	-	£13,059.28	-	-	-
27/04/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
27/04/2010	-	-	£4,976.31	-	-
27/04/2010	-	-	-	-	£29,370.00
27/04/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
29/04/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
10/05/2010	£1,126,266.59	-	-	-	-
10/05/2010	£59,227.85	-	-	-	-
11/05/2010	-	£9,000.00	-	-	-
12/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£165.70
12/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,824.41
13/05/2010	-	-	£6,914.78	-	-

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Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
13/05/2010	-	-	£9,819.50	-	-
13/05/2010	-	£9,092.00	-	-	-
13/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£12,042.00
14/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£806.25
14/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£593.75
25/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
25/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,259.27
25/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£69.26
26/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£800.00
27/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,566.00
27/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,972.00
27/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£3,683.00
27/05/2010	-	-	-	-	£9,961.20
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£8,801.39	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£22,854.55	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£11,475.10	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£8,795.77	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£8,746.40	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£20,037.58	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£45,978.00	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£10,748.66	-
27/05/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
27/05/2010	-	£3,868.71	-	-	-
27/05/2010	-	£9,417.90	-	-	-
07/06/2010	£1,402,439.00	-	-	-	-
07/06/2010	£71,391.52	-	-	-	-
08/06/2010	-	-	-	-	£14,935.00
11/06/2010	-	£12,000.00	-	-	-
11/06/2010	-	£4,950.00	-	-	-
17/06/2010	-	£3,871.34	-	-	-
17/06/2010	-	-	-	£2,000.00	-
17/06/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,401.90
30/06/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
30/06/2010	-	£1,500.00	-	-	-
30/06/2010	-	-	-	-	£871.25
01/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
01/07/2010	-	-	£23,451.32	-	-
01/07/2010	-	-	£9,492.98	-	-
01/07/2010	-	-	£5,914.37	-	-
01/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£11,648.00
09/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£145.00

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Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
15/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£6,935.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£9,830.40
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£12,089.72
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£772.50
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£5,095.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,571.25
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,875.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,500.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,125.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£5,170.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,440.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£5,600.00
20/07/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
20/07/2010	-	£8,951.70	-	-	-
21/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£18,321.11
23/07/2010	£454,559.03	-	-	-	-
23/07/2010	£23,003.11	-	-	-	-
27/07/2010	-	-	-	-	£10,760.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,508.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£24,075.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,500.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,450.00
03/08/2010	-	-	£5,267.13	-	-
03/08/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
03/08/2010	-	£4,399.30	-	-	-
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£23,732.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,711.00
03/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,510.00
13/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£285.00
16/08/2010	£458,617.96	-	-	-	-
16/08/2010	£24,137.79	-	-	-	-
16/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£6,525.19
16/08/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
16/08/2010	-	£1,425.00	-	-	-
16/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
17/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,675.00
17/08/2010	-	-	£9,354.57	-	-
17/08/2010	-	-	-	£3,900.00	-
17/08/2010	-	-	-	£4,275.00	-
18/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£650.00

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Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
24/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£30,590.40
26/08/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,685.00
07/09/2010	-	£7,259.61	-	-	-
07/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£7,928.12
09/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£21,602.16
15/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£474.64
20/09/2010	£811,081.62	-	-	-	-
20/09/2010	£37,885.87	-	-	-	-
21/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£26,933.06
21/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£9,175.62
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,142.00
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,142.00
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£19,132.50
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£377.00
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£116.00
23/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,930.00
23/09/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
26/10/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,890.00
27/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,750.00
27/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£237.50
27/09/2010	-	£4,470.00	-	-	-
28/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,333.00
28/09/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,000.00
10/10/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
12/10/2010	-	-	£2,260.00	-	-
12/10/2010	-	-	£3,163.53	-	-
12/10/2010	-	£4,009.57	-	-	-
26/10/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,379.50
26/10/2010	-	-	-	-	£18,269.30
26/10/2010	-	-	-	-	£27,535.00
26/10/2010	-	-	£5,060.00	-	-
26/10/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
29/10/2010	-	-	-	-	£13,111.81
01/11/2010	-	£6,060.00	-	-	-
08/11/2010	-	£1,837.50	-	-	-
08/11/2010	-	£12,500.00	-	-	-
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£785.00
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,142.00
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,142.00
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£3,712.00
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,973.09

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 391

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>Surveyors</u>	<u>Engineers</u>	<u>Architects</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
09/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,906.41
10/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£280.00
19/11/2010	-	£2,625.00	-	-	-
19/11/2010	-	£2,200.00	-	-	-
19/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£125.00
23/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,914.00
23/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£5,153.68
23/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£2,639.00
23/11/2010	-	-	£8,064.72	-	-
23/11/2010	-	-	£2,877.50	-	-
23/11/2010	-	-	£2,855.19	-	-
23/11/2010	-	-	-	£23,297.60	-
23/11/2010	-	£4,686.29	-	-	-
23/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£4,000.00
25/11/2010	£475,000.00	-	-	-	-
25/11/2010	£25,000.01	-	-	-	-
30/11/2010	-	-	-	-	£255.00
02/12/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,800.00
07/12/2010	-	-	-	£8,775.00	-
09/12/2010	-	-	-	-	£23,038.21
10/12/2010	-	-	-	-	£19,132.50
17/12/2010	-	-	-	-	£1,525.00
<hr/>					
	£8,616,805.38	£363,360.19	£240,160.49	£620,798.06	£921,680.85

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 389 TO 391 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In relation to the answer to Question No. 390 of 2011, is this payment in respect of the Gibraltar Boat Squadron the final or there are still further payments to be made?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not have that information available to me but I believe that it is not final.

NO. 392 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

KING'S LINES BUNKERING FUEL STORAGE

Have Government been made aware of the MOD's intention to close down the King's Lines facilities?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The MOD ceased operations at King's Lines many months ago. Government were informed very shortly beforehand that they would do so.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 392 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Do the Government know whether there are possibilities of some other operator making use of such facilities for a purpose similar to the one that the MOD was making, that is, for fuel related?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The Government have spent the last year or two investigating that precise possibility because we were keen to obtain King's Lines in time to avoid it suffering the same fate as William's Way, which is, I suppose was a valuable facility and by the time it became available, when in the end William's Way ceased to be used because of the rock fall dangers and the access to it, rather than by reason of the condition of it. After various studies and after taking the advice of external consultants, specialists in fuel depot, design and operation and regulations, the Government now is clear that there is no economically viable way of converting the King's Lines fuel depot into a modern fuel depot compliant with modern safety regulations for fuel depots of that sort. The Government, nevertheless, have a priority aspiration to bring onshore the storage of bunkers for the bunkering trade which, as the House knows, is currently stored in floating super tankers in the bay and, therefore, we were hoping that King's Lines would serve this purpose. The problems relating to the condition of the depot itself and the amount of investment that would be required, which would be uneconomic, to bring it up to standard and then the advice is that when you have done as much as you can, it still would not be completely safe, particularly, not bearing in mind that it is right next to a housing estate. The combination of all of that, plus the inaccessibility of the pipeline system which would need to be rooted up and

it goes under roads and under the City walls. The hon Member knows it goes from King's Lines almost in a straight line to Waterport, underneath Corral Road, underneath ... et cetera, inaccessible, huge amount of investment would be required. Bottom line is, much to the Government's disappointment, that does not seem to be a viable way forward to achieve the Government's aspiration. We are, therefore, now looking at alternative venues for a possible discreet tank farm that would not be aesthetically intrusive, that would allow us to bring onshore, not just Gibraltar's bunkering, but Gibraltar's, indeed, strategic fuel reserves. But it will not be there.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In terms of the people that were employed there by the MOD, were they redeployed elsewhere in the MOD or did it involve any triggering of the "safety net" provisions?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

My understanding is that they are all still in place to deal with the continuing safety of the site, the build up of the fumes and things of that sort, and I know that the staff have a hope and, indeed, an expectation that the MOD will retain them in post to oversee and conduct the decommissioning that the MOD would have to do which will stretch their functionality for some time to come and that it where matters lie at present.

ORAL

NO. 393 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES

Can Government state how many exempt companies were still operational when the tax exempt status was discontinued in December 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Two thousand four hundred and ten companies still enjoy the tax exempt status as at the 31st December 2010.

ORAL

NO. 394 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GRATUITY PAYMENTS TO CONTRACT OFFICERS

Can Government state how many, if any, contract public service employees currently receive the 25 per cent tax free payment, in lieu of entitlement to a final salary pension, and provide a breakdown by area of employment?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 395 and 396 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 395 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GRATUITY PAYMENTS TO CONTRACT OFFICERS

Can Government specify when the 25 per cent tax free payment, in lieu of pension entitlement, to contract officers was changed from a final sum at the end of the contract to a monthly payment and does this apply in all relevant cases?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 394 and 396 of 2011.

NO. 396 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GRATUITY PAYMENTS TO CONTRACT OFFICERS

Can Government confirm that the 25 per cent tax free payment, in lieu of entitlement to a final salary pension, is paid on a monthly basis to all relevant contract workers?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 394 of 2011

There are currently 15 civil servants, 125 Gibraltar Health Authority employees, five Care Agency employees and three Gibraltar Port Authority employees on contract terms and who are in receipt of a 25 per cent tax-free gratuity.

Answers to Question Nos. 395 and 396 of 2011

Over the years, the Government have agreed, in certain cases where there is a special circumstance, for the payment of the gratuity to be made on an annual or monthly basis instead of, as used to be the case, at the end of service or at the end of contract.

I will now hand the hon Member a schedule with a breakdown that would really show, if he has taken a note of it, just the breakdown of the 148 that I have just given him.

