

23 October, 2024

INTERIM NOTICE OF QUESTIONS

Notice has been received from Hon Members of the following oral and written questions to be asked at the Meeting of the Gibraltar Parliament to be held on Wednesday 23rd October 2024.



John B Reyes
Clerk to the Parliament

QUESTION No: 791/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

What is the capacity at the Sunrise Motel in terms of beds in total and how many of these are currently available broken down in terms of number of beds per room?

QUESTION No: 717/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What process is currently in place for the vetting of candidates for youth worker roles in our Youth Clubs?

QUESTION No: 718/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Minister confirm how many individuals have attended "The Zone: Step Up and Thrive Project?"



QUESTION No: 719/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government provide how many individuals have enrolled on the newly launched training apprenticeship courses, broken down by age and the qualification obtained?

QUESTION No: 720/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Government confirm whether it is in the process of enhancing the travel destinations available via flights from Gibraltar and if so, can it disclose what territories it is looking into?

QUESTION No: 724/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

How many individuals have completed the newly introduced Licensed Guide course, broken down by age and nationality?

QUESTION No: 725/2024

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

How many claims filed with the Employment Tribunal are awaiting the appointment of a chairperson and when were those claims first filed?

QUESTION No: 726/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Please provide the number of Factories Inspectors per year over the last 10 years?

QUESTION No: 727/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

When will the Landport Tunnel refurbishment project commence?

QUESTION No: 728/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How much money has been spent in the elite funding programme in performing arts in 2024 to date, how many applicants have applied and how many have been successful?



QUESTION No: 792/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What is the Government's plan to improve the number of coaches arriving via land frontier to Gibraltar?

QUESTION No: 793/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What is the Government proposing to do to improve the number of cruise calls to Gibraltar?

QUESTION No: 794/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister please provide the House with an update on its manifesto commitment to beautify Chatham Counterguard?

QUESTION No: 795/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister please provide the House with an update on the progress made to date with Casemates Square in relation to the government's manifesto commitment to refurbish the area?

QUESTION No: 796/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Government please provide the House with an update on how their Main St beautification programme is progressing?

QUESTION No: 797/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Does the Government have any plans to improve the current delays being experienced in respect of cases before the Employment Tribunal?



QUESTION No: 798/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Given the number of wonderful female Scouts in our community does the Government agree and if so will it take steps towards the amendment of the *Boy Scout Association Act* so its nomenclature is in keeping with the coeducational nature of Scouting in the present day, the fact that the Scout Association has itself dropped that old nomenclature and so that the Act reflects modern equality principles and the fact that there are male and female scouts?

QUESTION No: 799/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Is the Minister satisfied with the current state of our Public Toilets, in particular, with the one located in John Mackintosh Square and of the regular repairs and maintenance services provided?

QUESTION No: 800/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

What will be the cost to the Government for the new cycle access, to be built via George's Lane to Line Wall Road and who will be contracted for this project?

QUESTION No: 801/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Is the Government satisfied with its trials of card payments on our bus services, and if so, when does it intend to expand this facility to the remainder of the compliment of buses?

QUESTION No: 802/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Minister provide an update on the Governments plans to electrify its own road transport fleet of vehicles?

QUESTION No: 803/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Does the Minister have a date for when he expects to publish the 25-year environmental plan?



QUESTION No: 804/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Minister provide details of the damage to the solar panels fitted atop of Lathbury swimming pool? Including: how many panels were lost to adverse weather and what the costs will be of the repairs?

QUESTION No: 805/2024

Questioner: The Hon G Origo

Can the Minister confirm whether the remainder of the solar panels atop of Lathbury, which are still fixed, in use?

QUESTION No: 806/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister provide some clarification over their policy on cleaning Casemates Square, namely the frequency of these events and details of the area covered per clean?

QUESTION No: 807/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister please name the company that now owns the Theatre Royal Car Park?

QUESTION No: 808/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Given that the Theatre Royal Car Park is owned by a private company; could the Minister please state whether the property was sold as a leasehold or as a freehold and what consideration was exchanged?

QUESTION No: 809/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Has the contract with Knightsfield Holdings Ltd been extended and if so from when and for how long?



QUESTION No: 810/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Please provide details of the contractors which provide ticketing services at the Upper Rock to include their names; when the contracts were entered into; and what amount is paid by the Government for their services.

QUESTION No: 811/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Is the Minister with responsibility for developing relations with Morocco able to share details of the commercial and other links which are being considered and if so what are these?

