

19 December, 2023

INTERIM NOTICE OF QUESTIONS

Notice has been received from Hon Members of the following oral and written questions to be asked at the Meeting of the Gibraltar Parliament to be held on Tuesday 19th December 2023.



John B Reyes
Clerk to the Parliament

QUESTION No: 687/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Will plans for a new fire station ensure the provision of facilities for female firefighters?

QUESTION No: 688/2023

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

Does Government have any plans to provide Cafeteria facilities at Lathbury Barracks Sports Complex?

QUESTION No: 689/2023

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

Can Government provide details of their plans, and expected completion dates, in respect of an upgrade to the present Hockey Pitch and related facilities at Bayside Sports Centre?



QUESTION No: 690/2023

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

Can Government provide information of why it was necessary, from October 2023 to date, to cancel allocations at the GSLA's Accessible Swimming Pool; with details of all dates when these cancellations were necessary, together with a breakdown of costs incurred?

QUESTION No: 691/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

When will the refurbishment of Block 20 of Elliot's Battery be completed?

QUESTION No: 692/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Can the Government clarify whether there is a current waiting time for individuals intending to commence the program at Bruce's Farm and if there is a waiting period, could the Government furnish details regarding the duration of this waiting time?

QUESTION No: 693/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Does Supported Employment Company Ltd adhere to the Supported Employment Model practiced in the UK?

QUESTION No: 694/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Are there locally facilitated inclusive apprenticeships and supported internships, and if so, could the Government provide the figures for the number of individuals currently participating and date of commencement of their said apprenticeship/internship?

QUESTION No: 695/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What specifically is the Minister for Tourism doing to secure tourism and business opportunities with Morocco?



QUESTION No: 696/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government confirm whether it has received any proposals yet from private entities for the provision of links by air and sea to Morocco?

QUESTION No: 697/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government explain how it proposes to entice air and sea links to Morocco. How will the Government ensure that the continuous running of such a service is maintained, given these have been available before in the past, albeit unsuccessfully?

QUESTION No: 698/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

By when does the Government think it will have drafted a bill with the legislation amendments necessary to allow parental leave to be shared equally between parents of a newborn?

QUESTION No: 699/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government explain its plans on how it proposes to introduce disability champions throughout the public sector, for the purpose of ensuring adherence to the responsibilities contained in the Disability Act? Will such responsibilities be further remunerated? If remunerated, what would be the expected cost to Government for the introduction of disability champions to the public sector?

QUESTION No: 700/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government provide details as to the number of flights that experienced service interruptions, together with a breakdown of the causes to those interruptions?

QUESTION No: 701/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government confirm whether the UK-GIB Tourism Association has set its next meeting date yet?



QUESTION No: 702/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How many different individuals have been assisted under the Supported Employment Scheme from 1 Jan 2012 to 1 Jan 2023?

QUESTION No: 703/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What plans do the Government have for further improvements to the Mediterranean Steps and the fortifications at the top of the Rock? Can the Government confirm what would be the expected costs of such improvements?

QUESTION No: 704/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government provide more details of its plans to create a 'new natural habitat at Europa Point and the East Side'? Where are these natural habitats going to be created, who will be contracted to develop them and at what cost?

QUESTION No: 705/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government state what is Gibraltar's share of renewable energy, as of December 2023?

QUESTION No: 706/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

How is the Government proposing to encourage energy efficient renovation in the private sector, which accords with the Government's health and sustainable city goals?



QUESTION No: 707/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Please provide the following details relating to the recent visit to COP 28:

- (i) Who comprised the Government's delegation;
- (ii) The total cost of the trip broken down into air travel costs, lodgings and entertainment;
- (iii) Who the Minister or any member of the delegation met at each event; and
- (iv) The duration of the trip?

QUESTION No: 708/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

How will the Government respond or envisage implementing the recommendations emerging from COP28 and what impact will this have on its own 25-year Environmental Plan?

QUESTION No: 709/2023

Can Government provide a breakdown of the delivery costs in respect of:

- a) Vocational BTEC Music Performance, and
- b) Vocational BTEC Performing At (Acting);

since September 2023, showing to whom these payments were made?

QUESTION No: 710/2023

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

Can Government provide the missing information to Question 558 of 2023 showing payments made for Registration Fees and Equipment since September 2023 related to all BETEC Courses, showing to whom these payments were made?

QUESTION No: 711/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Government clarify how many Speech and Language Therapy assistants have;

- (a) been recruited to date;
- (b) have they commenced their roles?
- (c) under what entity have they been recruited?



QUESTION No: 712/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

When does the government anticipate renewing the fleet of vehicles for the Care Agency?