Answer to Question No. 396 of 2011

**Breakdown of contract employees in receipt of a 25 per cent tax-free payment
by area of employment**

Number of Contract Officers	Area of Employment
15	Civil Service
125	Gibraltar Health Authority
5	Care Agency
3	Gibraltar Port Authority
148	TOTAL

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 394 TO 396 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

This is the answer to Question No. 394 of 2011. I do not think the hon Member has answered Question Nos. 395 and 396 of 2011 because I have said when was the decision taken ...?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

They were taken over the years.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can he tell me when the first one was taken?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, actually, I think I do remember the first case. I think the first case was the previous Chief Justice. Certainly, it was the case that provoked the policy decision from the Government which came up to me. I think it was the school fees issue or something and we authorised his ... I do not remember if it may have been annual or monthly or quarterly, but certainly we authorised the non payment, that he did not have to wait until the end of service. What I cannot remember was the frequency of the period, but I think he was the first case. So, it would have been very late 1990's, early 2000, I think.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Is the hon Member in a position to say, of the numbers that he has given me, how many are still on the end of term contract, or not. My question was whether it was paid to all the relevant contract workers. I take it the answer is no. So, some people are getting it monthly, some people are getting it quarterly and some people are getting it what ... every three years?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. I suppose, yes. I suppose at the end of their contract engagement. This is an area that is going to have to be revisited if the Government ends the final salary pension scheme for civil servants because, certainly, what you cannot have is new recruits into the Civil Service in the future with a pension contribution, where the Government is contributing ten or whatever percentage it is, and contract workers on twenty five. So, this arrangement is going to have to be revisited at the same time as that. Not just by the arrangement. I do not just mean whether it is paid quarterly, monthly or ... I mean the whole quantum of it.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I know what the hon Member means but my question specifically was ... Can he tell me, given that my last question was whether it is paid on a monthly basis to all relevant contract workers, and the answer obviously is no to that question, because he has told me that a case has to be made to move from the three year, but he is not able to tell me whether there are still say, a hundred or, not even ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. I do have that information. In respect of the fifteen civil servants, three are monthly, ten annually and one end of contract. In respect of the one hundred and twenty five GHA employees, six is annual and one hundred and nineteen is at the end of contract. In respect of the five Care Workers, they are all annual, and in respect of the three Port Authority employees, they are all annual.

NO. 397 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDP FIGURE

Can Government confirm whether, in the computation of the GDP for 2006/2007 and 2007/2008, the profits of Gibtelecom were included twice, once in the grossing up of company profits and, secondly, in the dividend paid to the Government and, if not, how was the amount of the profits calculated to net out the dividend?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I can confirm that the full trading profit of Gibtelecom is only included once, namely, in the calculation of Gross Trading Profits of Company, done for the year to which the question relates, as the hon Member knows, by the "Grossing-up" of Corporation Tax Method.

It is also true, however, that an element of that profit is included also and, therefore, to that extent twice, to the extent of that element in the calculation of Gross Trading Surplus of Government Enterprises, namely, the dividend paid to the Government by Gibtelecom out of those same profits. Since less than 100 per cent of profits are distributed and the Government owns only 50 per cent of the shares, the sum involved is less than 50 per cent of Gibtelecom's Gross Trading Profits figure.

I would add two points:-

- (1) I am advised that this has always been the case in GDP calculations;
- (2) I am also advised that, given that the Gross Trading Profits of companies figure, calculated by that [*inaudible*] method, is itself an estimate derived from the application of a selected Grossing-up rate, the resulting figure cannot be said to be so forensically accurate that a deviation by the amount of this repetition would be statistically or forensically, sufficiently distorting.

But I think that it should be deducted because it can be identified and there is no reason why it could not always have been deducted. I think now that the hon Member has pointed it out, I have asked the Statistician to exclude it and it is excluded with effect from the 2009/2010 calculation, which is being worked on. I think it is just one of ... By the way, the same thing applies to AquaGib.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 397 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Except that I have concentrated on this one and not on AquaGib because, I think, in the previous system it could not have been included because AquaGib was not paying any tax to be grossed up. Given that the problem was ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

[*Inaudible*]. That is true. So there would not have been. In principle it is the same issue but in practice it has not been taxed on.

HON J J BOSSANO:

It would not have been, in principle but in practice it has not been ... That is right. That is why I did not include it.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

That is correct.

ORAL

NO. 398 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDP FIGURE

Can Government now confirm the amount of the Gross Domestic Fixed Capital Formation expenditure in the 2007/2008 GDP accounted for by Government spending?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 399 to 401 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 399 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDP FIGURE

Can Government now confirm the final figure for the 2008/2009 GDP and provide the breakdown by the income and expenditure methods of calculation?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 398, 400 and 401 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 400 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDP FIGURE

Can Government state the amount of the Gross Domestic Fixed Capital Formation expenditure in the 2008/2009 GDP accounted for by Government spending?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 398, 399 and 401 of 2011.

NO. 401 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDP FIGURE

Can Government provide a breakdown of the composition of the Gross Trading Surplus of Government enterprises component for the 2008/2009 GDP?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 398 of 2011

The Government's contribution to the Gross Domestic Fixed Capital Formation in the 2007/2008 GDP was estimated at £62.32 million.

Answer to Question No. 399 of 2011

The final GDP estimate for 2008/2009 stands at £896 million, and that is now the final estimate.

The detailed Income and Expenditure Methods of calculation is shown in the schedule which he should now already have in front of him.

Answer to Question No. 400 of 2011

The Government's contribution to the Gross Domestic Fixed Capital Formation in the 2008/2009 GDP was estimated at £109.77 million.

Answer to Question No. 401 of 2011

I have also handed to the hon Member a table that sets out the composition of the gross trading surplus of Government enterprises for 2008/2009.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 401
Answer to Question 399

INCOME METHOD (£ million)	*	2008/09
INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT	B	526.93
INCOME FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT	C	51.93
GROSS TRADING PROFITS OF COMPANIES	C	197.89
GROSS TRADING SURPLUS OF GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES	A	5.48
RENT	C	115.50
TOTAL DOMESTIC INCOME	B	897.73
LESS STOCK APPRECIATION	C	-1.29
GDP (FACTOR COST)	B	896.44
NET PROPERTY INCOME FROM ABROAD ABROAD	C	-1.39
NET FACTOR INCOME FROM ABROAD	B	-118.74
GNP (FACTOR COST)	B	776.31

EXPENDITURE METHOD (£ million)	*	2008/09
CONSUMERS' EXPENDITURE	B	375.66
GOVT. FINAL CONSUMPTION	A	244.93
GROSS DOMESTIC FIXED CAP. F'MTN	C	220.09
TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE	C	840.68
EXPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES	C	1,815.99
IMPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES	B	-1,697.33
RESIDUAL ERROR		24.87
GDP (MARKET PRICES)	B	984.21
SUBSIDIES	C	6.74
TAXES ON EXPENDITURE	A	-94.51
GDP (FACTOR COST)	B	896.44
NET PROPERTY INCOME FROM ABROAD ABROAD	C	-1.39
NET FACTOR INCOME FROM ABROAD	B	-118.74
GNP (FACTOR COST)	B	776.31

ANSWER TO QUESTION 401
Answer to Question 401

GROSS TRADING SURPLUS OF GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES, 2008/09

	<u>£(m)</u>	<u>£(m)</u>	<u>£(m)</u>
	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u>
(a) Potable Water Dividend	£0.10	£0.00	£0.10
(b) Electricity	£33.46	£33.46	£0.00
(c) Savings Bank	£11.52	£8.67	£2.85
(d) Coinage	£0.90	£0.12	£0.78
(e) Lottery	£4.79	£4.64	£0.15
(f) Port/Ship Registry	£2.85	£3.39	-£0.54
(g) Giblecom Dividend	£3.20	£0.00	£3.20
(h) Post Office	£1.89	£2.95	-£1.06
TOTAL GROSS TRADING SURPLUS OF GOVT. ENTERPRISES			£5.48

ORAL

NO. 402 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

VALUE OF IMPORTS EXCLUDING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Can Government provide the total value of imports, excluding petroleum products, in 2010 and give a breakdown by main country of origin?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The information requested by the hon Member in respect of the period January 2010 to September 2010 is shown in the schedule that I now pass to him. The information for the period October 2010 to December 2010 is not yet finalised and is, consequently, not yet in a position where I can pass it to him. I am told that there is a lag of about three months, all this information to be collated by the tax authorities.

Answer to Question No. 402 of 2011

Imports by Main Country of Origin (excluding petroleum products)
January 2010 to September 2010

£000's (C.I.F.)

COUNTRY

United Kingdom	75,340
Spain	58,557
Germany	3,149
Netherlands	2,670
France	2,347
United States	1,897
Switzerland	926
Norway	659
Japan	649
Austria	543
Denmark	527
Portugal	494
Guadaloupe	441
Belgium	353
Israel	307
Hong Kong	294
Italy	229
China	204
Liberia	200
Other Countries & Ex-Bond	178,822
TOTAL	328,608

NO. 403 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR COMMUNITY CARE LIMITED – FUNDING

Can Government state what funding, if any, has been provided to Community Care in each month since the answer to Question No. 1536 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

The funding provided to Community Care in each month since October 2010 is as follows:

	Funding to Gibraltar Community Care
October 2010	£340,000
November 2010	£340,000
December 2010	£2,980,000

ORAL

NO. 404 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO. 2 PENSION FUND

Can Government state whether as at end of October 2010 anyone in the Civil Service is currently on terms of employment that include membership of the No. 2 Pension Fund?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 405 to 409 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 405 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO. 2 PENSION FUND

Can Government state whether any additional public sector entities have joined the No. 2 Provident Fund Trust since the answer to Question No. 1549 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 404 and 406 to 409 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 406 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO. 3 PENSION FUND

Can Government state whether any additional private entities have joined the No. 3 Provident Fund Trust since the answer to Question No. 1550 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 404, 405 and 407 to 409 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 407 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO. 3 PENSION FUND

Can Government state how much was received by way of pension contributions by the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Fund in 2009/2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 404 to 406, 408 and 409 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 408 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO. 3 PENSION FUND

Can Government state how much was received by way of interest by the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Fund in 2009/2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 404 to 407 and 409 of 2011.