QUESTION No: 812/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Please provide the following details relating to the recent visit to Tangiers:

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

QUESTION No: 813/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What current plans are there to control the use of mobile phones by students in schools?

QUESTION No: 766/2024

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

What works, and at what cost, were carried out at the Moorings situated at Watergardens Small Boats Marina during the past Financial Year?

QUESTION No: 767/2024

Questioner: The Hon E J Reyes

What works, and at what estimated cost, are expected to be carried out at the Moorings at the Watergardens Small Boats Marina during this Financial Year?



QUESTION No: 768/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

The Minister for Health Care and Business claimed in her response to my question on Battery Energy Storage Solutions, or BESS, in the February session of Parliament earlier on this year that Solarcentury Africa Limited had been engaged in a purely supportive capacity and on Line 2082 of that month's Hansard, the Honourable lady then proceeds to state that "they are not the entity that we are buying from". Madam Speaker, what happened between Thursday 22nd February 2024 and May 2024 to convert one of HMGoG's consultants into one of its key suppliers?

QUESTION No: 769/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Was the BESS Service Level Agreement or maintenance contract subject to the general tender process?

QUESTION No: 770/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister please name all parties involved in the BESS deal, directly or indirectly, whether mentioned in the press or omitted from it?

QUESTION No: 771/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Will Solarcentury Africa Limited be carrying out the maintenance of the BESS directly or will this fall on Calpe Electrical Limited? What is the fee arrangement between HMGoG and the contracted party and what is the duration of the maintenance contract or Service Level Agreement?

QUESTION No: 772/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Can the Honourable Minister confirm if the £16.5m consideration payable for the delivery of the BESS project represents the full amount payable to all parties?



QUESTION No: 773/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What progress has been made to date on the discussions between the Government and UNITE to amend the Agenda for Change?

QUESTION No: 774/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Is there a policy decision pending on the sale of berths or the method of allocation of berths in the small boats marina and if so what are the nature of issues that Government is considering?

QUESTION No: 775/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Do GHA proactively offer high-risk men blood tests to measure levels of PSA as part of their prostate cancer screening and prevention programme and if so how many patients were tested during 2023 and 2024 to date?

QUESTION No: 776/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Have MPOX vaccines been purchased or reserved for purchase by Gibraltar should these be needed?

QUESTION No: 777/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What MPOX contingency measures do the Government or GHA have in place to deal with any MPOX cases should they arise and to enhance awareness of risks by Gibraltar residents who may be visiting affected countries?

QUESTION No: 814/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Honourable Minister provide an update to the House on the progress of the consultation regarding potential amendments to the Gibraltar Health Authority Act, specifically in relation to incorporating the Care Agency into what could become the Gibraltar Health and Care Authority?



QUESTION No: 815/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

In relation to the Tender for the Provision of Respite Services for the Care Agency, could the Government clarify when it expects this tender to be awarded?

QUESTION No: 816/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Honourable Minister confirm whether all employees previously subcontracted by companies providing home support and domiciliary care to the Care Agency have now signed TUPE transfers under the new contract with Lifecome Care Ltd?

QUESTION No: 817/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Government confirm the following details regarding Lifecome Care Ltd:

1. The date on which Lifecome Care Ltd officially submitted its application for the business license to the Office of Fair Trading (Gibraltar).
2. The date on which the business license for Lifecome Care Ltd was approved by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT).

QUESTION No: 818/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Honourable Minister confirm whether the carers employed by Lifecome Care Ltd, including those transferred from ADA and Meddoc, are now using a single app for their work? If so, could the Minister provide the date on which this app became operational for the entire workforce, and the name of the app?

QUESTION No: 819/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Honourable Minister clarify whether the contractual issues, specifically related to the terms and conditions for employees who transferred from Meddoc and Ada to Lifecome Care, remain outstanding? If so, have these issues now been resolved?



QUESTION No: 820/2024

Questioner: The Hon A Sanchez

Could the Honourable Minister provide assurances that the issues affecting service users, which were previously referred to as "teething problems" during the transfer of home support and domiciliary care services to Lifecome Care Ltd, have now been fully resolved?

QUESTION No: 821/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What was the cost incurred in respect of the repairs to the air conditioning system in Skye Ward?

