

## **STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION**

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Shadow Minister for Education, Culture and Government Services Steven Linares will ask Government to state how many children have been suspended from school and to provide records of unauthorized absence by pupils from schools at the meeting of Parliament which starts on Thursday. Mr Linares has tabled a total 56 questions for the Government to answer.

The Opposition spokesman has tabled a series of questions to establish the cost of moving the Department of Education from Town Range to Queenway. He will also want to know the cost of the refurbishment and what the old building that has been vacated will be used for.

Also on education matters, Mr Linares will ask the Minister for Education to state how many meetings he has held with headteachers and with the NASUWT in relation to the health and safety audit report conducted by ROSPA. The Opposition spokesman has also tabled a question in order to establish when the Government intends to relocate St Bernard's School from its current location to the site of the old St Bernard's Hospital. On staffing matters, he will ask Government to say whether long term supply teachers have been given a contract at the start of

this academic year and how many of them are in this situation.

Steven Linares has also tabled a series of questions in relation to his responsibility for Government Services. He will ask Government for the total cost of replacing the balustrade and repaving the footpath along Europa Road with a breakdown by Phases 1, 2 and 3. He will also press Government on whether the minor works at the cemetery are now complete.

Mr Linares will ask for details of power cuts that have affected whole districts with a breakdown by area affected and why they occurred. Also on electricity matters, he will ask Government to confirm that they are planning to bring in “skid” generators and if so when, how many, at what cost and where will they be located. The Opposition spokesman will also want to know what approvals the Government has given to Gibtelecom for the installation of a generator at Mount Pleasant.

In relation to the Public Markets, Mr Linares will ask Government to state what amount was paid per square metre to the butcher’s shop bought out by Government. He will also seek confirmation that Government have offered to buy out traders at the Public Market and will want to know why.

ENDS