NO. 409 OF 2011**THE HON J J BOSSANO****GIBRALTAR PROVIDENT TRUST NO.3 PENSION FUND**

Can Government state the value of investments of the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Fund as at end March 2010?

ANSWER**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER****Answer to Question No. 404 of 2011**

No Civil Service employees have been employed with terms of employment that include membership of the Gibraltar Provident No. 2 Pension Fund.

Answer to Question No. 405 of 2011

The Gibraltar Port Authority has added three employees to the Gibraltar Provident No. 2 Pension Fund in the period to which the question was asked, September 2010 to December 2010.

Public Entity	No. of Employees
Gibraltar Port Authority	3

Answer to Question No. 406 of 2011

Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Scheme had additional Private Entities for the period September 2010 to December 2010.

Company Name	No. of Employees
Grant Thornton Business Services Ltd	2

Answer to Question No. 407 of 2011

The amount of pension contributions received by the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Scheme during the financial year 2009/2010 was £1,484,060.70, broken down as follows:-

Employee Contributions	Employer Contributions	Total
£990,589.48	£493,471.22	£1,484,060.70

It is interesting there that the Employee Contributions appear to be higher than the Employer Contributions unless the Employer Contributions, of course, are not up to date, which is the only explanation that I can think of. But it is certainly, the first instance that I see where the Employer Contributions are smaller than the Employees.

Answer to Question No. 408 of 2011

The amount of interest received by the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Scheme for the financial year 2009/2010 is £44,172.64.

Answer to Question No. 409 of 2011

The value of investments held by the Gibraltar Provident Trust No. 3 Pension Scheme as at 31st March 2010 was £2,740,049.78.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 404 TO 409 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In relation to the Employer and Employee Contributions which, I agree with the hon Member, seem odd. In fact, there is nothing in the regulations that requires an employer to make a contribution, is there? It is possible for an employer to have a fund for his employees and is not required to contribute. Is that not the case?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Correct. It is the case with the Gibraltar Provident Trust Fund No. 3 Scheme but not with the No. 1 and No. 2 which are Government linked. There, the Government are committed by the rules of the Scheme to make the contributions, but in this one, yes. The hon Member is correct.

ORAL

NO. 410 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STAMP DUTY

Can Government state how much has been collected as Stamp Duty in each month, since the answer to Question No. 1563 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 411 to 412 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 411 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STAMP DUTY

Can Government state what has been the amount collected in each month, since the answer to Question No. 1562 of 2010, from the Stamp Duty on Share Issues?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 410 and 412 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 412 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

STAMP DUTY

Can Government state how many properties have been approved as qualifying for Zero Stamp Duty on their sale in each month, since the answer to Question No. 1561 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, the information he seeks is on the statement now being handed to him.

Answer to Question Nos. 410 to 412 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 410 of 2011

Stamp Duty collected in each month since September 2010 is as follows:

September 2010	£261,605.96
October 2010	£321,916.80
November 2010	£321,967.08
December 2010	£307,346.91

Answer to Question No. 411 of 2011

The amount collected from the £10 Stamp Duty on share issues in each month since September 2010 is as follows:

September 2010	£1,490.00
October 2010	£1,650.00
November 2010	£2,350.00
December 2010	£1,010.00

Answer to Question No. 412 of 2011

The number of properties which have qualified for Zero Stamp Duty on sales since September 2010 is as follows:

September 2010	51
October 2010	36
November 2010	30
December 2010	24

ORAL

NO. 413 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CONSOLIDATED FUND – REVENUE

Can Government provide the total estimated Consolidated Fund revenue for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown by head of revenue?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 414 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 414 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CONSOLIDATED FUND – EXPENDITURE

Can Government provide the total estimated Consolidated Fund expenditure for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown by head of expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 and 415 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 415 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND – REVENUE

Can Government provide the total estimated Improvement and Development Fund revenue for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown by head of revenue?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413, 414 and 416 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 416 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND – EXPENDITURE

Can Government provide the total estimated Improvement and Development Fund expenditure for this year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown by head of expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 415 and 417 to 428 of 2011.

NO. 417 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDC – REVENUE

Can Government provide the estimated total Gibraltar Development Corporation revenue for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown as follows:

- (a) Training Levy;
- (b) ESF;
- (c) Consolidated Fund Head 1B;
- (d) Miscellaneous; and
- (e) Other Receipts?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 416 and 418 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 418 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GDC – EXPENDITURE

Can Government provide the total estimated Gibraltar Development Corporation expenditure for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown as between Employment and Training and other divisions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 417 and 419 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 419 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CARE AGENCY – RECEIPTS

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Care Agency for this financial year to 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 418 and 420 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 420 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CARE AGENCY – PAYMENTS

Can Government state what have been the payments made by the Care Agency for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown for personal emoluments, industrial wages, other personnel and employer contribution and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 419 and 421 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 421 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GRA – REVENUE

Can Government state what has been the operating revenue of the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 420 and 422 to 428 of 2011.

NO. 422 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GRA – EXPENDITURE

Can Government state what has been the operating expenditure of the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown of personal emoluments, employment costs and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 421 and 423 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 423 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PORT AUTHORITY – REVENUE

Can Government state what has been the operating revenue of the Gibraltar Port Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 422 and 424 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 424 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PORT AUTHORITY – EXPENDITURE

Can Government state what has been the operating expenditure of the Gibraltar Port Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown of personal emoluments, employment costs and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 423 and 425 to 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 425 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GEA – REVENUE

Can Government state what has been the operating revenue of the Gibraltar Electricity Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 424 and 426 to 428 of 2011.

NO. 426 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GEA – EXPENDITURE

Can Government state what has been the operating expenditure of the Gibraltar Electricity Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown of personal emoluments, employment costs and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 425, 427 and 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 427 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – RECEIPTS

Can Government state what have been the receipts of the Sports and Leisure Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 413 to 426 and 428 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 428 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – EXPENDITURE

Can Government state what have been the recurrent expenditure of the Sports and Leisure Authority for this financial year to 30th September 2010, giving a breakdown of personal emoluments and other recurrent expenditure?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I now hand the hon Member statements based on Treasury records as they now stand and with their usual health waning.

Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 413

CONSOLIDATED FUND REVENUE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
1 Income Taxes	£63,779,867.83
2 Duties, Taxes and Other Receipts	£41,245,762.42
3 Gambling Fees, Taxes and Lottery	£6,906,277.59
4 Rates and Rents	£9,473,354.23
5 Departmental Fees and Receipts	£5,960,870.88
6 Government Earnings	£786,318.49
7 Exceptional Item	£0.00
8 Public Debt	£69,253,000.00
	<u>£197,405,451.44</u>

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 414

CONSOLIDATED FUND EXPENDITURE

**1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011**

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
1A Education	£12,531,420.11
1B Training	£479,556.54
2A Heritage and Culture	£1,109,951.44
2B Sport and Leisure	£1,220,938.85
3A Housing - Administration	£1,273,505.27
3B Housing - Buildings and Works	£3,545,566.47
4A Environment	£7,476,587.14
4B Technical Services	£2,588,338.34
4C Tourism	£1,422,618.53
5A Family and Community Affairs	£20,444,961.06
5B Youth	£193,495.01
6A Enterprise	£1,492,455.09
6B Transport - Port and Shipping	£591,949.26
6C Transport - Aviation	£1,728,083.00
6D Transport, Vehicle, Traffic and Public Transport	£665,438.12
6E Postal Services	£1,304,088.99
6F Broadcasting	£973,500.00
6G Utilities	£6,912,163.89
7A Health	£13,763,500.02
7B Civil Contingency	£18,058.89
7C Fire Service	£1,710,203.52
8A No. 6 Convent Place	£3,687,125.48
8B Human Resources	£379,707.46
9A Finance Ministry	£259,100.27
9B Treasury	£2,756,900.03
9C Customs	£2,355,160.62
9D Income Tax	£1,065,628.14
9E Finance Centre	£680,914.62
10 Employment, Labour and Industrial Relations	£1,190,724.95
11A Justice Ministry	£243,630.93
11B Courts - Supreme Court	£340,327.72
11C Courts - Magistrates' and Coroner's Court	£205,539.54
11D Attorney General's Chambers	£308,616.80
11E Prison	£776,399.71
11F Policing	£5,056,448.07
12 Immigration and Civil Status	£1,350,502.41
13 Parliament	£651,308.33
14 Gibraltar Audit Office	£306,075.40
15 Supplementary Provision	£0.00
16 Exceptional Expenditure	£563,328.06
17 Consolidated Fund Contributions	£15,416,666.66
	<u>£119,040,484.74</u>

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Contd Answer to Question 414

CONSOLIDATED FUND CHARGES

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
01 Statutory Offices	£257,623.53
02 Judicature	£399,434.49
03 Pensions	£12,988,219.57
04 Employer's Contributions	£1,713,838.21
05 Public Debt Charges	£9,084,406.07
06 Public Services Ombudsman	£106,093.31
07 Revenue Repayment	£2,698.73
08 Public Debt Repayment	£0.00
	<u>£24,552,313.91</u>

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 415

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND – REVENUE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
101 Contributions and Loans	£15,416,666.66
102 Sale of Government Properties and Other Premia	£1,177,547.40
103 Grants	£0.00
104 Reimbursements	£60,982.95
	<u>£16,655,197.01</u>

Answer to Question 416

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND – EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
101 Departmental	£3,880,058.04
102 Projects	£33,917,194.25
	<u>£37,797,252.29</u>

contd...

