



PROCEEDINGS OF THE GIBRALTAR PARLIAMENT

AFTERNOON SESSION: 2.30 p.m. – 6.10 p.m.

Gibraltar, Thursday, 23rd May 2013

The Gibraltar Parliament

The Parliament met at 2.30 p.m.

[MR SPEAKER: Hon. A J Canepa GMH, OBE, *in the Chair*]

[CLERK TO THE PARLIAMENT: M L Farrell Esq RD *in attendance*]

Questions for Oral Answer

Clerk: Mr Speaker. Sitting of Parliament, Thursday 23rd May, answers to Questions continue.

Commonwealth Park Cost of consultants, alternative parking and soil contamination

5 **Clerk:** Question 246/2013, the Hon. J J Netto.

10 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment confirm the total amount of money paid to consultants since 9th December 2011 in relation to the Commonwealth Park, indicating the dates of individual payments and their corresponding amounts and say whether the Minister thinks that further work by the consultant is required. Further, can the Minister provide this Parliament with an executive summary of the salient points contained within any and all reports prepared by the said consultants?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

15 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this Question together with Question Nos. 247 and 248/2013.

Clerk: Question 247.

20 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment provide Parliament with a timeline for the completion of the Commonwealth Park, highlighting the specific timeframes within which the main construction elements of the project will be undertaken, as well as the number of alternative parking spaces that will be provided as a result of the loss of parking spaces at Commonwealth Parade and the site or sites for alternative parking?

25 **Clerk:** Question 248.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment please say if the soil at the Commonwealth Park is contaminated?

30 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, as I have stated before, the works at Commonwealth Park are programmed for completion in Spring 2014. The construction of the main elements are subject to change as works progress, other than for the planting of trees which must take place in Autumn.

35 The parking spaces from Commonwealth Parade have been re-provided at the new Queensway Car Park, adjacent to the King's Wharf development. These total 365 in number and represent an increase of 23 when compared to those at Commonwealth Parade.

The soil at the site is not contaminated.

40 The information requested by the hon. Member in relation to payments made to consultants since 9th December 2013 is contained within the table which I now hand over. The consultants engaged shall be involved until the completion of the project.

Mr Speaker, let me just add that I cannot provide a summary of reports as we have had no reports: the consultants have been mainly involved in design and we have plans, but not reports as such.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 248

Answer to Question 246

Commonwealth Park Consultants

Entity	Payment	Date	Comments
Gib Botanic Gardens	£ 5,830.00	20.11.12	All payments in respect of services by Landform Ltd
	£22,712.19	05.02.13	
	£ 7,299.31	28.03.13	
JLC Consulting Ltd	£2,500.00	27.11.12	All payments in respect of project management services
	£2,500.00	03.01.13	
	£3,000.00	15.01.13	
	£3,000.00	19.02.13	
	£3,000.00	26.03.13	
	£3,000.00	19.04.13	
Comofco Consultants	£7,000.00	05.12.12	All payments in respect of mechanical and electrical services
	£5,600.00	11.02.13	

45 **Tercentenary Hall, Dr Giraldi Home and Tangier Views
Details in respect of solar panel installation**

Clerk: Question 249, the Hon. J J Netto.

50 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say what are the surface areas of the Tercentenary Hall, Dr. Giraldi Home and Tangier Views, where solar panels are going to be installed, and state the amount of energy produced individually by these sites?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

55 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this

Question together with Question 250/2013.

Clerk: Question 250.

60 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment state the name of the company installing the solar panels at the Tercentenary Hall, Dr. Giraldi Home and Tangier Views, the contractual arrangement that exists, if any, and whether these works went out to tender?

65 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Yes, Mr Speaker. Firstly, I would just like to clarify that the systems to be installed are solar thermal and not photovoltaic. Therefore, they will be producing hot water and saving energy, rather than producing electricity directly. The surface areas for each building are as follows:

70 Dr. Giraldi Home – roof area 976 m²; Tercentenary Hall – roof area 204 m²; note this is only part of the flat roof and Tangier View – roof area 391 m²

75 It should be noted, Mr Speaker, that this is the available surface area for each building, not all of which will necessarily be covered by the solar thermal panels. The exact area to be used will depend upon the contractor's proposal, which has not yet been awarded. The tender specifications aim to meet the hot water system load over 70% of the year. To aim for 100% would over-specify the system, with a need to reject energy in the hot summer months and would introduce inefficiency.

80 These tenders for the design and build of solar thermal installations were sent to the Official Journal of the European Union on 14th March 2013. As per EU procurement rules, the tender remained open for fifty-two days, with the closing date being 7th May 2013. The Tender Board for this project has not yet been convened and the contract has not been awarded.

85 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, I take on board what the Minister said, that the contract had not been awarded but could perhaps the Minister provide some information whether a contractor has already been selected and, if so, whether there is a tentative date as to when the commencement of the works might commence?

90 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** No, Mr Speaker, I believe that, as I said, the tender process is still on-going. The closure for the receipt of applications was 7th May 2013. My information, when my officials drafted this response, is that the Tender Board has not yet been convened. I have not been informed that it has since. I do not think it has: I have no information on that but we have not awarded this to any contractor because I do not even know who has applied, Mr Speaker.

95 **Solar panels on Government properties
Rolling programme and timetable**

Clerk: Question 251, the Hon. J J Netto.

100 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment please state if there is a rolling programme to install further solar panels in Government properties and, if so, could the Hon. Minister provide the corresponding timetable, citing the buildings and the timing for installing the panels?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

105 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, there is no rolling programme for this. However, Government continues to investigate possible opportunities for the installation of these systems on Government buildings in order to increase the percentage of energy in Gibraltar produced from renewable sources and in order to encourage private initiatives of a similar nature, by leading by example.

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115 **Government buildings
Renewable energy feasibility studies**

Clerk: Question 252 the Hon. J J Netto.

120 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, has the Government conducted any studies, either in-house or extended, to determine the suitability and location to install renewable energy products on Government buildings and, if so, state whether this has been done by a company, stating the name and cost to Government.

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

125 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, Government relies on the in-house expertise of its technical officers to determine potential locations for the installation of renewable energy systems. A preliminary exercise has been conducted to identify buildings which might be suitable for such works. This was done in-house at no additional cost to Government.

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**Marine electricity generation
Feasibility for Gibraltar**

135 **Clerk:** Question 253 the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment please say if electricity generation using marine currents has now reached a stage where it is commercially feasible in our own environment?

140 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

145 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, our understanding is that this technology continues to be at a prototype stage, with different models still being tested and further work commencing on the installation of arrays of marine turbines. The industry believes that commercial deployment of marine ocean current technology remains fifteen to twenty years away. However, we continue to be engaged with a number of entities in order to determine what possibilities exist in Gibraltar.

150 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Hon. the Minister for the Environment say whether, in relation to the contact they have with these entities to determine how feasible this is within our own marine environment, whether the Government is proceeding on the basis of putting some of these prototypes... to determine whether it is viable or not depending on the currents available in certain locations around Gibraltar?

155 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, we have not yet signed any agreement with any entity but we are talking to several entities – I am not exactly sure, it may be two, but I would not like to commit myself to that – looking at the possibility of prototypes in Gibraltar. Clearly, the arrangements where this might or might not happen will be specified when we reach some kind of understanding. We are, at the moment, at the discussion stage.

160

**Department of the Environment
Details of environmental contracts**

165 **Clerk:** Question 254, the Hon. J J Netto.

170 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment provide copies of the contract between the Department of the Environment and the Gibraltar Veterinary Clinic, Wildlife Gibraltar Limited, GONHS and the Helping Hand Trust to the Opposition.

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

175 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, it is not our policy, as in fact it was not the Opposition's when in Government, to make copies of such contracts public. In any case, Mr Speaker, all these contracts are the same contracts as those left when the Opposition was in Government and have not been altered in any way since 9th December 2011.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, I hear that the Hon. Minister says that it is not their policy to provide Parliament with copies of the contract and that they are basically just maintaining the position, as he

180 alleges, of the GSD Government when in Government. My view, Mr Speaker, is that these contracts do
have, within the contract, environmental information as to the services that they provide within the remit
of the contract and, therefore, will the Minister not agree with me that the contracts providing the
185 environmental information... it is information that should be made available, either to Parliament or,
indeed, perhaps to members of the public if they wish to obtain such environmental information within
the contract.

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, a number of observations there, if I may.

190 These contracts were all prepared at the time of the former administration. I have said there have been
no changes at all to any of those contracts. In fact, at least one or two, the hon. Member opposite and I
discussed them and agreed them together, so there is nothing mysterious or secret or nothing that the hon.
Member opposite is not aware of. There was no attempt or intention or willingness I think at the time, for
the Government of the time, to make these contracts public, whether or not they contained environmental
information.

195 As to whether they contain environmental information, I think I would need to seek legal advice as to
whether it is the sort of environmental information that would come under the definition of that sort of
environmental information to which the public have a right of access. Basically, they are schedules which
define what a contractor has to do as part of its duties. I think there is a danger if contracts of any type are
made public, that this could prejudice negotiations between Government and different entities when they
200 are discussing contracts. So I do not agree with the hon. Member opposite. I am willing to take legal
advice on that but I do not think I can support that request.

Hon. D A Feetham: Mr Speaker, of course the contracts have been concluded: there are no
negotiations with other entities therefore it cannot possibly prejudice any such negotiations. I understand
205 what the hon. –

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker –

Hon. D A Feetham: Do you want me to give way?

210 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** A point of fact, yes.

Hon. D A Feetham: Do you want me to give way?

215 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, if I may, Mr Speaker. I just wanted to point out that the precedent of
releasing these contracts could mean that other entities in discussion could have the concern that they
might be made public. That is the point that I made, not that these are under discussion.

220 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Yes and I accept that the Government has taken the policy decision on not
disclosing these contracts and certainly, on this side of the House, we accept that. But will he agree with
me – and I am asking about Government policy in the future – will he agree to, if there is a change in the
scope of the services that are provided by any of these entities under the contracts, will he agree to
provide that change or some information in relation to the change of the scope, should the question be
asked in the future?

225 I can tell the hon. Gentleman that the disclosure of contracts will not be the subject of questions in the
future. You have made your position clear and we are not going to ask you to alter that again, but if there
is a change in the scope of the services provided, then surely, of course, that is something that we are
entitled to know, should we ask about it in the future.

230 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is asking whether
Government may change its policy on this particular point. I do not make Government policy. I am a
Member of the collegiate Government and therefore it is not something that I could say myself at this
point in time. It would need to be discussed with my colleagues.

235

**Seagull culling
Details since 2008**

240 **Clerk:** Question 255, the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment please provide statistics of seagull

culling since 2008 on a yearly basis, broken down monthly and stating whether the culling was done by employees of GOHNS or by any other contracted entity to the Government?

245 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, certainly. The information requested by the hon. Member is contained in the schedule which I now hand over to him.

Answer to Question 255/2013

**Figures for Culling by
GOHNS**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
250	2303	4562	4075	3491	3391

**Figures for Culling by
FERA**

	-	3812	5508	5708	2694
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Mr Speaker: It is a matter for judgement but may I suggest that, where a schedule is as short as this one, that perhaps it should become an inherent part of the answer.

255 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, would you like me to read it out?

Mr Speaker: Yes, please.

260 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Very good.
 Figures for culling by GOHNS 2008 – 2,303; 2009 – 4,562; 2010 – 4,075; 2011 – 3,491; 2012 – 3,391.
 Figures for FERA, which is the UK agency contracted since 2009. Clearly, there are no figures for 2008. 2009 – 3,812; 2010 – 5,508; 2011 – 5,708 and 2012 – 2,694.

265 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, do I understand this correctly that, in 2009, therefore, there are two separate sets of culling by two separate sets of entities, so it is GOHNS 4,562 and then FERA 3,812?

270 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, Mr Speaker, this was an initiative of the former administration who, at considerable expense, brought over a group of shooters from the United Kingdom to carry out a cull over four years. It was a four year agreement which finalised last year.

275 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, obviously there has been a considerable amount of culling over this period of time, all the way to 2012. We see that there are still a considerable number of seagulls in Gibraltar. Does the Government envisage any kind of change of policy in relation to its approach to seagulls and can the Hon. the Minister please provide some details in relation to that?

280 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, Mr Speaker, we are looking – I think I may have mentioned this in last year’s Budget Speech but I may not have – at increasing the, shall we say, resources put into culling and I will be referring to this in the debate on the Appropriation Bill as part of my Budget Speech. I will be giving details then.

285 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Yes, but Mr Speaker, the emphasis in my question was slightly different. The answer really is that it is a continuation of the policy of culling, but is there any variation? In other words, does the Government envisage anything else other than culling in order to control the seagull population? I know that, for example – a number of years ago we had spoken about this because it interests me at a personal level – GOHNS introduced a number of foxes in the Upper Rock. Unfortunately, we do not know what has actually happened with those foxes that were introduced and I think the hon. Gentleman told me that perhaps they are no more, sadly. But are there initiatives of that sort in order to help control the seagull population?

290 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, Mr Speaker, there are. A number of possibilities are being discussed and I hope to have details available shortly, but I do not have them yet because we have not finalised what

295 those arrangements might be. I know, Mr Speaker, that the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, being a resident of the Upper Rock, would love to see all sorts of animals, as would I, but it is complicated. One needs permits and so on and I am not in a position yet to confirm that. I am sorry.