QUESTION No: 822/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Are there any refurbishment, beautification or maintenance works planned and/or scheduled to take place at Ocean Views in the next 12 months? If so, please provide specifics as to:

- (i) the nature of the works to take place and the aims;
- (ii) In what areas/wards is work to take place;
- (iii) Whether contracts have been awarded in respect of such works and to whom and whether there was a tender process;
- (iv) The amount of the tender(s) awarded; and
- (v) The projected completion times for the project(s).

QUESTION No: 823/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

When was the last time that the information on the GHA's website as to the location of Public Access Defibrillators available in Gibraltar was updated? How often is that information updated?

QUESTION No: 824/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Does the GHA have a policy in place as to answering external phone lines? If so, please outline that policy.



QUESTION No: 825/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

For what reasons are University students required to renew their GHA Health Cards on an annual basis?

QUESTION No: 826/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Please clarify who is entitled to dental treatment under the GHA, and what options are open to service users who are unable to afford private dental treatment for themselves or their minor dependents.

QUESTION No: 827/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Has the new Cath lab at St Bernard's Hospital already been fitted with all the necessary equipment and what was the cost of all the equipment that has been fitted? Has the entirety of the cost been borne by the GHA?

QUESTION No: 828/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How many students successfully completed the Bachelor of Sciences in Adult Nursing at the University of Gibraltar in August 2024, and how many from that cohort have been offered employment as Staff Nurses at the GHA under:

- (i) Zero-hour contracts;
- (ii) Fixed-term contracts;
- (iii) Permanent full-time contracts;
- (iv) Permanent part-time contracts,

broken down by nationality and current country of residence? Have those contracts already commenced?

QUESTION No: 829/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Please provide figures as to the number of nurses and nursing assistants which were employed by the GHA and were in post as at 15th August 2023 and 15th February 2024.



QUESTION No: 830/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Please provide figures as to the number of nurses and nursing assistants which were employed by the GHA and were in post as at 15th October 2024.

QUESTION No: 831/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What contingency plans are in place to ensure that the GHA remains at optimal staffing levels in the event of disruptions at the land frontier?

QUESTION No: 832/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

In the past 6 months, have there been any issues relating to shortages of Nursing staff within any of the wards at St Bernard's Hospital? If so, in which wards? Please provide specifics as to the nature of the issues, whether they have now been resolved and how.

QUESTION No: 833/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Since 1st January 2019, how many Psychiatrists employed by the GHA have not had temporary contracts renewed, and for what reasons?

QUESTION No: 834/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How many Psychiatrists employed by the GHA have had their contracts terminated from January 2019 to date, and for what reasons?

QUESTION No: 835/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Since 1st January 2019, how many Psychiatrists employed by the GHA have resigned?



QUESTION No: 836/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What is the predicted timeframe within which a diagnosis can be expected following a referral under the GHA's Neurodevelopmental Pathway?

QUESTION No: 837/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

To date, how many children have been referred for assessment under the recently established Neurodevelopmental Pathway and, on average, how long is it taking for an assessment to take place from the time of referral?

QUESTION No: 838/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Is there a compensation scheme in Gibraltar mirroring, or similar to, the Infected Blood Compensation Scheme in the UK, which will provide financial compensation to victims of infected blood on a UK-wide basis, under which GHA service users who were infected by contaminated blood and/or blood products can apply for compensation?

QUESTION No: 839/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Will there be an inquiry in Gibraltar, to mirror the Infected Blood Inquiry in the UK, which was set up to examine why service users in the UK were given infected blood and/ or infected blood products; the impact on their families; how the authorities (including government) responded; the nature of any support provided following infection; questions of consent; and whether there was a cover-up?

QUESTION No: 840/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How many people in Gibraltar were infected after having received contaminated blood transfusions and blood products under the care of the GHA?

QUESTION No: 841/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What reciprocity arrangements are in place between the GHA and the NHS?



QUESTION No: 842/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister please provide a list of the medical institutions with which the GHA has service level agreements in place?

QUESTION No: 843/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Does the GHA have pathways in place to act upon advice and recommendations provided by medical professionals from tertiary healthcare providers? If so, is there a distinction between the policy relating to advice obtained from tertiary healthcare providers that service users have been referred to by GHA medical professionals and private health care providers from which medical advice has been directly sought by service users?

QUESTION No: 844/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister confirm whether any industrial action has been threatened by any employees of the GHA in the past 6 months and, if so:

- (i) what departments have threatened to take industrial action and for what reason(s);
- (ii) the nature of the action they are/have threatened to taken; and
- (iii) whether resolutions have been reached in every one of the instances of threatened industrial action, or resolutions are still being explored?