QUESTION No: 713/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Can the government confirm if there is a new Finance Director at the Care Agency?

QUESTION No: 714/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Since the Friday the 13th of October 2023, to date, how many senior-grade management staff members have been transferred to the Care Agency and Elderly Residential Services, and what roles have they assumed?

QUESTION No: 715/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

How many Social Workers with a specialization in Mental Health, assigned to the mental health team, are currently employed at the Care Agency?

QUESTION No: 716/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Is there a plan to establish a local independent body, like a Care Quality Commission, to regulate and moderate care standards?

QUESTION No: 717/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Regarding court proceedings for fostering and adoption cases involving the Care Agency, could the government clarify the process for selecting Legal Counsel to represent the Care Agency in these proceedings?



QUESTION No: 718/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

How many individuals employed by HMGOG and/or Government-owned companies, holding positions in the Care Agency and/or Elderly Residential Services, have received payments or payouts related to raised grievances or underlying facts of any interdictions in the past six years and what are the total costs incurred for each of these cases to date?

QUESTION No: 719/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

In relation to interdictions within the Care Agency could the government provide a breakdown of;

- (a) The number of individuals within the Care Agency that are currently interdicted;
- (b) The commencement month and year of each interdiction;
- (c) The costs incurred so far in relation to each of these interdictions

QUESTION No: 720/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Who is the current provider of adult incontinence products to the GHA?

QUESTION No: 721/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister provide a breakdown as to the GHA's expenditure on adult incontinence products for the following years?

2013/2014
2014/2015
2015/2016
2016/2017
2017/2018
2018/2019
2019/2021
2021/2022
2022/2023 (to date)



QUESTION No: 722/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Does St. Bernard's Hospital have enough beds on offer within its wards to accommodate the community's current needs?

QUESTION No: 723/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister provide a departmental breakdown of the number of individuals employed on short term and zero-hour contracts by the GHA?

QUESTION No: 724/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister provide a departmental breakdown as to the number of individuals employed by the GHA who are Agency workers?

QUESTION No: 725/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Does the GHA currently employ a psychologist specialised in the treatment of children and adolescents?

QUESTION No: 726/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What is the current contingent of psychologists within the GHA?

QUESTION No: 727/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister confirm what system is in place to provide emergency assistance to an individual within the community suffering from a mental health crisis?

QUESTION No: 728/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What plans are in place as to the creation of a mental health A & E and where would that be situated?



QUESTION No: 729/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What is the local education pathway, if any, to train new paramedics, and how long does it take for a new paramedic to qualify?

QUESTION No: 730/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What professional development opportunities are available to paramedics both locally and abroad?

QUESTION No: 731/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Are there currently enough paramedics to man the GHA's ambulance fleet and keep up with demand for the service?

QUESTION No: 732/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Are the GHA's emergency ambulances used to transport patients home when they have been discharged from hospital?

QUESTION No: 733/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Is there currently a Diabetes Clinic, manned by a specialist Diabetes Nurse, currently ongoing within the GHA?

QUESTION No: 734/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What is the cost to the GHA of carrying out knee surgeries on a weekday in comparison to carrying out the same surgery on a weekend?



QUESTION No: 735/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Have/will clinical staff be consulted in respect of what the public donations to the covid fund would be best spent on?

QUESTION No: 736/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Now that plans for a new entrance to St Bernard's Hospital have been scrapped, can the Honourable Minister confirm what the public donations to the covid fund will be spent on?

QUESTION No: 737/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister specify what steps have been/are being taken to identify and deal with the source of infection in respect of recently reported cases of Legionnaire's disease within Gibraltar?

QUESTION No: 738/2023

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Madam Speaker, can the government categorically confirm that this mini outbreak of Legionnaires disease did not originate from any AquaGib owned reservoirs or pipes?

QUESTION No: 739/2023

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

In November's Parliamentary session, the government confirmed that there were 30 unfilled vacancies within the GEA, of which 12 were actively being recruited for. Is the government intending on filling the remaining 18 vacancies and, if so, when?

QUESTION No: 740/2023

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Would the government please confirm the name of the 12 companies that the GEA engaged with in the last financial year?



QUESTION No: 741/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How many people have taken up the offer of this year's flu vaccine to 12 December 2023?

QUESTION No: 742/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How many children have been referred for in-patient and out-patient mental health treatment within GHA in this calendar year to 12 December 2023 providing a breakdown between in-patient and out-patient figures?

QUESTION No: 743/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What is the GHA policy on entitlement for prescription glasses for pensioners?

QUESTION No: 744/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Are pensioners entitled under GHA criteria to prescription glasses for free should they need it whenever their prescription changes?