300 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, I am not asking for the hon. Gentleman to confirm what decision has been taken, I am asking the hon. Gentleman to just give us a flavour of the types of initiatives that the Government is currently considering. I do not want to steal his thunder for his Budget Speech. I understand that, but if he could give us a flavour I would very much appreciate it and very much welcome it.

305 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** It does include very much the flavour that the Leader of the Opposition has alluded to, but I do not think I can really go further because it involves other people we are discussing with and I am not in a position to say anything at this stage. I think I have answered my question, though: I have provided the figures and a little bit more.

310 **Mr Speaker:** And the Speaker has been very liberal because this is a Question purely about statistics and now we are dealing with policy. I think the matter has been aired sufficiently.

315 **Barbary Macaques on Upper Rock**
Optimum numbers, population, culling, management and control

Clerk: Question 256, the Hon. J J Netto.

320 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say what is the optimum number of Barbary Macaques that either the Hon. Minister or the professionals advising the Government think is adequate to maintain the biological integrity of the population in the Upper Rock Nature Reserve with minimal conflict levels with the neighbouring humans?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

325 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this Question together with Questions 257 to 265/2013.

Clerk: Question 257.

330 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment provide the population of Barbary Macaques between 1988 – 2012 on a yearly basis?

Clerk: Question 258.

335 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say if there has been any colonisation of built-up areas of Macaques on a permanent or semi-permanent basis in the last sixteen months and if so, where?

Clerk: Question 259.

340 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say when the new immunological contraceptive method for female Macaques started, how many females have been treated so far and provide details of how this programme will be implemented over the next few years, in order to arrive at the optimal number of Macaques envisaged?

345 **Clerk:** Question 260.

350 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment state the method of contraception used between 1988 – 2012 and the number of female Macaques provided with such contraception on a yearly basis?

Clerk: Question 261.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment please say whether during 2013

355 there has been any culling of Barbary Macaques and if so, how many?

Clerk: Question 262.

360 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say if he is now in a position to state whether the Government has entered into agreement with other authorities for the purpose of exporting Barbary Macaques and if so, could the Hon. Minister inform Parliament of the countries and numbers involved?

365 **Clerk:** Question 263.

370 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, following the lecture given by Professor Agustin Fuentes in the Elliott Hotel on 3rd March 2013 he stated in answer to a question from me that ‘many of the management measures have already been implemented in the new management plan for Macaques locally’. Therefore, could the Minister for the Environment say what measures in the new management plan have already been implemented and when?

Clerk: Question 264.

375 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, following the visit of Professor Agustin Fuentes and the representative of the National Geographic to Gibraltar, can the Minister for the Environment provide Parliament with a copy of the report submitted to the Minister with regard to observations, findings and recommendations?

Clerk: Question 265.

380 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Environment please provide Parliament with a copy of the Gibraltar Macaques Management Plan?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

385 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, as it is a slightly lengthy answer and I have one schedule, I think what I will do is I will hand the schedule over now and the Members of the Opposition can peruse it as I deal with the rest of the Questions.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 265

Answer to Question 257

Barbary Macaques population list

Year	Population Estimate
2000	126
2001	153
2002	176
2003	205
2004	223
2005	214
2006	242
2007	241
2008	241
2009	212
2010	182
2011	175
2012	183

390 Mr Speaker, now to the answer. The marketing plan of two decades ago recommended a population of 180 Macaques on the Rock. This has, through the years, served as an approximate guide to the preferred numbers. However, as with everything in nature, one cannot be exact as, in the context of conflict with humans, five monkeys in the wrong place would be worse than 1,000 not in the wrong place. The precise number will, therefore, depend on the structure and location of the groups, as well as on the management regime. Therefore, although the figure of 180, which is close to the present population, remains in the background, there could be a variation in both directions.

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400 There is no population list available that goes back to 1988. The Gibraltar Government only took over the management of the Macaques through Sites Management from the MOD in the early 1990s – it may have been the late 1980s, but I think it is the early 1990s. MOD records have not been located nor have Sites Management records and that is a pity, Mr Speaker, because obviously there is gap in what we know about the history of our Macaques.

405 The Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society took over the management of the Macaques in December 1999, from when figures are available, and that is the schedule that I have handed over to the hon. Member.

410 Colonisation of any area, built up or otherwise, by Barbary Macaques is not a one-off process; it will involve exploratory and quite natural movements which may lead, if resources such as food and shelter are located, in a more or less gradual shift in home range centred around these resources. Whilst some such movements have occurred, as they always do, there has been no colonisation of any built-up area on a permanent or semi-permanent basis in the past sixteen months.

415 Regarding contraception, no immunological contraception has yet been carried out. However 21 Macaques were ‘contracepted’ last year through hormonal implants, as opposed to the 21 in the previous five years together, or an average of about four a year. The figures are 6 in 2007; 3 in 2008; 5 in 2009; 4 in 2010; 3 in 2011 and 21 in 2012. Contraception over the next few years will involve identification of matriline, that is the female lines, within packs, then specific females will be identified and implanted. This will not only slow population expansion but specifically expansion of family groups within packs. The end result of this is that packs will be more contained and less likely to split. Previously, this has not been possible due to the lack of resources available.

420 Government is also looking to invest and allow the permanent surgical contraception of females whose genetic material is already heavily represented within the population. This will, therefore, negate the need to trap females so regularly.

During the past year, six Macaques have unfortunately been put down for veterinary and behavioural reasons.

425 Mr Speaker, discussions continue with a number of entities with a view to exporting Macaques, although no agreements have been finalised. Professor Agustin Fuentes of Notre Dame University gave, if I may say, a fascinating explanation of the research being carried out on the Macaques. This presentation was his, as an independent scientific authority, and therefore I cannot know exactly what measure he was thinking of when he replied. I can, however, report on the following aspects of the plan that have already been acted upon, together with the season when they commenced on the ground – (a) Increased research effort, in Spring 2013; (b) Remote monitoring of Macaque movements, Spring 2013; (c) Production and distribution of information leaflets, Winter 2012/2013; (d) Measures to reduce access to refuse bins, Winter/Spring 2012/2013; (e) Clearing of vegetation on the Upper Rock, Autumn 2013; (f) Increased human resources, Autumn 2012; (g) Increased used of contraception, Autumn 2012; (h) More proactive management of groups, Winter 2011/2012.

435 These measures have been introduced gradually over the past sixteen months and they represent a new philosophy in management. The visit of Professor Fuentes, Dr Lisa Jones-Engel and the National Geographic Team was very recent. I would like to point out that this visit was funded by National Geographic and other US Institutions and not by the Gibraltar Government.

440 No report as such is expected; rather, the results will appear in the forthcoming scientific publications, which take time to produce. I have, in fact, Mr Speaker, been able to put my hands on a publication which covered an earlier visit in 2008, which referred to the extraordinary fact that the Macaques in Gibraltar are almost totally free of disease and I have, for the benefit of the hon. Member, made a copy that he might be interested in.

445 Mr Speaker, Parliament will, indeed, be provided with a copy of the Gibraltar Macaque Plan, which is currently being prepared for publication. It is expected to be launched within the next eight to ten weeks during Professor Fuentes next visit to Gibraltar.

450 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, if I may, I am grateful to the Minister, first of all, for the information but he has just completed by saying the report – the new management plan – will be ready for publication, I think he said, in about eight weeks from now. Can I ask the Minister, then, whether despite not being ready for publication purposes, whether I can get a copy right now, preferably in electronic form?

455 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, yes, the Macaque Plan is, for all intents and purposes, completed as the hon. Member opposite will know because I used to do a lot of drafting for his Department. I would like to look at it again so a few words may change, but I will certainly endeavour, over the next few days, to facilitate a copy.

Hon. D A Feetham: Mr Speaker, I thought I heard the hon. Gentleman say that, under the management plan, I think it was, that the optimum amount of Macaques that were envisaged was 180. I

460 note that from the figures here that, in 2011, it was 175 and in 2012 it is 183. So at the moment, it is more or less the numbers that are envisaged as optimum under that report. What figure below this 183 figure does the Government envisage that it wants to reduce the population of Macaques, given his statements to this House in the past and why that effective discrepancy between what the report says and effectively...?

465 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, Mr Speaker, as I introduced the subject of the optimum number, I did say that five monkeys in the wrong place is worse than 1,000 not in the wrong place. It really depends on what the monkeys are doing. If we had one particular group that was, shall I say, in an awkward situation, then we could have 50 Macaques but then we would have to do something about that. That is why I said
470 180 is a figure that has been presented in the past: the actual figure that could be stabilised could be more or could be less, depending on what the groups are doing at that given point in time. That is where we are now in trying to determine not exactly numbers, but the location of the groups.

I am not sure if I have explained myself properly but what I am saying is there can be flexibility in both directions. It is where they are, not how many they are.

475 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, no, I understand that entirely. I am just trying to reconcile that with statements that the hon. Gentleman has made both in this House and outside this House. Because the hon. Gentleman outside this House, and here as well, has said, that the Government is actively looking to exportation of apes in order to reduce the numbers. Either you have already made an assessment that there
480 are packs in Gibraltar in relation to certain areas that are problematical and, therefore, the only way that you can deal with those, bar culling, is by exporting them, in which case the Government is therefore accepting that there is a problem present at the moment or, alternatively, you say well we have not made the decision because we do not know what are the optimum numbers. Therefore, we cannot... how on earth did the Government come to the decision that it wants to export all these monkeys to Africa?

485 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, Mr Speaker, what I am saying is that it depends on what the situation is at any particular point in time. At the moment there are probably two groups that I can think of that we could do without them being where they are. Therefore, if we had an agreement tomorrow to export animals, those would be the groups targeted.

490 But if the agreement is in a month's time and by that time, because of management or because by natural movements they have moved away from that area and another group has come in, we would have to re-assess which is the one that we would have to take. What I am saying is that we have to be flexible because we are dealing with natural systems but I take the hon. Member's point.

495 **Hon. D A Feetham:** What effectively, therefore, you are saying – and just correct me if I am wrong – you are accepting that there are a couple of populations that are problematical at the present moment, but that you hope that you will be able, through measures that you are introducing, to make them non problematical. In other words, to push them up to the nature reserve, but if that is not possible therefore you are looking at exportation because culling is out of the question.

500 Now do you... if that is the position I would appreciate it if he would confirm it and, if it is, what is the timescale for exportation of these apes because, of course, if they are problematical – and the hon. Gentleman appears to accept that they are being problematical, – it is a problem for the people that live in these areas.

505 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Yes, of course, and we are trying to make them less problematical.

Our prime need is to ensure that the human population does not feel uncomfortable or stressed in any way. So, yes, the main thrust will be to try and control where they are but, at this point in time, there are a number of discussions still on-going and I cannot give a timeframe. No, I just cannot give a timeframe.

510 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, if those talks – and the hon. Gentleman and I again have spoken about this, we share an interest in this, quite apart from the politics... this is not easy, the question of exporting these animals to North Africa. He knows that and I know that. If it becomes an impossibility of exporting these animals to Africa and they continue to be problematical to those areas, will this hon. Gentleman give an undertaking to this House that the party opposite will grasp the nettle and will
515 consider culling as a proper management tool?

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, that is a hypothetical question.

Mr Speaker: Which, may I say, was asked in February as well, exactly the same question.

520

**Upper Rock Nature Reserve
Wildlife Wardens**

525 **Clerk:** Question 266, the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say when will the Department of the Environment employ the Wildlife Wardens for the Upper Rock Nature Reserve that the Hon. Minister, when not in Government, so vociferously advocated for?

530

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, when I was not in Government I did many things, most quite gently, actually, and not vociferously, and while I advocated Wildlife Wardens, this is not something that I was particularly vociferous about.

535

Mr Speaker, the preparation of the management plan for the Upper Rock Nature Reserve is in progress. This is considering the need for Wildlife Wardens specifically for the Upper Rock. However, it must be remembered that wildlife wardening is not just required on the Upper Rock and the whole question of such wardening is currently under consideration.

540

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, does the hon. Member think that, during the course of this year, we will be able to see the Wildlife Wardens being established, whether it is in the Upper Rock Nature Reserve or within the whole of Gibraltar?

545

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, this will depend on the outcome of the work that we are doing at the moment. I cannot confirm or deny the possibility.

550

**Western Beach
Compliance with EU swimming standard**

Clerk: Question 267, the Hon. J J Netto.

555

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say whether, come this summer, the quality of the water at Western Beach will satisfy the mandatory EU Standard for swimming for beachgoers?

560

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, it is impossible to predict water quality in this scenario. If trends from previous years continue, we expect to see a marked improvement in water quality in coming weeks. Relevant Government Departments are monitoring the water quality at Western Beach very closely.

565

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, if I do not remember badly, when this question has been raised in the past, the Government I think has alluded to the fact that if they were to see no improvement on the Spanish side from La Línea in relation to dealing with the discharges from the sewage drain waters, that they would take legal action – I think it says in relation to European Union. Could the Minister perhaps update the House on this front?

570

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, this is something that I would rather discuss with the hon. Member opposite behind the Speaker's chair.

575

**Jellyfish increase
Method of control**

580

Clerk: Question 268, the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, further to Question number 742/2012, can the Minister for the Environment say if he is now in a position to state what were the proposals that were being considered

585 last September by the various Ministers in relation to the increasing number of jellyfish in our waters, particularly during the summer season, and what measures, if any, are going to be put in place this year to minimise the extent of this problem for beachgoers?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

590 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, the increased occurrence of jellyfish in the Mediterranean region is expected to continue. As stated in my answer to Question No. 742/2012, this is a result, among other factors, of over-fishing and climate change.