Answer to Question 417

GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – REVENUE
1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

REVENUE

Training Levy	£0.00
Contribution by European Social Fund	£133,358.00
Contribution from Consolidated Fund - Head 10	£196,096.42
Miscellaneous	<u>£54,205.00</u>
	<u>£383,659.42</u>

OTHER DIVISIONS

REVENUE

Other Receipts	<u>£2,762,633.27</u>
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Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 418

GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

EXPENDITURE

Employment	£27,200.49
Training	<u>£1,038,103.86</u>
	<u>£1,065,304.35</u>

OTHER DIVISIONS

EXPENDITURE

Other Divisions	<u>£2,762,633.27</u>
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Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 419

CARE AGENCY – RECEIPTS

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>£439,204.45</u>
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Answer to Question 420

CARE AGENCY – PAYMENTS

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2010

<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
Personal Emoluments	£4,581,139.73
Industrial Wages	£712,184.03
Other Personnel	£0.00
Employer's Contributions	£654,146.25
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£1,794,355.16</u>
	<u>£7,741,825.17</u>

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 421

GIBRALTAR REGULATORY AUTHORITY – OPERATING REVENUE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
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Answer to Question 422

GIBRALTAR REGULATORY AUTHORITY – OPERATING EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Personal Emoluments	£365,766.13
Employment Costs	£50,837.16
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£108,495.09</u>
	<u>£525,098.38</u>

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Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 423

GIBRALTAR PORT AUTHORITY – OPERATING REVENUE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>£2,177,593.48</u>
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Answer to Question 424

GIBRALTAR PORT AUTHORITY – OPERATING EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Personal Emoluments	£976,936.05
Employment Costs	£32,856.72
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£844,462.74</u>
	<u>£1,854,255.51</u>

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Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 425

GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY – OPERATING REVENUE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>£11,243,178.51</u>
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Answer to Question 426

GIBRALTAR ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY – OPERATING EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Personal Emoluments	£3,531,362.28
Employment Costs	£258,110.10
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£13,045,348.10</u>
	<u>£16,834,820.48</u>

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 428 of 2011

Answer to Question 427

SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – RECEIPTS

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>£353,471.56</u>
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Answer to Question 428

SPORTS AND LEISURE AUTHORITY – RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

1 APRIL 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – TENTATIVE FIGURES AS AT
7 JANUARY 2011

EXPENDITURE

Personal Emoluments	£939,855.24
Other Recurrent Expenditure	<u>£409,137.76</u>
	<u>£1,348,993.00</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 413 TO 428 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In the answer to the first question which shows the recurrent revenue, it includes a figure of £69,253,000 public debt. Is that the net amount of debt raised in those six months?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, I fear that might be a mistake. It would only be revenue in the wider sense of the word in terms of, sort of, cash flow capital accounting almost.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I mean, money drawn down on, the proceeds of the issue of bonds and debentures rather, are paid into the Consolidated Fund and, in a sense, they are revenue but that is not the sense in which revenue is normally accounted for. Usually, this list, it would be ... I do not know what it would be ... I would not expect to have found an item for public debt in the revenue. In the expenditure, of course, you would expect to find the public debt servicing costs.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, it is either it should not be there at all, or, more likely, it is the amount raised in capital from debt instruments, where the drawdown from revolving ... although I think that had already been drawn down before ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

The drawn down I think had been done already.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Or, then it must be issued debentures.

ORAL

NO. 429 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

ALLOCATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION UNDER HEAD 15.1(a)

Can Government state how much of the £1,500,000 Supplementary Provision under Head 15.1(a) – Pay Settlements, had been allocated by the end of December 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 430 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 430 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

ALLOCATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION UNDER HEAD 15.1(b)

Can Government state how much of the £4,500,000 Supplementary Provision under Head 15.1(b) had been allocated by the end of December 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

As at the end of December 2010, no funds had been allocated from either Head.

ORAL

NO. 431 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

AMOUNTS ADVANCED TO GOVERNMENT OWNED COMPANIES

Can Government provide the amounts advanced to Government owned companies from the Consolidated Fund at the end of each month, since the answer to Question No. 1572 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes. The information requested is set out in the schedule I now hand him.

Answer to Question 431 of 2011

	<u>Amounts Advanced to Government-Owned Companies from the Consolidated Fund by Month</u>			
	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
	Net (Advances) / Deposits	Net (Advances) / Deposits	Net (Advances) / Deposits	Net (Advances) / Deposits
Gibraltar Bus Company Ltd	(£121,732.76)	(£132,596.96)	(£13,260.61)	(£209,048.20)
Gibraltar Car Parks Ltd	(£1,479,502.07)	(£207,283.96)	(£103,485.42)	(£92,736.48)
Gibraltar Co-ownership Company Ltd	(£366,048.69)	(£498,971.10)	(£387,067.00)	(£315,130.27)
Gibraltar Commercial Property Company Ltd	173,161.48	29,455.03	(£63,553.05)	(£3,280.71)
Gibraltar Defence Estates & General Services Ltd	(£4,344.79)	(£4,364.79)	(£4,389.79)	(£4,344.79)
Gibraltar General Construction Company Ltd	(£346,059.35)	705,537.31	(£282,459.04)	(£301,060.10)
Gibraltar Investment (Holdings) Co Ltd	(£327,047.00)	(£191,423.15)	(£154,950.79)	0.00
Gibraltar Land Holdings Ltd	(£50,072.50)	(£143,489.30)	(£77,230.49)	(£296,101.33)
Gibraltar Residential Properties Ltd	(£4,791,520.62)	(£82,227.30)	(£2,091,499.64)	(£5,549,440.41)
Kings Bastion Leisure Centre Company Ltd	(£149,415.31)	(£99,629.89)	(£141,177.79)	(£28,124.53)
Brympton Co-ownership Company Ltd	0.00	0.00	(£45.00)	0.00
Gibraltar M & E Services Ltd	20,107.57	(£18,135.61)	(£5,138.52)	28,509.40
Kijly Parkings Ltd	0.00	0.00	(£45.00)	0.00
Gibraltar Air Terminal Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	(£1,930.00)
Giblaundry Company Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gibraltar Strand Property Company Ltd	86,283.26	(£93,604.29)	(£262.13)	12,850.70
Westside Two Co-ownership Company Ltd	37,338.73	0.00	(£58.95)	0.00
Gibraltar Cleansing Services Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GCP Investments Ltd	0.00	(£67,600.00)	(£1,120.00)	19,758,112.70
Gibraltar General Support Services Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	(£7,318,852.05)	(£804,334.01)	(£3,325,743.22)	12,998,275.98

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 431 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

GCP Investments, I take is the car parking company. Is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, which then is GCP Investments that actually deposited £19.7 million in December?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I think GCP Investments is ... no it is not Gibraltar Commercial Property because that is further up.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Yes.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It has to be the result of some movement of capital around from one of the companies back to the Consolidated Fund. I will have to find out for him. I cannot think right now. I do not ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

I know that December is when Father Christmas comes, but this one turned up with £19.7 million.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. No it would not. The proceeds from the housing would not come through there. I will have to find out and let the hon Member know. I will find a way of getting that to the hon Member.

ORAL

NO. 432 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government now provide the number of tax returns of self-employed persons submitted by June 2010, which was described in the Budget as consisting of 60.5 per cent of the total self-employed returns for the financial year 2008/2009?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 433 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 433 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX – OBTAINED FROM 60.5 PER CENT RETURNS BY SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state of the £59.77 million earning for the financial year 2008/2009 estimated at budget time, how much was obtained from the 60.5 per cent returns by self-employed persons for that financial year and what was the balance assumed and to be adjusted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432, 434 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 434 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

EARNINGS SUBMITTED BY SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, of the earnings submitted by self-employed individuals for the tax year 2008/2009, how much related to income earned in the financial year 2008/2009 and how many of the 690 individuals were included in the figure relating to the 2008/2009 financial year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432, 433 and 435 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 435 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of September 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 434 and 436 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 436 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of October 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 435 and 437 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 437 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of November 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 436 and 438 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 438 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 437 and 439 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 439 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of September 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 438 and 440 to 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 440 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of October 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 439, 441 and 442 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 441 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of November 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 432 to 440 and 442 of 2011.

NO. 442 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many self-employed persons had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these self-employed persons?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question No. 432 of 2011

Before providing the information requested, I need to clarify the answers that I gave to Question Nos. 1600 to 1607 of 2010. The answers to those questions, which were prepared by the Income Tax Office, were drawn up and given as if the questions had referred to “tax years” and not “financial years” as was the case. This happened because the Income Tax Office wrongly assumed that the questions meant “tax years” not realising the significance of “financial years” to the questions which were actually addressing information relevant to GDP calculation, which is based on financial years. In other words, the questions came in. They were farmed out to the Income Tax Office. The Income Tax Office thought that the hon Member was after tax data, not appreciating, in the Income Tax Office, the significance of the questions which were actually geared at GDP things and not to taxing. In other words, they thought that these were tax questions and not GDP questions. Accordingly, my answers refer to “tax years”.

The hon Member did not raise this and did not draw attention to this difference at the time.

Furthermore, a further error was made by the Income Tax Office in information provided in my Budget brief in that they wrongly included, in the figure of submitted returns, some estimated assessments raised in the absence of returns and which should, therefore, not have been included. In other words, when I was giving the information about the percentage of self-employed persons that had submitted a return and the value of it, when they provided that information, they inadvertently included people that they had assessed in the absence of the return. So, they had not submitted a return. They were not people who had submitted returns. They had received assessments but not submitted a return, and I understand the reason for the error is that for their internal purposes, once they issue assessments, they go into that category of no longer being chased for a return.