QUESTION No: 745/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Government state whether there are any apprenticeship/courses currently available for those in custody at HM Prison Services, and if so, could they provide details of the courses available and the current number of individuals participating in said programmes?

QUESTION No: 746/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government state how many electric scooter riders have been prosecuted for contravening traffic laws?



QUESTION No: 747/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How many Inspectors does the RGP currently have within its complement, considering any Inspectors who are not currently on active duty?

QUESTION No: 748/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister confirm the current number of Royal Gibraltar Police officers who are currently interdicted and their ranks?

QUESTION No: 749/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Given that the terror threat level has been raised by various European countries in recent weeks, because of the escalation in the situation in the Middle East, can the Government confirm that they will further resource the RGP to cope with any extra demands on workload resulting from an increased threat level?

QUESTION No: 750/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government please provide the total Gross Debt, Aggregate Debt after application of the sinking fund to Gross Debt, Cash Reserves and Net Debt figures for Public Debt for the following date?

1 November 2023

QUESTION No: 751/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise the balance on the General Sinking fund on the following date?

1 November 2023



QUESTION No: 752/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise whether the Gibraltar Savings Bank or any other Government owned or controlled entity will be purchasing any bonds issued by TNG Realty (Eastside) Limited?

QUESTION No: 753/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise what element of the £60 million borrowed from the Gibraltar Savings Bank by GSBA Limited at 30 September 2023 is being used to fund the Government's National Economic Plan?

QUESTION No: 754/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise if the £12,185,428.79 reported as Cash in Hand at the Gibraltar Savings Bank at 30 September 2023 are Bank of England issued Sterling notes and coins?

QUESTION No: 755/2023

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

What is the Government's policy on the amendment or repeal of s69 of the Landlord & Tenant Act?

QUESTION No: 756/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Can Government update the House on the consideration of expressions of interest in relation to the roof-top level of Midtown car park?

QUESTION No: 757/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Government furnish a breakdown of the number of consultants engaged by the Care Agency and Ministry of Equality since the 1st of April 2017 to date, inclusive of the purpose of these services and the total cost for each consultant engagement?



QUESTION No: 758/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Regarding disability benefit applications from 2018 to date, how many have been accepted, remain pending, and have been rejected?

QUESTION No: 759/2023

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Does the Government have plans to introduce a carers allowance?

QUESTION No: 760/2023

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government confirm whether the MOD has provided an update on the progress made in resolving the staffing issues that have affected the running of the airport?

QUESTION No: 761/2023

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister confirm what mental health support is offered by Government to personnel within the following departments:

- The Gibraltar Ambulance Service
- The Royal Gibraltar Police
- The Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Service
- The Gibraltar Prison Service
- His Majesty's Customs Gibraltar
- The Gibraltar Borders and Coast Guard Agency
- The Gibraltar Courts Service

QUESTION No: 762/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise if it has abandoned the principle of index linking of Government Occupational pensions as set out under section 6 of the Pensions Increase Act 1973?



QUESTION No: 763/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise whether it has any intention to regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence in Gibraltar?

QUESTION No: 764/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise when it intends to amend the Public Services Ombudsman Act 1998 to allow for own motion investigations?

QUESTION No: 765/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise who paid for the travel and accommodation of the Ministers who attended the 2023 Bank of the Year Awards in London?

QUESTION No: 766/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise why Gibraltar Properties Limited has borrowed £80 million from the Gibraltar Savings Bank as at 30 September 2023

QUESTION No: 767/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise if Gibraltar Properties Limited has provided any funding to Eruca Investments Limited under the liquidity agreement as at 30 September 2023 and if so to what amount?

QUESTION No: 768/2023

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise if Gibraltar Properties Limited is providing any financing towards any of the Government's affordable housing schemes?



QUESTION No: 769/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What is the new basic entry point and end point on the pay scale agreed with bus driver employees of the Gibraltar Bus Company?

QUESTION No: 770/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What is the percentage increase and the new basic hourly rate of pay agreed with employees of the Gibraltar Bus Company?

QUESTION No: 771/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Has the Government now signed agreements with the developers of Victoria Keys and if so what are its main terms?

QUESTION No: 772/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Is the Government, as part of a Treaty on a new relationship for Gibraltar with the EU, prepared to agree terms on issues not mentioned in the New Year's Eve Agreement and if so what such issues are being discussed within the negotiations apart from the use of the Gibraltar Airport?

QUESTION No: 773/2023

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Will the Chief Minister update the House on the latest rounds of talks towards a possible Treaty for a new relationship for Gibraltar with the European Union?