595 The proposals considered last year largely revolved around the use of nets to minimise the number of jellyfish reaching our beaches. The Gibraltar Tourist Board, in close consultation with the Department of the Environment, have purchased special nets known as jellyfish booms that are designed to keep jellyfish out of bathing areas and allow relatively safe bathing.

Specific areas in our beaches have been identified and designated for this purpose. These nets are tailor made to suit the physical characteristics of individual beaches and may vary in size. The nets and areas will be surveyed by the beach lifeguards on a daily basis.

600 However, the public is still urged to be cautious, as the nets cannot be 100% effective, especially in heavy seas.

605 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister advise that it is Government's intention to protect *all* of the beaches. Is that the case? I think he mentioned certain areas. I would like him to confirm whether the Government's policy is, in fact, to protect all of the beaches.

610 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, subject to confirmation by the Hon. Minister for Tourism, who is, in fact, leading on this, my understanding is that the intention is that areas in all of the beaches, or at least most of the beaches, will be so done.

I cannot recall which the first area was going to be, but the intention, subject to confirmation – I am sure we can confirm it later – is that most of the beaches will have at least an area with jellyfish booms.

615 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Mr Speaker, maybe this is not the place – Gibraltar's Parliament – to ask the Hon. Minister this question, but I do not understand exactly how, what the mechanics are, how this actually works...

Mr Speaker: Will the hon. Member please depress the microphone so that it is more directly...

620 **Hon. D J Bossino:** The question, Mr Speaker, is what the mechanics of this are, yes, in relation to the jellyfish nets, if I can put it in those terms, as I do not know what the exact term is.

625 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, is the hon. Member asking how the nets work? How they work? Right, well it is a net that is suspended in the water floating, which hangs down to the sea bed, and therefore, in relatively calm waters will stop most jellyfish from coming in, because the mesh is so small the jellyfish cannot come in, but as I said in heavy seas there will be movement and some jellyfish could come in... so there will be fewer jellyfish.

These have been tried in other parts of the Mediterranean, Greece in particular, and I believe these are being brought over from Greece.

630 Obviously, we cannot guarantee 100% success, but we are told that certainly they will improve the situation.

635 **Department of the Environment
Publication of 2012 Annual Report**

Clerk: Question 269, the Hon. J J Netto.

640 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment say when will the Department of the Environment Annual Report for 2012 be published?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

645 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, as is customary, the Annual Reports are published after the air quality data are ratified in summer.

The Department of the Environment Annual Report 2012 will, therefore, be published in the autumn of 2013.

The 2011 Report is available on the Government website.

650

**Environmental EU Directives
Annual Reports sent to European Commission**

655

Clerk: Question 270, the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment provide Parliament with a copy of all annual reports sent to the European Commission with regard to compliance on transposed Environmental EU Directives?

660

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, Annual Reports are sent to the Commission for the following three directives:

665

The Air Quality Framework Directive; The Drinking Water Directive; and the Bathing Water Directive.

Because the hon. Member has not requested a timescale, annual reports are provided for the last five years. I would like to explain, Mr Speaker, that what I am handing over to the hon. Member are copies of the Drinking Water, and the Bathing Water Directives. The Air Quality Framework Directive, is such a massive document, that printing it would have taken a long time and a lot of paper, it will be emailed to him by the Environment Agency and I would ask the hon. Member if he has not received it by tomorrow, if he contacts my office I will make sure that he gets a copy. If it is too large to email we will burn it on a disc so that he can have it promptly.

670

675

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, if I may, the Hon. the Minister for the Environment did mention that the Annual Reports were in relation to three particular Directives and he then went on to mention the three particular Directives. I was wondering whether, in addition to these particular three Directives, there are other Annual Reports that the Department of the Environment has to submit to the European Commission Directorate on the Environment.

680

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: Mr Speaker, there are other Reports, but they are not annual: they may be after five or six years. The question specifically referred to Annual Reports. There are some written questions which refer to some of the other Reports, to which the answers will be provided at the end, as usual. But the Annual Reports, I am informed by my officials, are these three, annual as opposed to more periodic. If he specifically is interested in any other, if he specifies it then, obviously, that will be provided.

685

**Fishing and marine conservation
Report from commission of experts**

690

Clerk: Question 271, the Hon. J J Netto.

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for the Environment provide Parliament with a copy of the report from the commission of experts on fishing and marine conservation which was received by the Government on 20th December 2012?

695

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, the report from the commission of experts on fishing and marine conservation is currently being formatted for publication and will be out shortly.

700

Hon. J J Netto: Mr Speaker, can I ask, in broad terms, what I asked before, which is even though it is being reformatted for publication, could I have a copy of it straightaway?

705

Hon. Dr. J E Cortes: No, Mr Speaker, this is a highly sensitive report, which has to be handled in a

sensitive manner, and I say shortly... the wait will not be long, and therefore I have to decline the request.

710 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, why draw a difference between not providing the Opposition with the report and actually briefing the Mayor of La Línea with the report? Why should the Mayor of La Línea take a preferential treatment in knowing the content of the report than the official Opposition in Parliament?

715 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, I do not know whether this is an acceptable supplementary, but I have not briefed the Mayor of La Línea about the report and I do not believe any of my colleagues have, either. They may have mentioned it, they may have had a discussion around it but I can, very categorically, certainly from my point of view, state that it has not been discussed.

720 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Mr Speaker, in fact that cannot possibly be the case, because there is a press release emanating from No. 6 –

725 **Mr Speaker:** Yes, but with all due respect, this does not arise from the Question at all. It is completely and utterly out of order.

Hon. D A Feetham: Mr Speaker, I am not going to argue with Mr Speaker about this, but I –

730 **Mr Speaker:** Of course you are not going to argue. I am the one who is responsible for interpreting the Standing Orders (**Hon. D A Feetham:** Absolutely.) and that is my ruling and you will sit down. We will go on with the business.

(Interjection by the Hon. D A Feetham.) No business to raise that matter as a supplementary. It does not arise from the question at all. Members have got used, over the years, to doing that far too often, and I propose to implement the Standing Orders.

735 **Hon. D A Feetham:** And Mr Speaker, I will have something to say –

Mr Speaker: And if the hon. Member does not like it –

740 **Hon. D A Feetham:** I will have something to say during the –

Mr Speaker: You can say whatever you –

Hon. D A Feetham: – debate on parliamentary reform.

745 **Mr Speaker:** The report –

Hon. D A Feetham: – will not be able to shut me up on this matter.

750 **Mr Speaker:** If the hon. Member –

Hon. D A Feetham: It is an important issue to the Opposition.

755 **Mr Speaker:** The report has got nothing to do with me as Speaker. That is a report for Parliament to debate, and the fact that I happen to be the Speaker is purely coincidental.
Next Question.

Upper body lymphoedema treatments Process and care pathway

760 **Clerk:** Question 272, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

765 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, before asking my Question, may I take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Freddie Pitto on his selection as the new Chief Executive of the GHA and I wish him all the very best in this important and challenging role.

Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain the process, including equipment used and the care pathway, breast cancer sufferers and survivors go through in order to receive upper body lymphoedema treatments?

770 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, patients are referred to the nursing team by a medical practitioner or breast cancer nurse. The patient is then assessed to determine the grade of lymphoedema and best treatment option. This may be manual drainage or a combination of manual and mechanical drainage using the Flowtron Lymph Assist. This treatment is sustained by a determined level of compression support, using either a system of compression bandage or measured sleeve which the patient will wear.

775
780 Patients will invariably continue to use the compression sleeve long term, as required, since lymphoedema is a chronic long term condition affecting the majority of patients who undergo treatment for breast cancer. Therefore, part of the treatment includes educating patients on management of the condition and prevention strategies to avoid recurrence of the acute phase. Following treatment in the acute phase, patients are reviewed as required.

785 I am supporting the Breast Cancer Support Group in their tremendous efforts to raise awareness of the condition, and studying ways in which we can resource this service more.

Upper body lymphoedema treatments Training and CPD

790 **Clerk:** Question 273, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise what training and CPD health professionals receive for administering upper body lymphoedema treatments to breast cancer sufferers and survivors and how many of them are there who offer this?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

800 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, health professionals in the GHA follow an 11-day training programme offered by LEDUC UK, a professional association of lymphoedema practitioners.

The training is comprehensive and includes assessment, diagnosis, skincare, multi-layer bandaging, manual and mechanical drainage within the programme content.

805 Annual updates are provided for health professionals already trained and practising in this field. There is currently a team of four nurses and two physiotherapists who can offer such treatment. However, this is not exclusive to breast cancer patients. There are other patients who can acquire this condition.

Hon. D A Feetham: We will be asking no more supplementary questions, so we can –

810

Plastic surgery initiative Xanit Hospital, Benalmadena

815 **Clerk:** Question 274 the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say whether the plastic surgery initiative, in order to reduce the waiting list in breast reduction surgery, will continue at Xanit Hospital in Benalmadena?

820

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

825 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, the plastic surgery initiative includes both more frequent visits from UK plastic surgeons and outsourcing operations to surgeons who have been validated by our visiting consultants. Surgeons who operate in Xanit fall into this category. Therefore it is likely that the facilities in Xanit will be used in the future. I stress the word ‘facilities’. The surgeons do vary.

830

Hydrotherapy pool at St Bernard's Hospital
Date of opening

835 **Clerk:** Question 275, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise when the hydrotherapy pool at the Physiotherapy Department at St Bernard's Hospital will be opened in order to offer therapy for those patients who need it?

840 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, when the hospital was built, the infrastructure was not provided. No resources, including human resources, were made available to provide the service. The possibility of resourcing this is being considered, although the patient demand for this service, as it does not exist, is not known.

850 **Emergency ambulance**
Callout procedure

Clerk: Question 276, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

855 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise what the procedure is if an ambulance is called in an emergency and the two emergency ambulances are otherwise engaged and unable to attend to the call-out?

860 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, if both GHA emergency ambulances are committed on a call and a third emergency call comes in, the City Fire Brigade ambulance will be dispatched.

865 **Chief Ambulance Officer**
New appointment

870 **Clerk:** Question 277, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise what the system is for a patient who is attended to at the –

875 **Clerk:** ...

Hon. I M Ellul-Hammond: I apologise, yes.

880 Mr Speaker, following the announcement of the retirement of the Chief Ambulance Officer, can the Minister for Health say whether a replacement has been identified, who this person is and when the post will be filled?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

885 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, the post of Chief Ambulance Officer is being considered as part of a wider GHA management restructuring exercise, and the imminent completion of GHA's paramedic students' course at the end of the year.

An external review has been commissioned to advise on how best to configure the ambulance services in Gibraltar to improve the service to our local population and make best use of these new skills. Once this review is complete, a decision will be taken on this specific post.

890 In the interim, a development opportunity has been created, for a nine month period, for two officers to cover the duties within the existing job description. Following a selection process, Kyrone Celecia and Adrian Gerada were selected and commenced their duties on 1st April 2013, the day after the incumbent had retired.

895 They have now started a structured development programme, which includes a management course affiliated with Durham University, and management placement in the UK with the London Ambulance Service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dennis Duarte for his work as Chief Ambulance Officer and to wish him a long and satisfying retirement after many years serving the public, not least as Commanding Officer of the Royal Gibraltar Regiment. This is well deserved.

900

**Post-A&E Department care
Procedure**

905

Clerk: Question 278, the Hon, Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise what the system is for a patient who is attended to at the A&E Department, is then found needing secondary care or further tests, but not necessarily immediately? Will that patient need to go back to Primary Care or will the patient be fast-tracked from A&E?

910

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

915

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, if a patient requires further investigations as an out-patient, they will be discharged from A&E with a GP referral form, (Discharge letter A&E – Request for follow up by GP). That is the name of the form in the GHA system.

920

**Orthoptist service
Upgrading**

Clerk: Question 279, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

925

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say whether there are any plans to increase the Orthoptist service within the Eye Department of the GHA?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

930

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, not at this time.

935

**Clinical Governance Review
Cost breakdown**

Clerk: Question 281, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain to whom £128,611.88 for the Clinical Governance Review was paid to and for what exactly?

940

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

945

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, the payment was made to Langan & Schroter for the review into the GHA. The breakdown is contained in the schedule that I now hand over.

Answer to Question 281 of 2013

Clinical Governance review							
	Fees	Rent	Equipment	John Langan	Frank McGuirrin	Joanna Smith	Total
Clinical Governance Review - Fees (contract)	96,000.00			-	-	-	96,000.00
Clinical Governance Review - Flights				5,289.74	867.58	1,864.56	8,021.88
Clinical Governance Review - Hotel Accomodation				698.00	150.00	3,362.00	4,210.00
Clinical Governance Review - Internet Connection				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Governance Review - Mobile Telephones				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Governance Review - Stationery				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Governance Review - Subsistence				2,310.00	700.00	1,540.00	4,550.00
Clinical Governance Review - Travelling Expenses				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Governance Review - New Equipment			464.00				464.00
Clinical Governance Review Rented Accomodation		15,366.00		-	-	-	15,366.00
Total	96,000.00	15,366.00	464.00	8,297.74	1,717.58	6,766.56	128,611.88

**GHA Review
Date of publication**

950

Clerk: Question 282, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

955

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, following on from Question No. 117/2013, can the Minister for Health advise when the GHA Review document will be published?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

960

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, as I have stated several times in this House, it was the view of the Board of the Authority and the Executive that steps should be taken to remedy some of the shortcomings highlighted in the Report before this was published.