Answer to Question No. 433 of 2011

The figure of 60.5 per cent that I quoted in the Budget, my Budget address, should therefore have been 40.9 per cent representing 690 actual tax returns by self-employed persons. As I explained in answer to Question No. 432 of 2010, the figure of 60.5 per cent tax returns by self-employed persons provided at the time of the Budget wrongly included, as I have just explained, estimated assessments and that should have been 40.9 per cent. This figure produces the following earnings in respect of self-employed persons. I am going to him more than that. I am going to give him the information that I gave in my Budget speech but on the basis of the 40.9, remember the significance of the percentage is how much of it is from returns and how much of it is assumed. So, the 40.9 per cent of tax returns received, the figure produced for GDP purposes £15.99 million. Then that £15.99 million is supplemented by a standing provision which is made for a concealed income adjustment of 23.3 per cent which adds another £3.73 million. I suppose if I had given him the total first, he would see how I am building up to it. The total is £48.22 million. So, so far the 40.9 per cent contributed £15.99 million. The 23.3 per cent concealed adjustment of £15.99 million amounted to £3.73 million and 59.1 per cent outstanding returns valued at £28.5 million on an extrapolation assumed [*inaudible*] purpose, producing income from self-employed for GDP purposes of £48.22 million.

		£m
40.9%	Tax returns received	15.99
23.3%	Concealed income adjustment	3.73
59.1%	Outstanding returns	28.50
Total	INCOME FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT	48.22

The total income from Self-Employment of £48.22 million is lower than that provided at the time of the Budget as it excludes the estimated assessments previously and erroneously included. The figure is, however, closer to the final estimate, which he will see from the information that I have just given him, of £51.93 million.

Answer to Question No. 434 of 2011

It is not possible to say how much of a self-employed tax payer's income declared in respect of the tax year 2008/2009, and this answer mentions lots of dates and repeats lots of dates. So, if he wants me to repeat any of it, please ask me to do it. It is not possible to say, let me just remind the hon Member of what he asked in Question No. 434 of 2011 so that we can make better sense of the answer. This was a question that asked. "Can Government state, of the earnings submitted by self-employed individuals for the tax year 2008/2009, how much related to income earned in the financial year 2008/2009 and how much of the 690 were included in the figure relating it." That was the question. Well, it is not possible to say how much of a self-employed tax payer's income declared in respect of the tax year 2008/2009, which ends on 30th June 2009 and relates to the earnings period 1st July 2007 to 30th June 2008, that is, on a preceding year basis. Self-employed people are taxed like companies in the past on a preceding year basis. So, tax returns in relation to a tax year are not earned in the same period, they are earned in a period before. It is not possible to say how much was received by that tax payer in the financial year ending 31st March 2009, that is, during April, May and June 2008, which are the only three months that coincide between the two periods. However, assuming and he, obviously, appreciates the reason for that. In a tax return you declare twelve months income and that we cannot identify how much was earned in a particular three

months, but it really is irrelevant for GDP calculations, because what they do is that they use the figures in the return and then they apportion it for GDP purposes. However, assuming that the hon Member is wanting to know how the Statistics Office has apportioned that income, for the purposes of the GDP calculation, for the financial year 2008/2009, which is what I had assumed was the purpose of the question, I am informed that the value of income from self-employment included in the 2008/2009 GDP estimate was £51.93 million, as I just indicated to him a few moments ago, arrived at using actual figures of income declared in their 2008/2009 tax year returns, which they earned in the tax year 2007/2008, as I have said, available up to 30 November 2010, which represented 952 people or 56.5 per cent of the total number of self-employed tax payers. The final figure was extrapolated from the 56.5 per cent figure up to 100 per cent on a straight line basis.

For the future, the Statistics Office will convert, as is currently the case with the corporate sector, tax year information provided to them by the Income Tax Office. This conversion from tax year to financial year will also be done by apportionment.

The hon Member will see that the final figure in the GDP for 2008/2009 is £51.93 million, compared to the figure of £59.77 million that I mentioned in my Budget address as being where it then stood. The reason for this, in other words, the reason why the figure has come in lower in the end, than was predicted at the time of the Budget speech in June, is that the new calculation method, that is to say, using actual returns upon which a significant part of the estimate was based, has actually produced a lower figure for self-employed earnings in both instances, compared to those produced in previous years under the old system.

All of the 690 individuals were included in the figure relating to the GDP calculation for 2008/2009.

Answer to Question Nos. 435 to 442 of 2011

I now hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information requested in Question Nos. 435 to 442 of 2011, but on the same assumption, namely that he mentions “financial year” and not “tax year” because he is interested in the GDP aspects. As the 2008/2009 GDP uses the 2008/2009 tax year returns for self-employed persons, the 2008/2009 tax year returns are given.

I have also read Hansard in relation to Question Nos. 1598 to 1607 of 2010 and, specifically, in relation to the answer to Question No. 1598 of 2010 and the reference to 200 self-employed persons being liable to submit a return as at 24th September 2010. Two hundred was the estimate of how many were then left to submit a return and not, as the hon Member speculated, or the total number of self-employed tax payers, which amounts to 1,685 (excluding Category 2s). In fact, the figure of 200, I am told, was also itself in error. It should have stated 600.

So, let us be clear, as at the time that I answered the question, six and not two hundred were still due, and for his information, which is what he was trying to work out from the figure, remember he was trying to apply the percentage to see how many there were in total, well, I will save him the calculation, it is 1,685, is the estimated number of expected returns from self-employed persons.

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 435 to 442 of 2011

2008/2009

As at month	Number of self-employed persons made returns	Total earnings declared £
September 2010	794	20,295,024
October 2010	881	22,827,027
November 2010	952	23,797,801
December 2010	990	24,303,192

2009/2010

As at month	Number of self-employed persons made returns	Total earnings declared £
September 2010	515	15,915,520
October 2010	622	17,834,718
November 2010	723	19,363,397
December 2010	773	20,334,206

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 432 TO 442 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In Question No. 434 of 2011, when the hon Member says it is not possible to give the figure for the financial year, given that the tax year is only three months away, I can understand that but ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Not three months away.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Three months, because one is three months later than the other one.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

No. There is an overlap of three months.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, if there is an overlap, that is to say, when people produce the amount of tax that they are liable for, it is up to June and the financial year ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Not self-employed people. The preceding year goes back even further, you see.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, how is it then that the figures that are being given apply to the estimate for the GDP of 2008/2009 when, in fact, they reflect the earnings of 2007/2008?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Because that is the way it has been done. This is the way ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

I know it is being done ... but how can that be?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The way it has always been done.

HON J J BOSSANO:

No, it has not always been done like that because this is a change ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

This is ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

If the hon Member allows me to develop a question, then perhaps he will be better placed to answer it, instead of anticipating. The position is that it has always been done by grossing up and that he announced in the Budget that this was being changed to a more accurate ... and all my questions last year and this year were, in fact, trying to get to understand the explanation he gave in the Budget of the new system. Now, if the new system is based on actual earnings, then the actual earnings of 2007/2008 should be reflected in the GDP of 2007/2008, even though there is three month to twelve month?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

They are not known.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Well, then ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

They will be from now on under the new Income Tax Act, but [*inaudible*] this time.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So then, in fact, the 2008/2009 figures are not based, as was said at Budget time, on the actual earnings of the year, but on the preceding year.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

They are based on the tax returns disclosed in the ... They reflect the earnings disclosed in the tax return submitted during the year 2008/2009, but those earnings are the earnings of the preceding year. So, assuming that earnings go up, there is an understatement of the earnings of self-employed people in the year for which they are being used, assuming that earnings go up, but, obviously, ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

The point is that all these questions are the result of the statement that was made that it was more accurate because it was what people actually declared that they had earned in that particular financial year and, in fact, that will only be true from now on, but was not true, and will not have been true, up to the GDP, presumably, of 2010/2011. It will only happen as ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I cannot remember whether I said in my Budget earned or in the accounts or in their declared ... I may have said earned. I just cannot remember. I do not know if he has it in front of him.

HON J J BOSSANO:

In fact, he said the same applied to company tax. So, I take it that the same is true of company tax, is it, because they also are on a preceding basis?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, yes, but I understand that in company tax the figures are taken from the accounts, which are by then had. Because of the lag in producing GDP calculations, by that stage the company accounts are in for that period and the figures are drawn from the accounts themselves.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, they do actually relate to the actual financial year?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. In the case of companies as they will in the case of individuals ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

After this year.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, from now on. I am just trying to see whether I can just confirm to him whether I misspoke or did not misspeak in the Budget on that question. No, I did say it correctly. "The new method draws on incomes declared in the tax returns of the self-employed." So, literally, what I said was correct although I, perhaps, ought to have added, albeit that that tax return declares income of a preceding year basis, but I did not say that it was actual income earned during the year for which the GDP estimates are being calculated.

ORAL

NO. 443 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

REFUNDS OF PERSONAL TAXATION

Can Government state the amount of personal taxation refunded in the financial year ended 31st March 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, the total amount of tax refunded in that year was £2.90 million.

NO. 444 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

COMPANIES – ASSESSMENTS/TAX PAYABLE

Can Government state, as at end of December 2010, how many companies in each tax year 2001/2002 to 2009/2010 had been assessed for company tax and what was the amount of tax payable and paid in respect of each tax year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 445 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 445 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – COLLECTED

Can Government state the amount of company tax collected in each month since the answer to Question No. 1617 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 and 446 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 446 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – COLLECTED IN RESPECT OF ARREARS

Can Government state what was the amount of tax payable by companies collected in the financial year 2009/2010 in respect of tax arrears as at 31st March 2010, showing how much of the arrears due from employers was for each of the following tax years 2008/2009, 2007/2008, 2006/2007 and 2005/2006?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444, 445 and 447 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 447 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of September 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 446 and 448 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 448 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of November 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 447 and 449 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 449 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2008/2009 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 448 and 450 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 450 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of September 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 449 and 451 to 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 451 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of October 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 450, 452 and 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 452 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of November 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 444 to 451 and 453 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 453 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many companies had made tax returns for the financial year 2009/2010 and what were the total earnings declared by these companies?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, all that information is set out in the schedules that I now give him. Some of them could have been read out because they are only a couple, three lines, but I assume the hon Member prefers to have the record.

