

STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION

16/2010

15 February 2010

Shadow Minister for Financial Services Fabian Picardo will again ask Government to give details of the salaries and fees that have been paid to a number of companies linked to businessman Mr Nigel Pardo. He will ask how much has been paid to Gibraltar Land Reclamation Company Ltd and Land Projects Consultants Ltd in respect of the contracts for fifteen projects. Mr Picardo has given notice of a wide range of questions on a number of issues for the meeting of Parliament which starts on Thursday.

The Opposition spokesman will also press the Government for the publication of the text of the new proposed tax legislation given that it had already missed its intended publication dates of June 2009, its slippage date of September 2009 and its revised intended publication date of January 2010.

In relation to his responsibility for the Environment, Mr Picardo has tabled a number of questions on the epidemiological study. He will want to know what progress has been made on this study since it was commissioned by the Government and when it is expected that the consultants will have delivered their study. Mr Picardo will seek to establish why GIS mapping was not considered to be an option worth paying for as an additional item in respect of the epidemiological study, and he will also want to know the final cost.

The Opposition spokesman will also want to know why nothing has happened "on site" about the relocation of the rubbish dumps at Tankerville and Tank Ramp and at the foot of Castle Steps, opposite the entrance to St Bernard's School. He will ask whether any new quotes have been received for the relocation of these rubbish dumps. Mr Picardo will also quiz the Government on the control of the seagull and ape population and he will want to know whether any further progress has been made in respect of the possibility of exporting a number of apes.

The Shadow Minister for the Environment will want to know whether any terms have been agreed in respect of the PFI contract for the new proposed "Waste to Energy Plant". He will also ask Government on the state of play of the assessment of the possibility of a wind turbine "bed" off Europa Point or in respect of the introduction of any sources of alternative energy.

Mr Picardo will ask the Government on the cost of defending the proceedings brought by a lesbian couple in respect of Government tenancies and which the Government lost in the Privy Council.

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