I am pleased to say that the planned management restructure is now in the process of being implemented and publication will follow shortly.

965

**GHA website
Operational date**

970

Clerk: Question 283, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, following on from Question No. 118/2013, can the Minister for Health say when the new GHA website will be ready?

975

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

980

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, the website will be live in June 2013. There has been a slight delay – I had announced it would be ready in April – due to technical issues which are now being finalised. It will be followed by a period of testing before going live.

**Free complementary therapies
Government policy**

985 **Clerk:** Question 284, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, Can the Minister for Health say what the Government policy is on offering complementary therapies free of charge on the GHA?

990 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, complementary therapies have not generally been provided in the past.

995 However, when recommended by a medical practitioner, the following have been considered: (a) Manipulation therapies (by trained and accredited chiropractors/osteopathy for back pain) referred by the Pain Clinic, and; (b) Acupuncture for the relief of intractable pain, by trained and regulated acupuncturists, when referred by the Pain Relief Service.

1000

**GHA Speech & Language Therapy Department
No. of trained paediatric and adult therapists**

1005 **Clerk:** Question 285, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health state how many paediatric and adult speech & language therapists are employed in the GHA Speech & Language Therapy Department, giving a breakdown of permanent and contract employees?

1010 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, the schedule I now hand over contains the information requested.

Answer to Question 285 of 2013

Speech and Language Therapists

	1 Paediatric Special Needs	- Permanent contract
	1 Paediatric	- Permanent contract
1015	1 Adults	- Permanent contract
	1 Manager (no clinical responsibilities in SLT)	- Permanent contract
	1 Adults (emergency cover Mt Alvernia)	- 3 month contract
	1 Paediatrics (not employed by GHA but assigned to Department under Graduate Scheme)	

1020

**Repeat prescription service
Nature of changes**

Clerk: Question 286, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1025 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain the No. 122 of the Government policies actioned, as per the Government's press release number 815/2012, which says 'change repeat prescription system'? Can the Minister elaborate on how the repeat prescription has changed?

1030 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1035 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, the repeat prescription system has changed in that it has now been integrated with the appointment system and allows patients to access their next review appointment for further repeat prescriptions. This now works as follows:

1. A patient can access their next review appointment for repeat prescriptions by coming to the Primary Care Centre when they are down to their last prescription and, by showing this prescription, they will be booked into an appointment with a GP of their choice, before they are out of medication. This has been audited for the first six months since its introduction in October 2012 and, so far, all patients who have used this system have been able to get an appointment with their GP of choice.

2. If a patient runs out of medication and has no more prescriptions left they can present at the Prescription Advisory Unit, where they will be issued with another month's prescription, which they can, in turn, present at the PCC counter as their last prescription and get their next review appointment.

1040 Most GPs are now issuing stable patients with six months of repeat prescriptions at a time, which means that if the patient remains well they will only need to attend the PCC twice a year for review prescriptions which, for most patients, is an acceptable and recommended frequency of medical follow-up.

1050

**New-born babies
Screening for hearing**

1055 **Clerk:** Question 287, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say if Government has plans to introduce hearing screening for new-born babies?

1060 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, arrangements to start neonatal screening are well under way. We are waiting for an extra scanner and up-dated software. We are also arranging a training programme locally with the equipment suppliers for both Health Visitors/Nurses and the Audiologist.

1065 I am hopeful that we can start the service within a few months.

**Primary Care Clinic
Ministerial initiative and move to Rainbow Ward**

1070 **Clerk:** Question 288, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond,

1075 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say when the Primary Care Clinic for children will be moved to Rainbow Ward?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1080 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this Question together with Question 291/2013.

Clerk: Question 291, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1085 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain how his second 'Ministerial Initiative' in relation to children's health, which he committed to in his Budget speech, has borne fruit and been taken forward?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1090 **Hon. Dr. J E Cortes:** Mr Speaker, meetings have been held with the paediatricians and general practitioners and a number of initiatives are under discussion, including the possibility of co-siting primary and secondary care for children.

1095 **Assistant nursing positions
Number filled since 2012 Budget**

Clerk: Question 289, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1100 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health state, of the 33 new assistant nursing positions earmarked by the Budget of 2012/13, how many have been filled on a full-time basis?

1105 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, all 33 posts were filled with full-time staff at the time.

1110 **GP contract
Improvements in service provision**

1115 **Clerk:** Question 290, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain whether the GP contract has been dealt with, after the Minister for Health said in his Budget speech of 2012 that a concern of his was – and I quote – ‘the failure to deal with the impact of the GP contract’.

1120 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, what I was referring to in my Budget speech last year was the fact that, when the Government of the time signed the contract with the General Practitioners in 2007, they agreed to reduce the maximum number of patients seen from 20 to 18 for routine clinics and from 50 to 35 for emergency clinics. This potentially converts to up to 20,000 fewer slots a year.

1125 Mr Speaker, I was not decrying the reduction in patients seen per doctor, as overcrowding slots is good neither for patient nor doctor. My concern was the fact that this had not been compensated for, contributing to some of the problems of difficulty to get appointments.

1130 I have been meeting regularly with the GPs on such issues, and we are identifying improvements. In the meantime, we have taken some steps to improve the situation. These are the provision of a locum as additional long-term cover, and the consolidation of the buddy system at weekends.

1135 **GHA complaint system
Working procedure**

1140 **Clerk:** Question 292, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain how the new GHA complaints process will work?

1145 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, the matter is currently under discussion with the Ombudsman and I intend to lay a Bill before Parliament in the very near future.

1150

**Free dental care
Entitlement and registration**

Clerk: Question, 293, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1155

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise which adult groups are eligible for free dental health care on the GHA and the process to go about registering for this free service?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1160

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, any person with exempt status or under the District Medical Services who is in receipt of a Welfare Grant or benefit is eligible for free dental healthcare.

Applicants will complete a form where income is declared, and so eligibility is determined.

1165

**Sponsored patient escorts
Allowance entitlements**

1170

Clerk: Question 294, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise on the allowance entitlement for an escort of a sponsored patient who is either a friend or a family member, other than the spouse?

1175

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1180

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, all official sponsored patient escorts are entitled to the same allowance, regardless of relationship.

Details on how the allowances are worked out – and they have not changed since 9th December 2011 – is given in the schedule that I now hand over.

Answer to Question 294 of 2013

Households weekly income – $\frac{1}{2}$ the household weekly outgoings = Disposable income is X

If patient & escort live in the same household then the max allowance of £854 – X = weekly sponsored patient allowance

If patient & escort live in separate households then the max separate allowance of £427 – X = weekly sponsored patients allowance.

The max rates for a patient staying in rented accommodation is £427 each total £854

The max rate for patient staying in Calpe house or friends and family £157 each total £314

A computer formula works out based on where the patient is staying.

1185

Mr Speaker: Would the hon. Lady ask the next Question while she reads the schedule, please.

1190

**Sponsored patient escorts
Allowable hours outside Gibraltar**

Clerk: Question 295, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise what the maximum

1195 length of time an escort is able to remain with a Sponsored Patient, while receiving treatment outside of Gibraltar, and remain in receipt of an allowance?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1200 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, there is not a maximum length of stay for an escort to remain with a sponsored patient. An escort is provided to a patient whilst receiving treatment or actively involved with the tertiary centre. The escort, throughout this time, is entitled to remain in receipt of an allowance.

1205

**'Healthy living' policy for over-60s
Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening**

1210 **Clerk:** Question 296, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health advise whether abdominal aortic aneurysm screening, for the over 60 year olds, will be considered as part of the Government's 'healthy living' policy?

1215

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1220 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Indeed, Mr Speaker. Discussions are advanced on the introduction of screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm, with a multi-disciplinary team actively planning the programme.

1225

**'Enrolled' nursing grade course
Recognition and validation**

Clerk: Question 297, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1230 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say if the new 'Enrolled' nursing grade course is recognised and validated by Kingston & St George's University and by the Royal College of Nursing? What training will be offered and what accredited qualifications will be attained?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1235 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, the NVQ Level 3/Enrolled Nurse training is validated, not by Kingston & St George's University but by Edexcel, a UK based education and training establishment which gives the student a qualification which is recognised both nationally and internationally. The Royal College of Nursing is a professional association for nurses and is therefore not a validating authority for any nursing programme.

1240 The training will consist of a 55 week programme which is split between clinical practice and theory. Students will spend 36 of these weeks in clinical practice, achieving clinical competencies linked to the NVQ 3 qualification. The remaining weeks will be spent in the School of Health Studies for the theoretical component, which will be assessed using various assessment methods.

1245 When these students have completed and have been successful, this qualification will be recognised by Kingston & St George's University as an entrance to the degree programme, (together with 5 GCSEs, including English and Maths) should these students want to progress to Staff Nurse level.

1250

**Numbers awaiting surgery
Waiting list initiatives**

Clerk: Question 298, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1255 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health say if he is satisfied with the current level of people awaiting surgery, at 1,044, and what is the GHA doing to address this and

bring the numbers down?

1260 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes): Mr Speaker, I think I should first comment that the number of people on a waiting list varies depending on the balance between those leaving the list and those entering; and does not provide a picture of surgical activity, rather the relative rate of surgery as against identification of the need for surgical intervention.

1265 The important issue, however, is not the number of people on these lists, but how long they wait. Having said that, no, Mr Speaker, I am not at all satisfied.

I am working with the theatre teams and management on a number of initiatives that are aimed at reducing these numbers drastically.

1270 Achieving this is involving changing ways of working that have remained unchanged, and even unanalysed, for years. Fortunately, I have a team of greatly re-invigorated professionals who have responded magnificently to my initiatives and who will, I am certain, achieve this.

1275 **Maximum number of registered pharmacies
Discrepancy in legislation**

Clerk: Question 299, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1280 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health explain the discrepancy in answer to Written Question No 245/2012, where it states – and I quote – ‘There is no maximum number of pharmacies allowed to register and dispense medication prescribed by the GHA’, and the ‘Medical and Health (Registration of Pharmacies) Regulations 2008’, under Section 69 of the ‘Medical Health Act’, which provides conditions according to the location and number of existing pharmacies?

1285 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Health and the Environment.

1290 **Minister for Health and the Environment (Hon. Dr. J E Cortes):** Mr Speaker, there is no contradiction or discrepancy, and the hon. questioner seems to have either misread or failed to understand the legislation.

Section 69 of the Medical and Health Act states – and I quote –

1295 ‘No premises shall be used for the sale by retail of any medicinal product (other than a medicinal product specified in the general sale list) or poison unless the premises have been registered as a pharmacy by the Board’.

This clearly does not limit the number of premises that can be registered.

The 2008 Pharmacy Regulations list, in section 6, a series of criteria that the Board has to consider in order to be able to register a pharmacy. Provided these criteria are satisfied, the premises may be registered as a pharmacy.

1300 The statute does not provide a limit to the number of pharmacies. Therefore, Mr Speaker, my answer to Written Question No. 245/2012 is absolutely correct.

1305 **ENTERPRISE, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND HEALTH & SAFETY**

**Future Job Strategy; Maritime Cadet Training Scheme
Employment details and statistics**

1310 **Clerk:** We now move to questions being posed to the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

Question 342, the Hon. D J Bossino. Question 342.

1315 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment confirm that Employment and Trading Company Limited, Construction and Training Company Limited, Supported Employment Company Limited and Grad Limited are involved in the Future Job Strategy scheme, whether any other companies have been set up and who the managers of each of these and any other companies which may have been set up are?

- 1320 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.
- Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this Question together with Questions, 345, 346, 347, 363, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 356, 358 and 362.
- 1325 **Clerk:** Question 345, the Hon. D J Bossino.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment provide details of the training, to include qualifications, which is undertaken by trainees of the Future Job Strategy, who are trained for specific jobs such as carers in the Care Agency and the School of Nursing?
- 1330 **Clerk:** Question 346.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Further to Question No. 852/2012, can the Government advise how many of the successful applicants for the 40 AA grades were on the unemployment list and for how long, or employed pursuant to the Future Job Strategy?
- 1335 **Clerk:** Question 347.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment advise this House if the arrangements for apprenticeship schemes have been finalised?
- 1340 **Clerk:** Question 363.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment advise on how many occasions... (*Interjection*)
- 1345 **Clerk:** Question 363. Sorry.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can Government provide details of how many Trainees have been enrolled to pursue Vocational Apprenticeships... 363? (**Clerk:** 363)
- 1350 Mr Speaker, this is Mr Reyes' Question.
- Clerk:** Question 363, the Hon. E J Reyes.
- Hon. E J Reyes:** Can Government provide details of how many Trainees have been enrolled to pursue Vocational Apprenticeships since January 2012, giving a breakdown of start dates as Trainees, type of accredited course or courses being followed and projected date or dates for completion of any training being undertaken?
- 1355 **Clerk:** Question 348.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment advise this House how many potential employers have, to date, signed contracts with Employment and Training Company Limited or any other Government company participating in the Future Job Strategy, guaranteeing employment to participants of the scheme, with details of the numbers of participants in respect of each company?
- 1360 **Clerk:** Question 349.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment advise this House how many employers participating in the Future Job Strategy have reneged on the job guarantee?
- 1365 **Clerk:** Question 350.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment advise what determines the duration of the fixed term contracts provided under the Future Job Strategy and who determines it?
- 1375 **Clerk:** Question 351.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Further to Question No. 987/2012, can the Minister for Employment provide an update of the employers who have signed contracts with Employment Training Company Limited in respect of Future Job Strategy trainees and have the benefit of a contract with the Government, any public
- 1380

authority or Government owned company for the provision of goods and/or with a value in excess of £2,000?