Answer to Question Nos. 444 to 453 of 2011**Answer to Question No. 444 of 2011**

	2001/02 £M	2002/03 £M	2003/04 £M	2004/05 £M	2005/06 £M
Assessed	32.0	38.2	42.8	38.1	50.5
Discharged	17.5	21.9	20.2	17.2	25.5
	14.5	16.3	22.6	20.9	25.0
Paid	14.4	16.0	22.4	20.6	23.3
Outstanding	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.7
No. of Companies	1558	1554	1622	1636	1595
	2006/07 £M	2007/08 £M	2008/09 £M	2009/10 £M	
Assessed	55.8	52.2	46.3	40.5	
Discharged	30.5	24.4	15.4	13.1	
	25.3	27.8	30.9	27.4	
Paid	24.6	26.1	29.1	23.4	
Outstanding	0.7	1.7	1.8	4.0	
No. of Companies	1554	1466	1546	1572	

Contd ...

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 444 to 453 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 445 of 2011

The amount of Corporation Tax collected in each month since the answer to Question No. 1617 of 2010 is:

	£M
September 2010	0.26
October 2010	0.15
November 2010	0.39
December 2010	0.31

Answer to Question Nos. 446 of 2011

The amount of Corporation Tax collected in the financial year ended 31st March 2010 in respect of arrears relating to the tax years 2005/2006 to 2008/2009 was:

Tax Year	£M
2005/06	0.16
2006/07	0.33
2007/08	0.87
2008/09	1.57

Answer to Question No. 447 of 2011

A total of 1,207 companies had submitted accounts in respect of the financial year 2008/2009 by the end of September 2010. These are the numbers that are used for the 2008/2009 GDP calculation. The Gross Trading Profits calculated from these accounts were £70.90 million.

Answer to Question No. 448 of 2011

A total of 1,271 companies had submitted accounts for the financial year 2008/2009 by the end of November 2010. These are the numbers that are used for the 2008/2009 GDP calculation. The Gross Trading Profits calculated from these accounts were £91.19 million.

Answer to Question No. 449 of 2011

The information requested is not currently available.

Continued Answer to Question Nos. 444 to 453 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 450 of 2011

A total of 703 companies had submitted accounts for the financial year 2009/2010 by the end of September 2010. These are the numbers that are used for the 2009/2010 GDP calculation. The Gross Trading Profits calculated from these accounts were £20.09 million.

Answer to Question No. 451 of 2011

A total of 755 companies had submitted accounts for the financial year 2009/2010 by the end of October 2010. These are the numbers that are used for the 2009/2010 GDP calculation. The Gross Trading Profits calculated from these accounts were £46.62 million.

Answer to Question No. 452 of 2011

A total of 784 companies had submitted accounts for the financial year 2009/2010 by the end of November 2010. These are the numbers that are used for the 2009/2010 GDP calculation. The Gross Trading Profits calculated from these accounts were £44.67 million.

Answer to Question No. 453 of 2011

The information requested is not currently available.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 444 TO 453 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

In respect of the corporation tax which is the answer to Question No. 445 of 2011 which goes up to December, I am not very clear what exactly happens in January, in view of the change that ... As I understood it, up to December it is on a preceding year basis and then from January it is on a current year basis. So, in terms of comparing the January figures, when they become available, with previous years, what is the position?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Well, it will be quite difficult for him to do comparisons because there is a transition arrangement whereby you take six months from one period and six months from another. So, it will be difficult and ... It is just, ... for a few months the figures are not going to make sense. In respect of that part of the tax year which preceded January, in other words, preceded the Act.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The figures here.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The figures there, and that is done ... No, but companies will still have to pay that on the same basis as before. In other words, we have not changed the retrospective basis of tax, the basis of retrospection. So, the 1st January straddles a tax year.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Right.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

So, for that tax year, tax has to be paid on six months on the old basis and six months under the new basis and at the new rate and the old rate.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I see. So, in fact, what the hon Member is saying is that the collections in January will be a combination of the two systems then. Is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

I do not think there will be any collections in January under the new system. The first payments on account will be paid in August. I think there is a question to that effect later on.

NO. 454 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR 10 PER CENT TAX RATE

Can Government state, since the answer to Question No. 1638 of 2010, whether any further new companies have been set up which are liable to be set up at the 10 per cent tax rate up to the 31st December 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 455 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 455 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR 10 PER CENT TAX RATE

Can Government state, since the answer to Question No. 1638 of 2010, whether any additional companies have paid tax at the 10 per cent corporation tax rate since the 1st July 2009 and, if so, how many and what has been the total amount of tax paid?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes, a further 61 new companies, eligible for the 10 per cent, have been set up in that period. Furthermore, since 1st July 2009, an additional 56 have paid corporation tax at the rate of 10 per cent and the total amount of tax paid was £185,517.

ORAL

NO. 456 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE / CORPORATION TAX – RETAIL AND WHOLESALE INDUSTRY

Can Government state what was the amount of a) PAYE; and b) Company Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the retail and wholesale industry?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 457 to 459 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 457 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE / CORPORATION TAX – BANKING INDUSTRY

Can Government state what was the amount of a) PAYE; and b) Company Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the banking industry?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 456, 458 and 459 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 458 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE / CORPORATION TAX – CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Can Government state what was the amount of a) PAYE; and b) Company Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the construction industry?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 456, 458 and 459 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 459 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE / CORPORATION TAX – GAMING INDUSTRY

Can Government state what was the amount of a) PAYE; and b) Company Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the gaming industry?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing the information.

Answer to Question Nos. 456 to 459 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 456 of 2011

The amount of PAYE and Corporation Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the retail and wholesale industry was as follows:

	PAYE Tax	Corporation Tax
2009/2010	£7.60M	£3.79M

Answer to Question No. 457 of 2011

The amount of PAYE and Corporation Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the banking industry was as follows:

	PAYE Tax	Corporation Tax
2009/2010	£5.84M	£7.05M

Answer to Question No. 458 of 2011

The amount of PAYE and Corporation Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the construction industry was as follows:

	PAYE Tax	Corporation Tax
2009/2010	£8.48M	£0.84M

Answer to Question No. 459 of 2011

The amount of PAYE and Corporation Tax payable in the tax year 2009/2010 by employers in the gaming industry was as follows:

	PAYE Tax	Corporation Tax
2009/2010	£14.40M	£4.40M

ORAL

NO. 460 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – OBTAINED FROM 67.5 PER CENT RETURNS BY COMPANIES

Can Government state of the £164.39 million profits for the financial year 2008/2009 estimated at budget time, how much was obtained from the 67.5 per cent returns by companies for that financial year and what was the balance assumed and to be adjusted?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 461 of 2011.

NO. 461 OF 2011**THE HON J J BOSSANO****INCOME TAX RETURNS – COMPANIES**

Can Government now provide the number of tax returns by companies submitted by June 2010, which were described in the Budget as consisting of 67.5 per cent of the total company returns for the financial year 2008/2009?

ANSWER**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER****Answer to Question No. 460 of 2011**

The estimate of Gross Trading Profits of companies of £164.39 million in 2008/2009 that I gave was calculated as follows:

	<u>£M</u>
67.5% Actual returns	49.57
32.5% Outstanding estimate	23.86
Gambling sector (exempt companies)	90.00
Banking sector (exempt companies 2% profits)	0.96
Total	164.39

Answer to Question No. 461 of 2011

A total of 1,044 companies submitted trading accounts which included the financial year 2008/2009 by June 2010. This represents, as he now knows, 67.5 per cent of the total companies to be assessed for that year.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 460 TO 461 OF 2011**HON J J BOSSANO:**

The percentage refers to the financial year, does it, or to the tax year?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

The percentage in which of the questions?

HON J J BOSSANO:

In Question No. 461 of 2011, the 1,034 companies is 65 per cent of the total company returns for the financial year 2008/2009, or for the tax year 2008/2009?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is the tax year because the figures that are used are accounts submitted in respect of a period that includes and ends in the relevant GDP financial year. So, I suppose you could state it in either way. What happens is that in the financial year 2008/2009, which is what is relevant for GDP, we calculate GDP on a financial year basis not a tax year basis. What is used is the company accounts submitted in respect of the tax year 2008/2009. In other words, accounts submitted ending in that period. So, depending on how the answer is formulated, it is ...

HON J J BOSSANO:

The question is formulated in a particular way.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. The question asks for financial year. Company returns for the financial year 2008/2009. Companies have different financial years.

HON J J BOSSANO:

I accept that. This is all ... If the hon Member told us in the Budget that there is now a more accurate way of telling us how much was earned by companies in a financial year and that he has got the results of 67.5 per cent of the companies that earned money in that financial year, I am asking all the time about that financial year.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

The figures of the earnings in that financial year may appear in a different tax year from that financial year but they have been allocated to that financial year.

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes. They have been apportioned. In other words, the cash numbers is financial year information obtained by apportionment from tax returns submitted in respect of that tax year.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Right, except that in that tax year the hon Member is telling me it was not on a preceding year basis. So, in fact, the 1,034 companies that submitted tax returns in the year ending June ...

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Companies do not submit returns. Companies submit accounts and by then they have the accounts.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, in the accounts ..., the 1,034 are not all the companies that submitted accounts but the companies that submitted accounts, part of which could be apportioned to the financial year. Is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Which included figures in that year and which by apportionment could be applied to the whole year. Yes.

HON J J BOSSANO:

So, therefore, companies that submitted accounts in that tax year, but no part of their earnings fell in that financial year, are not included in this figure. Is that correct?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

It is very unlikely that in a tax year 2008/2009 a company would not submit a set of accounts which included any part of the financial year 2008/2009. It is not impossible but highly unlikely. They would have to be reporting very antiquated accounts. They would have to have ... I need some time to work it out but they would have to have a very peculiar year end that in the tax year 2008/2009 did not include any part of the financial year 2008/2009.

HON J J BOSSANO:

Okay.

