

## STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION

13/2010

11 February 2010

Shadow Minister for Health Neil Costa has given notice of over 100 questions for the meeting of Parliament which starts next week. Mr Costa will quiz the Government on the time it is taking for people who have had x-rays and CT scans to receive their results. He will also want to know the number of persons affected.

The Opposition Health spokesman has tabled a number of questions on the swine flu vaccination programme. He will ask for the total number of people that have been vaccinated against swine flu and will want to establish how many persons were offered and how many agreed to be vaccinated with a breakdown by priority group and month. Mr Costa will also ask for the cost of converting and preparing the facility at the ex-NAAFI depot at Waterport into a vaccination centre and will also request details of the staffing levels involved.

The Shadow Health Minister will ask a series of questions related to the stabbing incident of a doctor in the hospital last year. He will want to establish whether the security guards at the hospital receive specific training in dealing with persons who are violent or who are threatening violence or who are armed. He will also want to know if they are trained to disarm such people. Mr Costa will further probe how many members of GHA staff have been offered training in de-escalation techniques and how many have undergone such training.

Mr Costa will ask Government to say what their policy is in relation to setting up an organ donor register in Gibraltar and will want to know when they expect the procedures for stem cell retrieval and storage from birth to be available and operational. He will press the Government further on the setting up of a routine, structured mammography service and will ask when this is expected to commence and the age group of the women to whom this service will be available.

On other health matters, the Opposition spokesman has asked for details of the number of formal and informal complaints against the GHA. He will also ask on how many occasions the Ombudsman has appointed a panel to review appeals/complaints against the GHA. Mr Costa will want to know whether it is still the policy of the Government to make changes to the mechanism by which repeat prescriptions are issued at the Primary Care Centre and will quiz Government on details of the number of cancelled operations.

ENDS