1385 **Clerk:** Question 352.

Hon. D J Bossino: Further to Question No. 180/2013, can the Minister for Employment state how many Future Job Strategy trainees have been employed, broken down by month, indicating where they have been employed?

1390 **Clerk:** Question 353.

Hon. D J Bossino: Can the Minister for Employment advise on how many occasions he has met with trainees on the Future Job Strategy scheme since it began on 1st February 2012?

1395 **Clerk:** Question 356.

Hon. D J Bossino: Can the Minister for Employment advise how many of those trainees who were originally with the VTS on 1st February 2012, continue to be employed by ETCL or any other Government-owned employer companies participating in the Future Job Strategy?

1400 **Clerk:** Question 358.

1405 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment provide current details of how many individuals are participating in the Future Job Strategy, with details of where they are carrying out their placement/training, to include private entities or individuals (such as private companies or partnerships) and in each case the names of such entities and names of the Government Departments, Agencies and Authorities; which Future Job Strategy company they are employed by; what the duration of their contracts are; and how many of these trainees have guaranteed jobs following conclusion of their Future Job Strategy contracts?

1410 **Clerk:** Question 362, the Hon. E J Reyes.

1415 **Hon. E J Reyes:** Mr Speaker, can Government provide details of any changes there may have been to the statistics published on its website at Table ED 18, which shows the total number of Gibraltar students undertaking the Maritime Cadet Training Scheme, but which currently only provides details up to 2nd May 2012?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

1420 **Hon. J J Bossano:** Mr Speaker, there is a parent company, Economic Development and Employment Company, of which the four companies mentioned in the Question are subsidiaries. The parent company and the subsidiaries are managed by Civil Servants and GDC employees in the Ministry of Enterprise, Training and Employment, with the support of some of the graduates in training.

1425 In the Care Agency the trainee carers are provided with the necessary experience to meet the requirement that enables them to take up employment and, in the case of the School of Nursing, they are currently being trained to obtain a BSc. in nursing.

Of the AAs – the 40 AAs – two were from the unemployment list, one of whom had been registered since 20th February 2013 and the other since 25th July 2012 and one person was a former trainee.

1430 The arrangements for apprenticeship schemes have not yet been finalised, and therefore no apprenticeships have been started yet.

211 potential employers have signed contracts to provide employment to trainees placed with them in the private sector.

The number of trainees per employer is as follows:

1435 136 employers with 1 trainee each; 37 with 2; 16 with 3; 4 with 4; 3 with 5; 3 with 6; 7 with 7; 1 with 9; 1 with 10; 1 with 17; and 1 company with 21

4 employees have failed to honour the Future Job Strategy job guarantee. 4 Employers, sorry – employers. I think this is the same figure that I gave the last time in the answer, so I do not think there has been any increase.

1440 The standard policy in terms of length of training is to provide trainees for a 3-month period, but, where the training requires more time because of the nature of the work, the officer in the Employment Service dealing with the placement provider can authorise a longer period.

Further to my answer to Question 987/2012, I am informed that the following two companies have

Government contracts with a value in excess of £2,000; GibrFlora and AM Capurro & Sons.

1445 Since the answer to Question 180/2013, the number of trainees employed has been, by month, as follows: February – 16 in the Private Sector and 7 in the Public Service; March – 18 in the Private sector; and none in the Public Service; April – 16 in the Private Sector, 6 in the Public Service. I have met all the trainees on one occasion at the beginning of the scheme.

1450 93 trainees who were in VTS prior to 1st February 2012 continue to be employed by the Employment Training Company Limited.

1455 As I have explained on a number of occasions previously, trainee carers in the Care Agency and trainee nurses in the Health Authority are guaranteed employment on completion of their training, as are trainees in the Private Sector covered by Business Partnership Agreements. The duration of the contracts depends on the nature of the training, other than those individuals that were inherited from the previous scheme, the number just given, and still remain in training pending the opportunity of finding them suitable employment. The number in this group is the subject of a separate Question, which I have already answered.

The overall number of trainees as at the end of March 2013 was 193 in the Public Sector and 260 in the Private Sector.

1460 Statistics regarding the Maritime Cadet Training Schemes are reviewed on a monthly basis. They were updated in September 2012 to include a new cadet. They will soon be updated again to reflect that this cadet has left the course.

1465 **GDC employees
Details and grades**

Clerk: Question 343, the Hon. D J Bossino.

1470 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment provide the numbers of new employees which have been employed by the GDC since 9th December 2011 and how many of those have been recruited from the pool of Future Job Strategy trainees?

1475 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano): 343? I will answer this Question with 344.

1480 **Clerk:** Question 344, the Hon. D J Bossino.

Hon. D J Bossino: Can the Minister for Employment advise this House how many individuals are currently employed by the GDC, with details of the grades they hold and where they are currently placed?

1485 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

Hon. J J Bossano: Mr Speaker, six persons have been employed by the GDC since 9th December 2011. None have been recruited from the Job Strategy trainees.

1490 As at March 2013, there were 88 employees in the GDC in the following grades: 1 Finance Centre Director; 1 Manager, Employment Service; 1 Legislation Officer; 1 Grade 5T; 3 Grade 5; 17 Grade 4; 14 Grade 3; 29 Grade 2; 19 Grade 1; 1 Traffic Warden; 1 Industrial Grade.

1495 They were placed as follows: 3 employees at Convent Place; 5 in the Housing Administration Department; 3 in Family & Community Affairs; 1 in Education; 3 in Financial Services; 35 in the Employment Department; 2 in Port & Shipping; 32 in Tourism; 2 in Public Transport & Commercial Affairs; 1 in Culture & Heritage; and 1 in the Legislation support Unit.

1500 **Unemployment trends
Details, benefit and resident construction workforce**

Clerk: Question 354, the Hon. D J Bossino.

Hon. D J Bossino: Can the Minister for Employment advise this House how many of the vacancies opened at the ETB have been filled by individuals who are in employment?

- 1505 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.
- Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this question with 355 and 357.
- 1510 **Clerk:** Question 355.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister for Employment report any progress, if at all, in relation to the building up of a resident workforce for the construction industry, as he has stated previously in this House?
- 1515 **Clerk:** Question 357.
- Hon. D J Bossino:** Further to Question No. 1059/2012, can the Minister for Employment state how many people were registered unemployed as at the end of the fourth quarter of 2012 and the first quarter of 2013 and on a month by month basis since September 2012, the number of applications made and accepted for unemployment benefit.
- 1520 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.
- 1525 **Hon. J J Bossano:** Mr Speaker, in the calendar year 2012, 5,545 vacancies opened at the ETB have been filled by individuals in employment.
- Based on the records of the Employment Service – which are not 100% accurate – the resident workforce in the construction industry increased by 40 since December 2011.
- 1530 The total number of persons registered unemployed as at the end of the fourth quarter of 2012 was 403, that is Gibraltarians, and the number at the end of the first quarter of 2013 of this year was 463.
- The number of applications made and accepted for unemployment benefit by month is as follows, since September 2012: September – 42 received; 44 approved: this is because, in fact, it can be received in one month and approved in the next. October – 52 received, 45 approved; November – 48 received, 40 approved; December – 28 received, 33 approved; January 2013 – 44 received, 31 approved; February – 33 received, 35 approved; and March – 46 received, and 35 approved.
- 1535
- Inward investment
EU development aid and private funding**
- 1540 **Clerk:** Question 359, the Hon. D J Bossino.
- 1545 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister with responsibility for inward investment provide details of any development aid and EU funding which has been approved since the Government took office?
- Clerk:** Answer the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.
- 1550 **Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano):** Mr Speaker I will answer this question together with Question 360.
- Clerk:** Question 360.
- 1555 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Can the Minister with responsibility for inward investment report to the House what inward investment has come to Gibraltar since 9 December 2011?
- Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.
- 1560 **Hon. J J Bossano:** Mr Speaker, there has been no development aid granted in the period in the question.
- Since December 2011, the following ERDF funds have been provided and I will give the hon. Member the recipient's name and the amount provided.
- 1565 CMCI Limited £9,986.03; Jury's Café and Wine Bar Limited £69,820.20; Eazi Telecom Limited £148,140.92; Brilliant Nurseries Limited £19,920; i-Golf (Gibraltar) Limited £140,429; Arena Leisure Limited £34,083.01; Rock Cool Limited £19,786.80; Oasis Eatery Limited £10,523.75; The Mexican Grill Bar Limited £53,013.16; Classic Cuts Limited £15,879.25; The Crab Shack Limited £15,873.42;

1570 Driver and Vehicle Licencing Department (which is a Government Department) £29,256.92; Gibraltar Chronicle Printing Limited £9,461.54. There are four Tourist Board Projects which received, in turn, £141,183.44; £28,962.87; £50,731.69; £44,420.38. Casa Brachetto Limited received £18,949.09; Siddharth Limited £9,804.55; Piece of Cake Limited £11,247.07; GibCargo Limited £19,948.92; Free Style Leisure Limited £19,912.24; Mr Noodles £18,003.12. That is the complete list of EU Funding.

1575 As regards the investments, in the calendar year 2012, 400 new business activities were registered with the Enterprise and Employment Department. Some 10% of these new employers involve participants from outside Gibraltar which, in some cases, amounted to 100% of the ownership.

**Accommodation for Moroccan workers
Replacement for Buena Vista and Devil's Tower Road Hostels**

1580 **Clerk:** Question 361, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1585 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Government advise what plans they have to rehouse the Moroccan workers in Gibraltar after they vacate the Buena Vista and Devil's Tower Road Hostels?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

1590 **Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano):** Mr Speaker, the Government is currently considering a number of alternative options.

**Factory Inspections
Statistics and accident details / Health & Safety Committees**

1595 **Clerk:** Question 364, the Hon. J J Netto.

1600 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health & Safety please clarify why, in the monitoring activities carried out by the Factory Inspector for the month of January, February and March of 2013, as shown in the Government website in Table HS.1, there are a total of one hundred and seventy-seven activities, of which one hundred and eleven were carried out in the construction industry?

1605 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training and Employment and Health & Safety.

Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano): Mr Speaker, I will answer the Question together with Questions 365, 366, 367, 368, 369,370 and 371.

1610 **Clerk:** Question 365.

1615 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health & Safety provide Parliament with a summary of the two major reportable accidents, one in February and the other one in March, as reported on the Government website under Table HS.2, stating, amongst other things, the name of the company in which such employees worked and the reason for the accidents as judged by the Factory Inspectors?

Clerk: Question 366.

1620 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Government say if the existing Health and Safety Committees that exist in Government Departments, Authorities, Agencies and Government-owned companies collate health and safety statistical information regarding the organisation they belong to?

Clerk: Question 367.

1625 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Employment and Health & Safety please say what Health and Safety training has been provided to Future Job Strategy trainees either whilst working for Gibraltar Employment Training Company Limited or while seconded to another company, since commencement of this Government policy?

Clerk: Question 368.

1630 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Government name the various Health and Safety Committees which exist in Government Departments, Authorities, Agencies and Government-owned companies and state the number of occasions when such committees met during 2012 and 2013 on a monthly basis?

Clerk: Question 369.

1635 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health & Safety say if, following the recently acquired software programme for the Factory Inspectors, they will now be in a position to renew the publication of annual reports on statistical information on Health and Safety?

Clerk: Question 370.

1640 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Health and Safety provide Parliament with the names of the companies that were issued with two prohibition notices and two improvement notices in January and February 2013, the site in which the notices were issued and stating the period covered by the prohibition notices before the companies complied with the terms of the notices.

1645

Clerk: Question 371.

1650 **Hon. J J Netto:** Mr Speaker can the Minister for Health and Safety provide the April 2013 statistics on monitoring activities, occupational reportable accidents, enforcement activities, number of times legal advice has been sought and reasons for Factories Inspector issuing Improvement and Prohibition Notices, as these figures were not available at the time Notice for Questions was given?

1655 **Hon. J J Bossano:** Mr Speaker, the monitoring activities are carried out by the Inspectors on the basis of their professional knowledge and experience.

I can only surmise that the higher incidents of monitoring of construction sites is due to the fact that, unlike other establishments, different building sites are constantly closing and being opened whilst a bank or a shop, for example, continues to provide the same working environment, once inspected. In addition, the last report published for 2006 showed that accidents on building sites far outnumbered those in other industries.

1660 Details of the two accidents referred to in Table HS.2 are as follows:

1. The major accident that occurred on 15th February 2013 concerned a qualified electrician aged 52. He fell off a step ladder whilst repairing an electrical fault at a school, causing a fractured right wrist.
2. The major accident that occurred on 19th March 2013 concerned a 40-year old. He slipped on a slippery surface whilst delivering 18.9 litre water bottles, causing breakage and displacement of the bone on the right hand.

1665 The Inspectorate considers that extra care and attention by those involved could have been exercised and are nonetheless satisfied that no further investigation was needed. I am informed, as regards the question of the committees, that no such committees have ever existed within Government Departments, Authorities, Agencies or Government-owned companies. Therefore, there have never been any meetings of any such committees.