ORAL

NO. 462 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

TAXATION OF COMPANIES WHO COMMENCED TRADING FROM 1ST JANUARY 2011

Can Government confirm whether companies that commenced trading from the 1st January 2011, other than previously exempt companies, will be required to pay corporation tax on account of their current profits and at what intervals are such payments required?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 463 and 464 of 2011.

NO. 463 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

TAXATION OF FORMER TAX EXEMPT COMPANIES AFTER 1ST JANUARY 2011

Can Government explain whether previously exempt tax exempt companies that became liable on the 1st January 2011 to pay tax, but will not be required to make any payments until August 2011, will then have to pay on a current year basis in respect of all the profits earned since the 1st January?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 462 and 464 of 2011.

NO. 464 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

TAXATION OF EXISTING COMPANIES AFTER 1ST JANUARY 2011

Can Government confirm that companies that were subject to normal corporation tax prior to the 1st January 2011, will be expected to commence paying tax on their current profits and make payments on account on a current year basis as from the 1st January?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answer to Question Nos. 462 to 464 of 2011

I can confirm that all companies, including those that have either commenced trading from 1st January 2011 or have commenced to be liable to tax from 1st January 2011, having previously being exempt, will be required to make two equal annual payments on account towards future liabilities. The payments on account are to be made on the 31st August and the 28th February respectively. Given that the 28th February 2011 is the due date for the last assessments issued under the Income Tax Act 1952, the first payment on account under the Income Tax Act 2010 will commence on 31st August 2011. The hon Member will remember from previous figures of the receipt of company tax that one of the due dates is February. So, in February, next month, they will be bunched and in order to avoid companies having to make payments, once in respect of that period and once in respect of the on accounts period, under the new Act the on account payments do not start until August. Otherwise, they would have to pay their instalment in February and in February also a payment on account of the current tax year. That is what I explained to you in answer to a previous question. This is what I meant when I alluded to the fact that the on account instalments were not until August.

Those companies that have commenced trading from 1st January 2011 will be required to use their estimated current year profits as the basis for establishing what level of payments on account should be made for the first accounting period due to be taxed under the new regime. The payments on account for subsequent accounting periods are to be equivalent to 50 per cent of the previous accounting period's tax payable. In other words, as they have just started trading, at what basis do you make your first on account payment? Well, it has got to be on an estimate of the first year's trading profit.

Companies which, were previously exempt from tax and have commenced to be liable to tax from 1st January 2011 will be required to make two payments each equivalent to what would have been 50 per cent of the tax payable for the last accounting period. In other words, even though they were not taxable, it is still used

as the basis period, the trading performance, as the basis period for calculating the quantum of on account payments for this year.

Once audited accounts are submitted six months after the accounting period-end, the company's final tax liability can be determined.

Companies that were subject to normal corporation tax prior to the 1st January 2011, in other words, the non exempt pre-existing onshore companies, will also be required to base their payments on account on 50 per cent of the tax payable for their last accounting period.

I can also confirm that as from 1st January 2011 all companies will be assessed on a current year basis.

ORAL

NO. 465 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – ASSESSMENTS ON DECLARED TAXABLE PROFITS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many companies had declared taxable profits:

- (a) above £35,000; and
- (b) below £35,000,

for each of the tax years 2001/2002 to 2009/2010 and what was the tax assessed and paid in each case for each category and each year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 466 of 2011.

NO. 466 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

CORPORATION TAX – ASSESSMENTS WITHOUT A RETURN OF TAXABLE PROFITS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many companies had been assessed by the Commissioner of Income Tax without having made a return of taxable profits:

- (a) above £35,000; and
- (b) below £35,000,

for each of the tax years 2002/2003 to 2009/2010 and what was the tax assessed and paid in each case for each category and each year?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a schedule containing all the information that he has requested.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 466**Answer to Question 465****COMPANIES ASSESSED HAVING MADE A RETURN OF TAXABLE PROFITS**

Year of Assessment	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Under £35,000					
No of companies assessed	456	466	509	495	572
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	1.1M	1.1M	1.2M	1.3M	1.3M
Total paid	1.1M	1.1M	1.2M	1.3M	1.3M
Over £35,000					
No of companies assessed	157	166	174	178	168
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	13.6M	15.7M	22.4M	21.5M	22.3M
Total paid	13.5M	15.7M	22.3M	21.5M	22.2M
Year of Assessment	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
Under £35,000					
No of companies assessed	543	513	495	364	
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	1.2M	1.2M	1.0M	0.8M	
Total paid	1.2M	1.1M	1.0M	0.6M	
Over £35,000					
No of companies assessed	172	201	207	192	
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	22.8M	24.9M	27.1M	15.8M	
Total paid	22.6M	23.8M	25.9M	13.4M	

Contd...

CONTD ANSWER TO QUESTION 466

Answer to Question 466

COMPANIES ASSESSED WITHOUT HAVING MADE A RETURN OF TAXABLE PROFITS

Year of Assessment	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Under £35,000					
No of companies assessed	132	120	130	148	169
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	0.3M	0.3M	0.3M	0.4M	0.4M
Total paid	0.2M	0.2M	0.2M	0.2M	0.2M
Over £35,000					
No of companies assessed	4	15	12	10	19
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	0.1M	0.4M	0.3M	0.4M	0.5M
Total paid	0.1M	0.2M	0.3M	0.3M	0.3M
Year of Assessment	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
Under £35,000					
No of companies assessed	223	313	460	742	
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	0.5M	0.6M	0.8M	1.1M	
Total paid	0.2M	0.2M	0.3M	0.4M	
Over £35,000					
No of companies assessed	35	42	72	110	
Total assessed (i.e. Total tax payable)	0.8M	1.3M	2.0M	9.6M	
Total paid	0.4M	0.8M	1.5M	8.7M	

NO. 467 OF 2011**THE HON J J BOSSANO****SOCIAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS – RETURNS BY EMPLOYERS**

Can Government provide for each tax year, since the collection of social insurance contributions was taken over by the Income Tax Department, the number of employers making social insurance returns and the number of employees covered by such employers?

ANSWER**THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER**

The number of employers making social insurance returns and the number of employees covered by such employers is as follows:

Tax Year	Employers	Number of Employees
2007/2008	2,020	25,185
2008/2009	1,990	25,740
2009/2010	2,016	25,290

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NO. 467 OF 2011**HON J J BOSSANO:**

I assume, since these figures are, in fact, higher than is shown by the people registered with the ETB, that what this means is that there are people who have been here for a part of a year and left and that is why the figure is higher?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Why he thinks it is 25,000 as opposed to the 20 odd that we ... No, I think the reason is that the number of employees includes ... The number of employees, I think, includes Community Officers which is why they are consistently over the figure by roughly the same amount every year. So, the figure that he recognises are people in active employment ... *[inaudible]*.

ORAL

NO. 468 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – AMOUNTS COLLECTED

Can Government state how much was collected in PAYE each month since the answer to Question No. 1614 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 469 to 474 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 469 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

INCOME TAX (OTHER THAN PAYE) – COLLECTED / ARREARS

Can Government state what was the amount of tax, other than PAYE, collected in the financial year 2009/2010 from individuals and the tax arrears as at 31st March 2010, showing how much of the arrears due from employers was for each of the following tax years 2008/2009, 2007/2008, 2006/2007 and 2005/2006?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 468 and 470 to 474 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 470 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – COLLECTED / ARREARS

Can Government state what was the amount of PAYE collected in the financial year 2009/2010 in respect of tax arrears as at 31st March 2010, showing how much of the arrears due from employers was for each of the following tax years 2008/2009, 2007/2008, 2006/2007 and 2005/2006?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 468, 469 and 471 to 474 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 471 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – ANNUAL RETURN OF DEDUCTIONS / TAX PAYABLE

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many employers had submitted an annual return of PAYE deductions for employees for the tax year 2008/2009 and what was the total amount of tax payable and paid in respect of these submissions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 468 to 470 and 472 to 474 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 472 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – OUTSTANDING ANNUAL RETURN OF DEDUCTIONS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many employers had failed to submit an annual return of PAYE deduction for employees for the tax year 2008/2009?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 468 to 471, 473 and 474 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 473 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – OUTSTANDING ANNUAL RETURN OF DEDUCTIONS

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many employers had failed to submit an annual return of PAYE deduction for employees for the tax year 2009/2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 468 to 472 and 474 of 2011.

NO. 474 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PAYE – ANNUAL RETURN OF DEDUCTIONS / TAX PAYABLE

Can Government state, as at the end of December 2010, how many employers had submitted an annual return of PAYE deductions for employees for the tax year 2009/2010 and what was the total amount of tax payable and paid in respect of these submissions?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Yes. I think I am going to answer his questions but, in the case of Question No. 469 of 2011, the Income Tax Office could not understand the reference to the word employers since the question relates to tax due from individuals, in which case they could not understand the concept of the employers where there would not be one. So, subject to that caveat and assuming that we have correctly just ignored the reference to employers, I hope that what I provide is the information that he is seeking.

Answer to Question No. 468 of 2011

The PAYE tax collected (net of refunds) in each month since the answer to Question No. 1614 of 2010 is:

	£M
September 2010	8.08
October 2010	7.76
November 2010	8.87
December 2010	7.92

Answer to Question No. 469 of 2011

The amount of tax collected, other than PAYE, in the financial year 2009/2010, from individuals is £13.76 million. I think I should just make it clear to this because this is something that threw me too when I was trying to interpret the answer. In respect of PAYE means, deducted by the employer and forwarded by the employer. If a PAYE paying person, when he submits a return, has to pay additional tax that is not PAYE. It is included in the, other than PAYE. So the figure of £13.76 million includes additional tax that has been paid by people who paid tax under the PAYE system as well.

The total level of tax arrears, other than PAYE, as at 31st March 2010 was £20.30 million. The following table indicates the level of arrears pertaining to each of the specific tax years requested as at this same date.