QUESTION No: 845/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Honourable Minister confirm whether any industrial action has been taken by any employees of the GHA in the past 6 months and, if so:

- (i) what departments have taken industrial action and for what reason(s);
- (ii) the nature of the action taken; and
- (iii) whether resolutions have been reached in every one of the instances of industrial action, or it is still ongoing?

QUESTION No: 846/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the Minister please provide a progress report on how their Start Up Hub is progressing?



QUESTION No: 847/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

Could the government please provide the House with an update on their roll out of the back-up emergency potable water pipeline supply from Spain?

QUESTION No: 848/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

How many companies have applied for and how many companies have been successful in applying for a loan under the government's Business Nurturing Scheme since October 2023?

QUESTION No: 849/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise how the Battery Energy Storage System is to be financed and what is the role of Zero Carbon Footprint Company in that regard?

QUESTION No: 850/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Please provide an update to this House as to the collision of a vessel at the North Mole which we understand occurred on 16th October 2024.

QUESTION No: 851/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Can single women access IVF treatment on the GHA?

QUESTION No: 852/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How many formal complaints and informal complaints (enquiries) were received by GHA in the calendar years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 breaking down the totals for each respective calendar year by calendar month?



QUESTION No: 853/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Has the disciplinary hearing following the investigation over allegations concerning the conduct of the (former) Acting Pathology Services Manager been held and if so what have the results of the disciplinary process been?

QUESTION No: 854/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Has the Minister seen a copy of the report following the investigation that examined allegations concerning the conduct of the (former) Acting Pathology Services Manager?

QUESTION No: 855/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How many RGP officers currently make up the Community Policing Team?

QUESTION No: 856/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

Can the Government provide the following information pertaining to the RGP's Drug Squad:

- (i) How many Drug squad led operations have been carried out in the last 6 months;
- (ii) How many arrests have there been as a result of Drug Squad led operations in the past 6 months; and
- (iii) What is the total amount of drugs which have been seized as a result of Drug Squad led operations in the past 6 months, broken down by specific Drugs?

QUESTION No: 857/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

How long were the Police Dogs that form part of the RGP's Dog Section housed at the kennels situated at Building 209, British Lines, before being transferred to kennels situated near the land frontier?



QUESTION No: 858/2024

Questioner: The Hon J Ladislaus

What was the total cost of the refurbishments carried out to Building 209, British Lines, as regards the kennels for the RGP's Dog Section?

QUESTION No: 859/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise the amount of Company Tax collected in the following months?

September 2024

QUESTION No: 860/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise the amount of Income Tax collected in the following month?

September 2024

QUESTION No: 861/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

Can the Government advise if the Income Tax Office has received any complaints in the last six months about tax refunds being sent to the wrong bank accounts?

QUESTION No: 862/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

How many persons have registered for or been admitted within the scope of the *Travel Scheme for Eligible Elderly Resident Citizens* broken down into the following age groups:

1. 60-70yrs old
2. 71-80 yrs old
3. 81-90 yrs old
4. Over 90yrs old.



QUESTION No: 863/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What has been the cost of the *Travel Scheme for Eligible Elderly Resident Citizens* from its inception to 15 October 2024 in terms of costs of the establishment of the Scheme or its administrative or other costs?

QUESTION No: 864/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

What is the overall cost of reimbursement of medical expenses under the *Travel Scheme for Eligible Elderly Resident Citizens* from inception to 15 October 2024?

QUESTION No: 865/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

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

1 September 2024

QUESTION No: 866/2024

Questioner: The Hon R M Clinton

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

1 September 2024

QUESTION No: 867/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Has the residential home at the Rooke site been sold or is there an agreement in principle to sell and/or manage it and if so to whom?

QUESTION No: 868/2024

Questioner: The Hon D J Bossino

Has the company to manage the residential home at the Rooke site been appointed and if so please provide details of the name of the company and the value of the contract?



QUESTION No: 869/2024

Questioner: The Hon C Sacarello

If reciprocal measures at the border are necessary, has the government calculated the impact this would have on Business and the subsequent loss in PAYE/SI that would result?

QUESTION No: 870/2024

Questioner: The Hon K Azopardi

Who precisely currently sits on the Board of the NNO – the intergovernmental committee between Gibraltar and UK on contingency preparations for a Non-Negotiated Outcome?