1670 The Employment Training Company does not undertake any work itself. Its employees are placed with training providers, who give them the same Health and Safety training as they give the rest of their staff in the same work environment.

1675 I am informed that the last Annual Report was produced by outside consultants in 2007. I am not aware why it was discontinued nor that the issue was that the right software was available since the Inspectorate, I understand, was not involved in its production previously.

Two prohibition notices were served, one in January on Suite 18-20, Block 3, Water Gardens for not complying with the Construction, Design, Management Regulations, and one in February on North Mole Industrial Park for not notifying the project as per (CDM) Construction Design Regulations.

1680 The two improvement notices were in February on 265 Main Street for non-compliance with Workplace (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations and Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations. The second, in February, was on 309 Main Street for non-compliance with Workplace Regulations in relation to fire extinguishers, escape routes and general housekeeping. All the parties complied with the requirements within two or three days.

1685 Health and Safety statistics for the month of April 2013 are as follows: monitoring activities – meetings, 8; advice, 7; complaints, 1; inspections, 15; follow-ups, 3; and site visits, 12; occupational reportable accidents – 3 minor accidents; enforcement activities – nil; legal advice – nil; reason for Factory Inspectors issuing Improvement and Prohibition Notices – nil.

1690

**Financial Services and Gaming
Jobs lost and created in 2012-13**

1695 **Clerk:** Question 372, the Hon. D A Feetham.

Hon. D A Feetham: Mr Speaker, will the Chief Minister please state how many jobs were lost in (a) the Financial Services Sector and (b) the Gaming Sector in 2012 and 2013.

1700 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health and Safety.

Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment, and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano): I will answer this Question together with Question 373.

1705 **Clerk:** Question 373.

Hon. D A Feetham: Will the Chief Minister please state how many new jobs were created in (a) the Financial Services Sector and (b) the Gaming Sector in 2012 and 2013.

1710 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

Hon. J J Bossano: Mr Speaker, it is impossible to provide the information requested without a manual check for every month of 2012 and 2013 of every single employer classified within the Financial Services Sector and the Gaming Sector.

1715 The Question requires that, in respect of each such employer, the job titles be examined in order to establish whether all the jobs that were registered with the Employment Service on 2nd January 2012, for example, were still there on 3rd January 2012 and, if not, how many had ceased to exist, as opposed to becoming vacant. Equally, there would have to be another exercise to look at the jobs on 3rd January 2012 to discover whether any new jobs had been created in addition to the jobs existing on 2nd January 2012 or to replace any jobs lost.

1720 The Gaming Industry, in particular, has a huge turnover of staff which may simply be replacing people leaving or maybe new jobs being created. In any event, the records of the Employment Service are not so accurate that they can be relied upon as evidence of the existence of any other jobs in these two sectors or any other sector of the economy, for that matter, since the registration of termination of contracts is frequently submitted after long delays or not at all. All that I can tell the House is that there is no evidence of an overall reduction in size of the two sectors in 2012 or 2013.

1725 On the basis of the numbers registered in the ETB under the industry Code for Banking, Insurance and Finance, there were 3,732 persons in employment in December 2011, 3,786 in December 2012 and 3,877 on 31st March 2013. Therefore, subject to the caveat that I have entered as to accuracy, the trend shows an increase in December over the previous year and an even bigger increase in the first quarter of this year.

1730 As regards Gaming companies, this is not a classified industry group and we therefore have to rely on the information provided by individual employers on the filling of vacancies and notices of terminations. For 2012, terminations were 662 from all the companies collectively and vacancies filled 1,028. For the first quarter of 2013, terminations have been 157 and vacancies filled 247. These figures indicate that the numbers in employment grew in both 2012 and the first quarter of this year in Gaming, as well as in Banking and Finance.

1740 **Government and Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures
Value, breakdown and investments**

Clerk: Question 374 the Hon. D A Feetham.

1745 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide the total value of Government Debentures outstanding as at 11th December 2011?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety.

1750 **Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health & Safety (Hon. J J Bossano):** Mr Speaker, I will answer this Question together with Questions 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383 and 384.

Clerk: Question 375.

1755 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide the total value of Government Debentures outstanding as at 1st May 2013?

Clerk: Question 376.

1760 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide the total value of Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures or other debt security outstanding as at 11th December 2011, giving a breakdown in respect of each issue outstanding.

Clerk: Question 377.

1765 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide the total value of Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures or other debt security outstanding as at 1st May 2013, giving a breakdown in respect of each issue outstanding.

1770 **Clerk:** Question 378.

Hon. D A Feetham: Will the Chief Minister provide a total value of Government Debentures which, since 11th December 2011, have been withdrawn or redeemed and then reissued or reinvested in other Government Debentures?

1775 **Clerk:** Question 379.

1780 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide a total value of Government Debentures which, since 11th December 2011, have been withdrawn or redeemed and then reissued or reinvested in Debentures or other debt security issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank?

Clerk: Question 380.

1785 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister provide a total value of Government Debentures which, since 11th December 2011, have been withdrawn or redeemed and have not been reinvested in other Government Debentures or other debt security issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank?

Clerk: Question 381.

1790 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister state what is the current maximum limit that any individual or entity can invest in Debentures or other debt security issued by the Gibraltar Savings Bank?

Clerk: Question 382.

1795 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister please state the total value of Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures or other debt security outstanding as at 11th December 2011, how much is held by (a) residents of Gibraltar and how many of these are individuals or companies and (b) non-residents and how many of these are individuals or companies?

1800 **Clerk:** Question 383.

1805 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister please state, out of the total value of Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures or other debt security outstanding as at 1st May 2013 how much is held by (a) residents of Gibraltar and how many of these are individuals or companies and, (b), non-residents and how many of these are individuals or companies?

Clerk: Question 384.

1810 **Hon. D A Feetham:** Will the Chief Minister please provide a breakdown showing how the proceeds from Gibraltar Savings Bank Debentures, or other debt security outstanding as at 1st May 2013, is invested or has been used by the Gibraltar Savings Bank?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Enterprise, Training, Employment and Health and Safety.

1815 **Hon. J J Bossano:** Mr Speaker, the total value of Government Debentures outstanding as at 11th December 2011 was £320,616,300. As at 1st May 2013, the amount was £169,814,800. The total value of Savings Bank Securities outstanding as at 11th December 2011 was £261,689,867, broken down as follows:

1820	Monthly Income Debentures	£11,617,600
	Pensioners Monthly Income Debentures	£7,717,400
	Other Special Debenture Issues at 2%	£4,291,193
	8% Provident Trust Fund No. 2 Pension Scheme EX Bond No. 1	£515,355
	8% Provident Trust Fund (Bond 1)	£2,353,471
1825	8% Pension Rights and Gratuity Transfers (Bond 2)	£4,390,687
	8% Provident Trust Fund No. 2 Pension Scheme EX JMH	£80,570
	Gibraltar Provident Trust (JMH) Pension Scheme	£265,338
	GSL 11% Bond	£21,152
	Ordinary Deposits	£42,641,256
	Investment Call Accounts	
1830	Non-Government	£8,457
	Government (tentative)	£187,787,388

As at 1st May 2013, the value of the Savings Bank Deposits, Debentures and so forth, was £552,931,350, broken down as follows:

1835	Monthly Income Debentures	£8,124,900
	Pensioners' Monthly Income Debentures	£6,098,300
	Monthly Income Debenture Issue 1 (January 2012)	£5,786,900
	3-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (February 2015)	£1,993,300
1840	3-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (May 2015)	£3,000,000
	3-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (August 2015)	£4,906,800
	3-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (November 2015)	£1,170,900
	3-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (January 2016)	£6,941,600
	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (February 2017)	£24,980,800
1845	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (May 2017)	£29,787,000
	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (August 2017)	£22,229,600
	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (November 2017)	£8,713,600
	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (January 2018)	£52,267,900
	Limited Issue Fixed Monthly Income Debenture (31 December 2013)	£4,221,600
1850	5-Year Fixed Term Monthly Income Debenture (March 2018)	£44,610,100
	Other Special Debenture Issues at 2%	£2,344,118

Mr Speaker: Has the Hon. Minister, perchance, missed the Fixed Monthly Income, December 2015, £31,233,100?

1855	Hon. J J Bossano: I may have done, in which case I will read it out just in case:	
	Limited Issue Fixed Monthly Income Debenture (31 December 2015)	£31,233,100
	10-Year Accumulator Bonds	
	Maturing in February 2012	£877,300
1860	Maturing in May 2012	£2,856,400
	Maturing in August 2012	£662,200
	Maturing in November 2012	£569,100
	Maturing in January 2013	£2,754,600
	Pensioner Accumulator Bond	
1865	Monthly Income Pensioner Accumulator Bond, April 2012	£1,457,000
	Monthly Income Pensioner Accumulator Bond, August 2012	£2,133,300
	Monthly Income Pensioner Accumulator Bond, November 2012	£495,200
	Monthly Income Pensioner Accumulator Bond, January 2013	£1,905,000
	Ordinary Deposits	£57,748,117
1870	Non-Government Call Accounts	£1,271,283
	Government Accounts (tentative)	£221,791,332

Since 11th December, the total value of Government Debentures redeemed is £233.6m. The holders of the Debentures re-invested £65.9m in other Government Debentures and £123.8m in other debt securities of the Savings Bank and withdrew £43.9m: that is they were repaid in cash, that amount.

1875 The only current maximum investment is in respect of Ordinary Accounts, where it is £100,000 per person, or in Monthly Income Debentures, where it is £50,000 per person

The information detailing the values of Debentures or securities of the Savings Bank held by

1880 residents, non-residents, individuals and companies for 11th December 2011 is not readily available and may take some time to compile from a manual examination of each individual account – it is not held in electronic form – so I will provide that to the Member when the exercise is completed. The position for the current date, of course, is much easier and has been done and, therefore, I can tell him that, on 1st May 2013, non-residents, all of whom had individual accounts – there were no company accounts for non-residents – held less than 1% of the value of the total debt of the figure that I have already given him. In respect of the residents, who were 99% of the total, less than 1% of that 99% was held by local companies, so 99% are residents and 98 of those 99 are individuals and not companies.

1885 The list of investments of the Gibraltar Savings Bank is contained in the schedule which I now hand over to the hon. Member.

ANSWER TO QUESTION 384

**SAVINGS BANK FUND STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS ON 31 MARCH 2012
SHOWING MARKET VALUE ON THAT DATE**

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK	NOMINAL VALUE	MARKET PRICE ACCRUED INTEREST %	MARKET VALUE ACCRUED INTEREST	TOTAL MARKET VALUE ON 31 3 12
EIB FLOATING RATE NOTE 30/01/14	£20,000,000.00	100.027 0.193	£20,005,327.20 £38,538.63	£20,043,865.83
EIB FLOATING RATE NOTE 19/02/2015	£20,000,000.00	100.025 0.128	£20,004,957.80 £25,661.59	£20,030,619.39
EIB FLOATING RATE NOTE 05/01/16	£25,000,000.00	99.925 0.272	£24,981,232.25 £68,083.73	£25,049,315.98
INTERNATIONAL BK RECON & DEV FRN 19/01/16	£4,235,000.00	100.006 0.225	£4,235,254.23 £9,519.85	£4,244,774.08
DEUTSCHE BANK FRN 26/04/12	£5,000,000.00	99.973 0.203	£4,998,671.20 £10,146.77	£5,008,817.97
JP MORGAN CHASE FRN 27/06/12	£6,000,000.00	99.853 0.012	£5,991,153.72 £744.00	£5,991,897.72
DEXIA CREDIT LOCAL FRN 01/04/14	£12,000,000.00	99.557 0.358	£11,946,832.92 £42,936.09	£11,989,769.01
RABOBANK NEDERLAND FRN 06/06/14	£18,000,000.00	99.984 0.106	£17,997,203.34 £19,027.97	£18,016,231.31
FMS WERTMANAGEMENT FRN 16/06/14	£10,000,000.00	100.140 0.052	£10,014,044.60 £5,203.52	£10,019,248.12
CAISSE D'AMORT DETTE SOC FRN 30/06/14	£10,000,000.00	100.000 0.003	£10,000,000.00 £349.83	£10,000,349.83
KFW FRN 09/03/15	£17,000,000.00	99.918 0.069	£16,986,020.56 £11,690.11	£16,997,710.67
REPUBLIC OF FINLAND FRN 25/2/16	£5,000,000.00	100.085	£5,004,241.05	£5,009,269.62

		0.101	£5,028.57	
GIH FRN 02/04/12	£12,500,000.00	100.000	£12,500,000.00	£12,500,684.93
		0.005	£684.93	
ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GBP CALL A/C	£16,709,957.50	100.000	£16,709,957.50	£16,710,300.86
		0.002	£343.36	
CROWN AGENTS BANK	£754.46	100.000	£754.46	£754.46
BARCLAYS BANK PLC	£97,262,019.82	100.000	£97,262,019.82	£97,315,628.88
		0.055	£53,609.06	
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER OFFSHORE LTD	£8,704,857.37	100.000	£8,704,857.37	£8,704,857.37
BANK OF ENGLAND	£2,002,832.49	100.000	£2,002,832.49	£2,002,872.00
		0.002	£39.51	
	£289,415,421.64		£289,636,968.03	£289,636,968.03

Mr Speaker: We will now have a twenty minute recess.