Tax Year	£M
2005/2006	1.37
2006/2007	1.69
2007/2008	1.31
2008/2009	2.04
	<hr/>
	6.41
	<hr/>

He will ask himself, as I did, how you explain the difference between £6.41 million for those recent years and the £20.3 million that we said was the arrears. The answer is that, obviously, there could be some in the £20.3 million, that predates 2005/2006, but mainly, in fact, that is not the answer. The answer is that, curiously, and I did not know this myself until this morning, even though most of it actually relates to 2009/2010, for which he has not asked, even though due and payable in February 2011, according to the Principal Auditor's ruling, it is an arrears, even though it is not yet, as you and I would understand it, due and payable, because actually under the law a tax is payable immediately that is assessed. These dates, what you and I call instalments, are dates on which penalties become due, not dates upon which the tax is due. So the Principal Auditor requires the Commissioner of Income Tax to treat monies as arrears, even though as most laymen would understand it, it is not yet due and payable, because it is not a due and payable date, it is a penalty incursion date. The due and payable date is the date that the assessment is issued and, therefore, technically, he insists on them being treated as arrears since then. So the due date is not the date upon which the tax is due, it is the date upon which penalties become due if you have not paid by then.

Answer to Question No. 470 of 2011

The amount of PAYE tax collected in the financial year ended 31st March 2010 in respect of arrears relating to the tax years 2005/2006 to 2008/2009 was:

Tax Year	£M
2005/2006	0.23
2006/2007	0.51
2007/2008	1.41
2008/2009	7.08

Answer to Question No. 471 of 2011

As at 7th January 2011, 1,990 employers had submitted their 2008/2009 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates and the total amount of tax payable and paid in respect of these submissions was £98.9 million and £96.3 million respectively.

Answer to Question No. 472 of 2011

As at 7th January 2011, 155 employers had not yet returned their 2008/2009 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates.

Answer to Question No. 473 of 2011

As at 7th January 2011, 158 employers had not yet returned their 2009/2010 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates.

Answer to Question No. 474 of 2011

As at 7th January 2011, 2,016 employers had submitted their 2009/2010 Employers' Declaration and PAYE Certificates and the total amount of tax payable and paid in respect of these submissions was £100.3 million and £99.3 million respectively.

ORAL

NO. 475 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR SAVINGS BANK – INVESTMENTS

Can Government provide a breakdown of the investments held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30th September 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question No. 476 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 476 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GIBRALTAR SAVINGS BANK – DEPOSITS

Can Government say what was the level of (a) non-Government deposits; and (b) Government deposits, in the Savings Bank Fund as at the end of each month since the answer to Question No. 1575 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

I hand the hon Member a statement giving the information that he requests.

Answer to Question 476 of 2011

Answer to Question 475

The following investments were held by the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 September 2010:

SAVINGS BANK FUND
STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2010
SHOWING MARKET VALUE ON THAT DATE

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK	NOMINAL VALUE	MARKET PRICE ACCRUED INTEREST %	MARKET VALUE ACCRUED INTEREST	TOTAL MARKET VALUE ON 30 9 10
BANK OF AMERICA FRN 02/02/2011	£6,000,000.00	99.835 0.135	£5,990,090.70 £8,099.91	£5,998,190.61
HSBC FRN 11/04/2011	£5,000,000.00	99.814 0.172	£4,990,683.90 £8,577.10	£4,999,261.00
CREDIT SUISSE FRN 14/06/2011	£10,000,000.00	99.704 0.033	£9,970,401.40 £3,308.23	£9,973,709.63
CLYDES FRN 29/06/11	£7,000,000.00	99.618 0.002	£6,973,253.56 £159.54	£6,973,413.10
BANK OF SCOTLAND HBOS FLOAT 07/1	£2,000,000.00	99.313 0.049	£1,986,269.48 £979.66	£1,987,249.14
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA FRN 14/12/11	£5,000,000.00	99.524 0.034	£4,976,206.05 £1,719.87	£4,977,925.92
BNS FRN 21/12/11	£1,600,000.00	99.445 0.020	£1,591,122.96 £318.33	£1,591,441.29
CITIGROUP FRN 16/01/2012	£4,000,000.00	98.716 0.172	£3,948,655.80 £6,869.90	£3,955,525.70
KBC FRN 18/01/12	£5,000,000.00	99.451 0.162	£4,972,525.75 £8,110.90	£4,980,636.65
WELLS FARGO CO FRN 25/01/12	£4,000,000.00	99.362 0.150	£3,974,487.60 £6,012.33	£3,980,499.93
LLOYDS TSB FRN 26/01/12	£45,900,000.00	100.377 0.203	£46,073,158.67 £93,060.68	£46,166,219.35
Carried Forward	£95,500,000.00		£95,584,072.32	£95,584,072.32

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 476 of 2011

Contd Answer to Question 475

SAVINGS BANK FUND
STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2010
SHOWING MARKET VALUE ON THAT DATE

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK	NOMINAL VALUE	MARKET PRICE ACCRUED INTEREST %	MARKET VALUE ACCRUED INTEREST	TOTAL MARKET VALUE ON 30 9 10
Brought Forward	£95,500,000.00		£95,584,072.32	£95,584,072.32
GE CAPITAL UK FRN 30/01/12	£6,400,000.00	99.138 0.144	£6,344,831.62 £9,187.93	£6,354,019.55
BARCLAYS FRN 13/02/12	£20,000,000.00	100.517 0.149	£20,103,333.40 £29,763.42	£20,133,096.82
ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC FRN 2	£24,000,000.00	100.610 0.127	£24,146,368.08 £30,520.02	£24,176,888.10
TESCO PERSONAL FINANCE FRN 27/2/1	£6,000,000.00	100.637 0.114	£6,038,231.40 £6,852.67	£6,045,084.07
DEUTSCHE BANK FRN 26/04/12	£5,000,000.00	99.391 0.142	£4,969,544.15 £7,122.67	£4,976,666.82
JP MORGAN CHASE FRN 27/06/12	£6,000,000.00	98.924 0.007	£5,935,432.08 £410.18	£5,935,842.26
BANK OF SCOTLAND GBP INTEREST BEARING CURRENT A/C	£7,012,752.35	100.000	£7,012,752.35	£7,012,752.35
CROWN AGENTS BANK	£353.10	100.000	£353.10	£353.10
NATWEST WESTMINSTER OFFSHORE	£19,631,849.16	100.000	£19,631,849.16	£19,631,849.16
BARCLAYS BANK PLC	£80,707,657.46	100.000	£80,707,657.46	£80,707,657.46
BANK OF ENGLAND	£49,755,074.55	100.000	£49,755,074.55	£49,755,074.55
	£320,007,686.62		£320,313,356.56	£320,313,356.56

contd...

Contd Answer to Question 476 of 2011

Answer to Question 476

The level of Savings Bank Deposits stood as follows:

	Non-Govt Deposits (tentative) £'M	Govt Deposits (tentative) £'M
September 2010	75.95	243.10
October 2010	75.92	238.99
November 2010	75.17	235.50
December 2010	74.72	264.59

ORAL

NO. 477 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

PUBLIC DEBT – GIBRALTAR COMMUNITY CARE LIMITED

Has there been any change in the level of public debt held by Gibraltar Community Care Limited, since the answer to Question No. 1158 of 2009?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Community Care no longer holds Government of Gibraltar debentures.

ORAL

NO. 478 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES / BONDS

Can Government state what sales of Government bonds or debentures to the public have taken place each month, since the answer to Question No. 1580 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 479 to 481 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 479 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

BANK OF ENGLAND – DEPOSITS

Can Government state the amount on deposit with the Bank of England as at the end of each month, since August 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 478, 480 and 481 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 480 OF 2011

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 loans from local banks in each month, since the answer to Question No. 1581 of 2010?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

Answered together with Question Nos. 478, 479 and 481 of 2011.

ORAL

NO. 481 OF 2011

THE HON J J BOSSANO

LEVEL OF AGGREGATE AND NET PUBLIC DEBT

Can Government state as at the end of each month since the answer to Question No. 1578 of 2010, what was the level of a) aggregate public debt; and b) net public debt?

ANSWER

THE HON THE CHIEF MINISTER

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

Answer to Question Nos. 478 to 481 of 2011

Answer to Question No. 478 of 2011

Government has issued the following Debentures to the public since September 2010:

	Total Issues (Sales)
September 2010	£4,367,200
October 2010	£4,120,400
November 2010	£4,063,400
December 2010	£3,438,300
	£15,989,300

Answer to Question No. 479 of 2011

The amount held on deposit with the Bank of England at the end of the month since August 2010 is as follows:-

Date	GSB	NSF	Total
August 2010	£59,741,644	£22,109,310	£81,850,954
September 2010	£49,755,075	£22,114,292	£71,869,367
October 2010	£49,765,868	£22,119,140	£71,885,008
November 2010	£49,778,026	£22,125,656	£71,903,682
December 2010	£49,789,648	£22,130,864	£71,920,512

Answer to Question No. 480 of 2011

The amount of outstanding Government debt in respect of the revolving loans from local banks since September 2010 is as follows:-

Date	Barclays	Natwest	Total
September 2010	£150,000,000	£50,000,000	£200,000,000
October 2010	£150,000,000	£50,000,000	£200,000,000
November 2010	£150,000,000	£50,000,000	£200,000,000
December 2010	£150,000,000	£50,000,000	£200,000,000

Answer to Question No. 481 of 2011

The amount of a) aggregate public debt and b) net public debt at the end of each month since September 2010 is as follows:-

Date	Aggregate Public Debt £'M	Tentative Cash Reserves £'M	Tentative Net Public Debt £'M
September 2010	458.0	260.7	197.3
October 2010	462.1	260.2	201.9
November 2010	466.2	254.5	211.7

SUPPLEMENTARY TO QUESTION NOS. 478 TO 481 OF 2011

HON J J BOSSANO:

Can the hon Member clarify that the column headed NSF, in answer to Question No. 479 of 2011, is the Note Security Fund?

HON CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes.