

STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION

143/2008

1 December 2008

Opposition Member Fabian Picardo will continue to probe the Chief Minister to illicit further information about issues that were raised at the previous meeting of Parliament when the House resumes for questions on Wednesday.

Mr Picardo has tabled a series of questions asking for further details of Government payments made and contracts awarded to companies associated with businessman and property developer Nigel Pardo. In particular, Mr Picardo will seek details of the total remuneration payable under the contracts awarded to these companies and whether any "on account" payments have been made by the Government or Government companies.

As regards the Chief Minister's approach to expenditure on his travels, Mr Picardo will also enquire whether Mr Caruana traveled to Ibiza with bodyguards when he was on vacation this summer and at what cost to the taxpayer. He will also want to know the same in respect of the Chief Minister's visit to Marrakesh in October. He will also ask Mr Caruana for the specific responsibilities of each of the 9 private secretaries and personal assistants that he has.

In his capacity as Shadow Minister for the Environment, Mr Picardo will ask the Government to say how the works are progressing in respect of the sound attenuation of the building at Europa Business Park which is presently occupied by OESCO. Fabian Picardo will also press the Government on the progress that has been made in the consideration of new locations in respect of the open rubbish dumps in the area of Tankerville and Tank Ramp.

The Shadow Minister for Financial Services will ask Government to list all and any insurance cover or other service provided to it or any other statutory or public body by Argus Insurance Company (Europe) Ltd or any related company. He will also ask questions on a wide range of financial services matters, including banking, companies, insurance and category 2, 3 and 4 status.

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