The House adjourned at 4.52 p.m. and resumed its sitting at 5.25 p.m.

1890

EQUALITY, SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE ELDERLY

1895

Chaplow Wilson Associates Alzheimer and Dementia design projects

Clerk: Answers to Questions continue.

Question 300/2013, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1900

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say what were the last five Alzheimer and Dementia design projects Mr Bob Wilson from Chaplow Wilson Associates advised on, not necessarily in Gibraltar, giving the dates?

1905

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, Mr Wilson has informed me of the following – after thirty years in the building industry, latterly as a Managing Director, he commenced his involvement with designing for people with dementia almost twenty years ago with Methodist Homes for the Aged, a major national operator in the field of dementia care in the UK. Whilst with MHA, he created a design concept for one of the first purpose-built design dementia homes in the UK which was completed in 1996 and is still regarded as a leader in the field.

1910

The successful design concept was quickly repeated in a second home in Stoke-on-Trent and in several other existing homes across the UK, where extensions to provide dementia care accommodation could be provided. On leaving MHA in 2000, he set up Chaplow Wilson Associates to provide specialised services in designing for dementia. He was also invited by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to join a Professor of Dementia Care at Northampton University to produce a Good Practice Guide for the design and management of care homes for people with dementia, published in 2002. It is regularly used as a reference document.

1915

Furthermore, Mr Wilson has conducted feasibility studies and has advised various commercial organisations. He has also contributed to workshops and presented papers for designing on dementia. The following list shows significant projects in which Mr Wilson was a consultant advisor –

1920

Methodist Homes for the Aged Guernsey Limited 2005/2010 – this was a finalist in the highly-regarded Pinders Healthcare Design Award; Whitepost Healthcare Group Limited, 2008/2009; St. John's Home, Northampton 2005/2006; Lancashire County Council 2003/2004; Colten Healthcare Limited 2002 – Winner of the Pinders Healthcare Design Award.

1925

1930

National Dementia Strategy
Date of publication

1935

Clerk: Question 301, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1940

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say when the Government will be publishing its National Dementia Strategy for the treatment and care of people with Alzheimer and Dementia and what will the Strategy include?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

1945

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, the Care Agency is working with the GHA on a National Dementia Strategy. This project is led by the GHA and involves a multi-disciplinary team of relevant professionals in this field.

1950

The Strategy document is still a draft working document and, as such, I cannot at this stage say what it will include but, generally, it will deal with the incidence of dementia, services and facilities available. It is envisaged that the plan will be published at the end of the year. I would add that action in dealing with dementia will not await the publication of this document.

1955

RNH Alzheimer and Dementia facility
Date of completion

Clerk: Question 302, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1960

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say what the date of completion for the Alzheimer and Dementia facility at the former RNH site is?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

1965

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, on the current timescales, we envisage that it will be completed by the end of this year. As with everything in major construction works, it may be that this means early next year.

1970

John Mackintosh Wing elderly accommodation
Cost and timescale of conversion to Dementia facility

Clerk: Question 303, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

1975

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services confirm that the completed – since April 2012 – brand new independent living quarters for the elderly at the John Mackintosh Wing of the former St. Bernard's Hospital will be gutted and converted into a dementia facility and how much will this cost and when will this be ready?

1980

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

1985

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, the Government embarked on show-casing these flats to approximately 150 pensioners who were the target residents for these flats, which were built by the previous administration. The result was outstanding, in that only four or five people seemed interested and even these were subject to conditions such as the choice of flat. The main criticism by the public was that the flats were too small and that they were not in an accessible area. This is in addition to the criticism by professionals as to the layout of these flats.

1990

With regard to the practicality of the use of these flats, they could not be offered to people with mobility issues as it was practically impossible to move around the flat with a Zimmer frame or wheelchair and the shower step was too high and with no support.

The real question should be why it was that the previous administration spent over £3 million on a design that would not meet the needs of their targeted audience. After this fiasco and misuse of public monies, this administration is working on a design that will have facilities to care for people with Dementia and Alzheimers and will also have a wing for semi-independent living. Some of the gutting has

1995 already commenced. The full, detailed designs have yet to be finalised and therefore the cost of such a conversion has not yet been stipulated.

2000 **Registration of death**
One stop, simpler system

Clerk: Question 304, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2005 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services advise how the one stop system and simpler procedure after the death of a family member is being addressed, as per the request of the Gibraltar Senior Citizens Association?

2010 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, following representations made to us by the Senior Citizens Association, we are looking to establish a one stop system for the purposes of registering a death. Once arrangements have been finalised, Government will make an announcement.

2015

Care facilities for looked-after children
Ratio of staff per child

2020

Clerk: Question 305, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services state how many care workers in care facilities are assigned per looked-after child, as at 30th April 2013.

2025

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, staff ratios for the number of care workers assigned to looked after children vary. Generally, the ratio of care worker to looked-after child is one to two. If a child has a disability which results in the need for greater care or has challenging behaviour, the ratio could be one to one. On 30th April 2013 this ratio was applied.

2030

2035

Looked-after children
Counselling sessions

Clerk: Question 306, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2040

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say how many looked-after children are currently attending counselling sessions and who provides this service?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2045

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, currently six looked-after children attend counselling sessions provided by the psychological and therapeutic team at Social Services of the Care Agency.

2050

Care Agency
18-year old looked-after children

2055 **Clerk:** Question 307, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say how many 18-year old looked-after children remain within the care of the Care Agency and, if so, explain why they have not been integrated back within the community?

2060

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, there are none.

2065

**Secure Children's Unit
Location, resources and details**

2070

Clerk: Question 308, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services advise where the Secure Unit for children with severe challenging behaviour will be located, what specialist care plans will be provided for these children and what resources will be available either in-house, the Care Agency or externally for the needs of those looked after children?

2075

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, the Care Agency has not yet determined where the secure unit for children with severe challenging behaviour will be located.

2080

Options are being considered in regard to the service being either independently placed, or coterminously placed, within a Challenging Behaviour Unit. You will recall, however, that it was the GSD administration who removed the secure provision from the Children Act 2009.

2085

**St Bernadette's Resource Centre
Maximising service users' potential**

2090

Clerk: Question 309, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, in the Government's Press Release No. 173/2012, the Minister for Social Services stated that her ultimate aim for St. Bernadette's Resource Centre is to have a programme that will maximise the potential of each service user. Can the Minister advise whether she has achieved the goal set and what more needs to be done?

2095

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2100

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, as stated in the press release, the ultimate aim for St. Bernadette's is to have a programme that will maximise the potential of each service user. This is part of the on-going review of the disability services.

2105

**St Bernadette's Resource Centre
Expanding and improving service**

2110

Clerk: Question 310, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, in the Government's Press Release number 173/2012, the Minister for Social Services stated that she would like to explore how such centres are run in other places, with a view to expanding and improving the service that is offered in Gibraltar to adults with learning disabilities. Can the Minister advise what centre or centres she has visited, what she has learned from visiting such a centre or centres, and what, if any, initiative has the Hon. Minister introduced as a result of the visits?

2115

2120 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, the centres I have visited are as follows: Bangeston Hall, UK; Asansul Centre for Adults in Palmones and various Asansul Centres in La Línea

2125 During all these visits I have held meetings with the management of these centres and have discussed general issues such as managing the centre, activity programmes and staff training.

Following my visits I have discussed matters with the Care Agency management as part of our continuous review of the disability service.

2130

**Provision for disabled
Improvements**

2135 **Clerk:** Question 311, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, in the Government's Press Release number 801/2012, the Minister for Social Services stated then that we have made significant improvements for the disabled. Can the Minister advise what these improvements are?

2140

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, since taking office, equality is on this Government's agenda and we are undertaking a robust review of all matters, including disability.

2145

I am delighted to say that the following steps have been taken so far: assessment of the Gibraltar Parliament and plans to make it accessible as part of the refurbishment; assessment of St. Michael's Cave as part of the refurbishment and making it accessible – a platform lift installed for the use of wheelchair users and accessible toilets; accessibility audit of the Gibraltar International Airport; accessibility audit of the GSLA shallow pool and surrounding area, installation of a new hoist for disabled bathers into the sea, repair of the hoists into the pool and repair of toilet facilities; accessibility to Gibraltar beaches, Catalan Bay, Camp Bay and improvements to Eastern Beach; provision for people with disabilities at major public events, such as National Day, the Mega Concert and the Three Kings Cavalcade; celebration of International Day of people with disabilities for the first time; working on the creation of a disability register; working on disability legislation and, in particular, the UN Convention on the rights of people with disabilities; programme for disability awareness training being prepared for public service employees; funding of civil and public servants attending BSL Level 1 and 2 courses; programme for installation of voice synthesizers in lifts in Government estates; review of the Care Agency Disability Service and investment in staff training; establishment of Supported Employment Limited; increase of disability allowance by 16% with effect from August 2012; abolition of input duty on any vehicle which is adapted for the use of a person with a disability; additional funding for the contingencies budget; increase of 50% on top of the present rates of all sponsored patients in respect of sponsored patients who are disabled, changes to the assessment of disabled person's tax allowance and of the allowance based system.

2150

2155

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2165

**Protection for the disabled
United Nations Convention model**

2170

Clerk: Question 312, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services advise when the Government will legislate to further protect disabled people using the terms of the United Nations Convention on the rights of disabled persons as a model?

2175

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, this is currently being addressed. I am working with our lawyers on this important piece of legislation and aim to introduce it as soon as possible.

2180

**British Sign Language Course
Cost of Government funding**

2185 **Clerk:** Question 313, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond: Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services state how much it cost for Government to fund the Level 1 British Sign Language Course of March 19th 2012?

2190 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2195 **Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento):** Mr Speaker, this is a course that is organised and run by GHITA (Gibraltar Hearing Impaired Tinnitus Association). Government did not fund the course as such but paid for the fee for individuals from Government Departments who attended as part of the Government's Disability Awareness Policy. The cost of this was as follows: Care Agency, two attendees, cost £550; GHA, three attendees, cost £850; Department of Education, three attendees, cost £870.

2200 **British Sign Language Course, Level 2**

Clerk: Question 314, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2205 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say who will be funding the Level 2 British Sign Language Course and state how much it will cost?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2210 **Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento):** Mr Speaker, this is a course that is organised and run by GHITA (Gibraltar Hearing Impaired Tinnitus Association), not the Government and I am, therefore, unable to comment how much the course will cost. I can confirm that the following employees of Government Departments will be attending: Care Agency, one attendee, £500; GHA, one attendee, £500; Department of Education, one attendee, £500.

2215

**Vulnerable adults with mental health issues
Social Services safety net for those on remand**

2220

Clerk: Question 315, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2225 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services advise what the Social Services safety net is for vulnerable adults with mental health issues who may be on remand for months?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2230 **Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento):** Mr Speaker, people on remand are the responsibility of the Prison Service. Adults with mental health issues come under the remit of the mental health team at the GHA, not the Social Services Department of the Care Agency. This has always been the position.

2235 Anyone with on-going mental health issues, to include those on remand, would be reviewed and receive treatment from the psychiatrist from the Mental Health Team at the request of the Superintendent of the Prison.

2240 **Rehabilitation at Bruce's Farm
Numbers and details**

Clerk: Question 316, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2245 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services say how many individuals have been undergoing rehabilitation at Bruce's Farm over the last eighteen months on a monthly basis and for what type of addiction?

Clerk: Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

2250 **Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento):** Mr Speaker, in the month of December 2011 there were two individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of January 2012 there were six individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of February 2012 there were six individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of March 2012 there were eight individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol and gambling addiction; in the month of April 2012 there were eight individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol and/or gambling addiction; in the month of May 2012 there were five individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of June 2012 there were six individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug addiction; in the month of July 2012 there were five individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug addiction; in the month of August 2012 there were three individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of September 2012 there were three individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of October 2012 there were seven individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of November 2012 there were five individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of December 2012 there were four individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of January 2013 there were four individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of February 2013 there were four individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol and/or gambling addiction; in the month of March 2013 there were three individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; in the month of April 2013 there were five individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction; and, from the beginning of this month to 22nd May, there were four individuals undergoing rehabilitation for drug and/or alcohol addiction.

2275

**Shop Mobility services
Suppliers of wheelchairs and scooters**

Clerk: Question 317, the Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond.

2280 **Hon. Mrs I M Ellul-Hammond:** Mr Speaker, can the Minister for Social Services provide this House with the names of all companies, trusts or charities involved in supplying wheelchairs and/or scooters to the Care Agency for the Shop Mobility services of Gibraltar since December 9th 2011?

2285 **Clerk:** Answer, the Hon. the Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly.

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly (Hon. Miss S J Sacramento): Mr Speaker, since 9th December 2011 no companies, trusts or charities have been involved in supplying wheelchairs and/or scooters to the Care Agency for the Shop Mobility services.

2290

Questions for Written Answer

2295 **Clerk:** With that, we come to the end of Answers to Oral Questions and now we move to Answers to Written Questions.
The Hon. the Chief Minister.

2300 **Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo):** Mr Speaker, I have the honour to table the answers to the Written Questions numbers W32/2013 through to W58/2013.

Mr Speaker, I regret to say that it has not been possible in the time available to provide the answer to Written Question number 55, which will be provided as soon as possible and certainly before the end of the current meeting.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

2305 **Clerk:** Suspension of Standing Orders, the Hon. the Chief Minister.

Hon. Chief Minister: Mr Speaker, I beg to move, under Standing Order 7(3), to suspend Standing Order 7(1) in order to proceed with Government Bills.

2310 Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

BILLS

2315

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS

**Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012
First Reading approved**

2320

Clerk: Bills, First and Second Reading.

A Bill for an Act to amend the Development Aid Act: the Hon. the Chief Minister.

2325 **Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo):** Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that a Bill for an Act to amend the Development Aid Act be read a first time.

Mr Speaker: I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Development Aid Act be read a first time.

2330 Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Clerk: The Development Aid (Amendment) Act 2012.

2335

**Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012
Second Reading approved**

2340 **Hon. Chief Minister:** Mr Speaker I have the honour to move that the Bill now be read a second time. Mr Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to designate the Chief Minister, or such Minister as he may designate from time to time, as the person with responsibility to administer the provisions of the Act and that should be done under the proposed amendment either by the Chief Minister or from the person designated by notice in the *Gazette*.

2345 Mr Speaker, I circulated an amendment that I trust hon. Members have received after discussion with the Hon. the previous the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Caruana, as to the standard wording that would be used in that type of designation under previous sections that had been amended in that way, which would read as follows: 'Minister means the Chief Minister or such other Minister as the Chief Minister may, from time to time, designate by notice in the *Gazette*.' I understand that, with that amendment, hon. Members opposite would not have an issue with the proposed change and we are quite happy to move it in those terms.

2350

Mr Speaker: Before I put the Question, does any hon. Member wish to speak on the general principles and merits of the Bill?

I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Development Aid Act be read a second time.

2355 Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Clerk: The Development Aid (Amendment) Act 2012.

2360

**Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012
Committee Stage and Third Reading to be taken at this sitting**

Hon. Chief Minister: Mr Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Committee Stage and Third Reading

2365 of the Bill be taken today, if all Members agree.

Mr Speaker: Do all hon. Members agree that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today? (**Members:** Aye.)

2370

Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013
First Reading approved

2375 **Clerk:** A Bill for an Act to amend the Tobacco Act 1997, the Hon. the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo): Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that a Bill for an Act to amend the Tobacco Act 1997 be read a first time.

2380 **Mr Speaker:** I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Tobacco Act 1997 be read a first time.

Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

2385 **Clerk:** The Tobacco Amendment Act 2013.

Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013
Second Reading approved

2390

Hon. Chief Minister: Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill introduces two amendments to the Tobacco Act which extend the powers of the Magistrates Court in relation to things seized or which come into the possession of a Police or Customs officer in connection with any criminal offences under the Tobacco Act 1997. Essentially, the Bill gives power to the Courts to act in respect of such property as it may consider appropriate, something which we are advised the Courts at present have found that they do not have, given the exact terms of the Tobacco Act 1997.

2395

Mr Speaker: Before I put the Question, does any hon. Member wish to speak on the general principles and merits of the Bill?

2400

I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Tobacco Act 1997 be read a second time.

Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

2405 **Clerk:** The Tobacco (Amendment) Act 2013.

Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013
Committee Stage and Third Reading to be taken at this sitting

2410

Hon. Chief Minister: Mr Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today, if all hon. Members agree.

2415 **Mr Speaker:** Do all hon. Members agree that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today? (**Members:** Aye.)

2420

Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012
First Reading approved

Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Port Act: the Hon. the Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port.

2425

Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port (Hon. N F Costa): Mr

Speaker, I have the honour to move that a Bill for an Act to amend the Port Act be read a first time.

2430 **Mr Speaker:** I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Port Act be read a first time.

Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Clerk: The Port Act (Amendment) Act 2012.

2435

Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012
Second Reading approved

2440 **Hon. N F Costa:** Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

On 6th December of last year, the Government introduced the Port Amendment (No. 2) Rules and the Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) (Amendment) Regulations 2012. The purpose of these measures was to stiffen penalties for polluters in British Gibraltar territorial waters. The Government hopes and expects that the new penalties for would-be polluters, which are in line with other European jurisdictions, will be dissuasive, even as they are proportionate. On the same day, the Government published the present Bill.

2445 We did so in order to clarify the already ample powers conferred by section 19 of the Port Act to make Rules such as the Port (Amendment No. 2) Rules, in particular the creation of indictable offences. We have done this, Mr Speaker, by proposing that the present section 19, paragraph J, of the Port Act, which deals specifically with penalties, and which is one of numerous, but non-exhaustive matters cited in section 19, for which the Government can make rules, is substituted with a new section 19J. The new section 19J makes express reference to the creation of indictable offences and expressly disappplies any limitations on penalties provided by section 23B of the Interpretation and General Clauses Act.

2450 As a further point, Mr Speaker, I have noticed that section 2 of the Bill says that the Port Act (Amendment) Act is amended and, of course, this should read 'the Port Act is amended'.

2455 Mr Speaker, this House will recall that, last year, in connection with the second reading of the Trade Licensing (Amendment) Bill, I expressly thanked the Hon. Mr Bossino for having called me before the debate to express his views on certain aspects of that Bill and, for the purposes of *Hansard*, I note that the hon. Gentleman wrote to me to set out three legal points in respect of this Bill that we currently debate, and which did prompt me to consider both the Bill and the Rules afresh in the light of the hon. Gentleman's queries and to once again consider the matter with my legal team.

2460 After due examination of all of these legal issues with Counsel, I have been satisfied of the position. I called the hon. Gentleman to discuss the reasons why I was satisfied with both the Bill as currently drafted and the Rules as currently drafted. Following our telephone discussion, however, I have agreed with the hon. Gentleman to amend the Port Rules in the manner that I have provided. I have shown him a copy which we have discussed behind the Speaker's Chair and with which he is content.

2465 Simply for the purposes of *Hansard*, Mr Speaker, I note that whilst the amendments to the Rules are not, in my view, and as I have advised the hon. Member, strictly necessary, I do take the point of the Hon. Mr Bossino that, given even the slightest chance that a would-be polluter may escape prosecution, it is best to err on the side of caution and effect the amendments that he proposed and which I will publish in the new Rules in the *Gazette*.

2470 I therefore take the opportunity to once again thank the hon. Gentleman for this constructive approach, which I am sure all hon. Members agree makes for better laws being enacted. In the light of the above, Mr Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.

2475

Mr Speaker: Before I put the Question, does any hon. Member wish to speak on the general principles and merits of this Bill?

2480 **Hon. D J Bossino:** Yes, Mr Speaker, simply to confirm that the Opposition will be supporting this Bill and, in relation to the points that – I was just about to say my hon. Friend – the Hon. the Minister for the Port has said, as to the *modus operandi* which certainly I have adopted and he has gratefully accepted, in terms of making any technical issues which arise and putting them to him by e-mail and by telephone prior to the meeting of the House, is one when there is co-operation on the other side, can work to everybody's benefit, both in terms of occupying less time in this Parliament and, also as the hon. Member opposite rightly mentions, coming up with better law. So long, of course – and with this caveat – that it is set out, for the purposes of *Hansard*, what points were, in fact, raised, and I am satisfied that the hon. Member has done that.

2485

2490 **Mr Speaker:** I now put the Question, which is that a Bill – does the hon. Mover wish to reply?

Hon. N F Costa: No, Mr Speaker, thank you.

2495 **Mr Speaker:** I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Port Act be read a second time.
Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Clerk: The Port Act (Amendment) Act 2012.

2500

**Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012
Committee Stage and Third Reading to be taken at this sitting**

2505 **Hon. N F Costa:** Mr Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today, if all hon. Members agree.

Mr Speaker: Do all hon. Members agree that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today? (**Members:** Aye.)

2510

**Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013
First Reading approved**

2515 **Clerk:** The Bill for an Act to amend the Licensing and Fees Act: the Hon. the Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port.

2520 **Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port (Hon. N F Costa):** Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that a Bill for an Act to amend the Licensing and Fees Act be read a first time.

Mr Speaker: I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Licensing and Fees Act be read a first time. Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

2525

Clerk: The Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Act 2013.

2530

**Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013
Second Reading approved**

Hon. N F Costa: Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

2535 Mr Speaker, this Bill amends the Licensing and Fees Act by changing outdated references to 'Financial and Development Secretary' and references to 'Governor' throughout the Act. In the circumstances, references to 'Financial and Development Secretary' throughout the Act have been changed to Financial Secretary: similarly, references to 'Governor' throughout the Act have been changed to Government.

2540 These changes are in line with the Gibraltar (General Amendments) (No. 1) Act 2007 and therefore reflect the language currently used in Gibraltar legislation.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Mr Speaker: Before I put the Question, does any hon. Member wish to speak on the general principles and merits of the Bill?

2545 I now put the Question, which is that a Bill for an Act to amend the Licensing and Fees Act be read a second time.

Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Clerk: The Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Act 2013.

2550

Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013
Committee Stage and Third Reading to be taken at this sitting

2555 **Hon. N F Costa:** Mr Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today, if all hon. Members agree.

Mr Speaker: Do all hon. Members agree that the Committee Stage and Third Reading of the Bill be taken today? (**Members:** Aye.)

2560

COMMITTEE STAGE

2565 **Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012**
Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013
Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012
Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013

2570 **Clerk:** Committee Stage and Third Reading, the Hon. the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo): Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that the House should resolve itself into Committee to consider the following Bills, clause by clause: The Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012; The Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013; The Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012; and the Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013.

2575

In Committee of the whole Parliament

2580 **Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012**
Clauses considered and approved

Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Development Aid Act.
Clause 1

2585

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

Clerk: Clause 2.

2590 **Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo):** Mr Speaker, there is a letter that has been circulated to Members which reflects the amendment I propose to Clause 2, that it should read as follows:

'Minister means the Chief Minister or such other Minister as the Chief Minister may from time to time designate by notice in the Gazette'.

2595

Mr Chairman: Does any hon. Member wish to speak on this amendment?
I now move that the amendment be approved.
Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

2600

Clerk: The Long Title.

Mr Chairman: The Long Title.
Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against?

2605

Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013
Clauses considered and approved

2610 **Clerk:** A Bill for an Act to amend the Tobacco Act 1997.
Clause 1.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2615 **Clerk:** Clause 2.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2620 **Clerk:** The Long Title.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2625 **Port Act (Amendment) Bill 20102**
Clauses considered and approved

Clerk: A Bill for an Act to Amend the Port Act.
Clause 1.

2630 **Mr Chairman:** Stands part of the Bill.
There is an amendment to Clause 1 involving change of the title.

2635 **Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port (Hon. N F Costa):**
Yes, Mr Speaker, to change The Port Act (Amendment) Act to The Port Act.

Mr Chairman: Does any hon. Member wish to speak on the amendment, which changes the title from 'Port Act (Amendment) Act' to Port Act?
Carried.

2640 **Hon. N F Costa:** Mr Chairman, the change that I propose relates to Clause 2, not to Clause 1.

Clerk: In Clause 1 the law is cited as 'The Port Act (Amendment) Act'. Is that correct?

2645 **Hon. N F Costa:** That is correct.

Clerk: Right, so the change appears in Clause 2, when it should read 'The Port Act'.

2650 **Hon. N F Costa:** That's right. Yes, Mr Chairman, to clarify, there is no amendment moved in respect of Clause 1. Because Mr Clerk pointed to me, I assumed we had moved to Clause 2.

Clerk: Clause 2.

2655 **Hon. N F Costa:** Yes, Mr Chairman, as previously stated, 'The Port Act (Amendment) Act' is amended to 'The Port Act.'

Mr Chairman: Does any Member wish to speak on this amendment, which is consequential to the amendment to Clause 1?

2660 So Clause 2, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

Clerk: The Long Title.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2665 **Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013**
Clauses considered and approved

2670 **Clerk:** A Bill for an Act to amend The Licensing and Fees Act.
Clause 1.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2675 **Clerk:** Clause 2.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2680 **Clerk:** The Long Title.

Mr Chairman: Stands part of the Bill.

2685 **BILLS FOR THIRD READING**

Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012

Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013

Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012

2690 **Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013**

Third Reading approved: Bills passed

Clerk: The Hon. the Chief Minister.

2695 **Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo):** Mr Speaker, I have the honour to report that the Development Aid Act (Amendment) Bill 2012; the Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013; the Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012; and the Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013, have been considered in Committee and agreed to, with amendments, and I now move that they be read a third time and passed.

2700 **Mr Speaker:** I now put the Question, which is that the Development Aid (Amendment) Bill; the Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013; the Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012; and the Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013, be read a third time and passed. Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? (*Interjection*)

I am advised that, for *Hansard* purposes, we should take them individually. Very well.

2705 I now put the Question, which is that The Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012 be read a third time and passed.

Those in favour? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

No, we still have not got it right. Fortunately we are in Committee...

2710 Those in favour of The Development Aid (Amendment) Bill 2012? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Those in favour of the Tobacco (Amendment) Bill 2013? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Those in favour of the Port Act (Amendment) Bill 2012? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

Those in favour of the Licensing and Fees (Amendment) Bill 2013? (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Carried.

2715

ADJOURNMENT

2720 **Clerk:** The Hon. the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister (Hon. F R Picardo): Mr Speaker, I have the honour to move that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday 4th June 2013 at 9.15 a.m. At that time the House will have an opportunity of considering in detail the proposals of the Commission on Democratic and Political Reform.

2725

Mr Speaker: I now propose the Question, which is that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday, 4th June at 9.15 a.m.

I now put the Question, which is that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday, 4th June at 9.15 a.m.

2730 Those in favour: (**Members:** Aye.) Those against? Passed.

This House will now adjourn to Tuesday, 4th June at 9.15 a.m.

The House adjourned at 6.10 p.m.