



The Gibraltar Parliament

ORAL

Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

Regarding the recently appointed Finance Director for the Care Agency, as confirmed by the Honourable Minister in the Parliamentary session of December 2023, could the Government specify whether this individual receives remuneration from another department/agency or Government owned company other than the Care Agency, and if so, furnish further details?



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Could the Government provide a breakdown of the number of care workers directly employed by the Care Agency and the number subcontracted through external companies, along with the names of each subcontracting company?



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Can the Government specify the number of care workers employed directly by the Care Agency who are on fixed term contracts of less than 2 years?



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Could the Government disclose the total number of complaints received by the Care Agency from family members or the general public regarding domiciliary care?



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How are subcontracted agencies providing services to the Care Agency independently monitored and regulated to ensure standard of services?



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Can the Government furnish a breakdown of the existing vacant posts in the Care Agency and Elderly Residential Services, including details on the position and the duration each post has been unfilled?



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Could the Government disclose the number of Guardian Ad Litem appointed in court cases over the last 2 years, who have either been paid for by Government agencies and/or by legal assistance?



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Could the Government please state what criteria (including experience and qualifications) is used by Government agencies when making a decision as to whether an individual is suitable for appointment to the role of Guardian Ad Litem funded by taxpayer money?





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Could the Government please state where members of the public can find the criteria used by Government agencies to decide whether to propose an individual for appointment to the role of Guardian Ad Litem funded by taxpayer money?



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Could the Government provide clarification on whether asbestos has been identified in the Bruce's Farm building or the surrounding site?



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Has the Government made any plans or engaged in discussions with third parties regarding the potential sale of the Bruce's Farm building or the surrounding site?



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Could the Government disclose whether there are any plans or discussions with third parties concerning the privatisation of the services provided in Bruce's Farm?



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Is the Government contemplating the release of guidance notes on the deputyship application process and are there initiatives in place to support parents applying for deputyship as their children reach maturity, aiming to alleviate financial burden related to fees and legal costs?



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Could the Government clarify whether the nurses station in St Bernadette's has been relocated in the past two years and if so, can clarification be provided on whether the new designated room is equipped with all necessary amenities, including a panic button?



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Could the Government provide clarification on whether there are probation officers and community officers currently working from home without a designated physical office to work from?



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Could the Government provide an update on the progress of the proposed new elderly care home at the Rooke site, including details of the potential completion date and the entity designated to manage and deliver these services?





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Could the Government provide the current waiting times for children needing access to services from:

- a. Educational Psychologists
- b. School Counsellors



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Has the Government made any plans or engaged in discussions with third parties regarding the potential sale of the Care Agency Building in Governor's Parade?



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Could the Government provide the current number of children aged 0-18 in Gibraltar who hold a diagnosis for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?



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Could the Government provide the current number of children aged 0-18 in Gibraltar diagnosed with Developmental Language Disorder?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

Could the Government provide information on the current number of children aged 0-18 in Gibraltar who hold a dual diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Developmental Language Disorder?



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Could the Minister provide an update on the current waiting time for referrals for full assessments of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at the Gibraltar Health Authority (GHA)?



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In light of question W46/2020 and the government's manifesto commitment, could the Minister provide information on when the government expects to introduce plans known as Education, Health, Care plans (EHCP) in Gibraltar through legislation?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

Could the Minister provide a breakdown of individual overtime expenses for the Care Agency and ERS, including grade, post, and department, for the following years:

- 2021-2022
- 2022-2023
- 2023-2024 up to the current date





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Could the Minister provide information regarding the recent Scabies outbreak at Hillside's Dementia Care Facility, including whether the source of the outbreak has been identified, and what measures have been implemented to prevent similar outbreaks in the future?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

How many contracts are in place at today's date between the Govt and/or GHA and/or Care Agency and/or any other Govt-owned entity with Meddoc Limited for the provision of services?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

How many contracts have been entered into between 2012-2023 between the Govt and/or GHA and/or Care Agency and/or any other Govt-owned entity with Meddoc Limited for the provision of services providing

- a. list of those contracts with;
- b. an overview of services provided and the value of the consideration paid in respect of each;



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In respect of the MedDoc agreements referred to in the previous question would the Government provide a copy of the service agreements and corresponding tender documents for each to the Opposition?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

How many contracts have been entered into between 2012-2023 between the Govt/Care Agency with any private entity for the provision of care services providing

- a. a list of those contracts with;
- b. an overview of services provided and the value of the consideration paid in respect of each.
- c. a copy of the service agreements and corresponding tender documents for each.



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Could the Government provide a detailed breakdown of all subcontracted entities currently providing carers to the Care Agency and the Elderly Residential Services (ERS), including the value of each contract and payments made to each entity for the following years:

- 2018-2019
- 2019-2021
- 2021-2022
- 2022-2023
- 2023-2024 up to the current date?



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Questioner: The Hon Atrish Sanchez

Could the Government provide information on the number of permanent and pensionable vacancies for Carers that have been advertised and filled directly via the Care Agency for the following years:

- 2018-2019
- 2019-2020
- 2021-2022
- 2022-2023
- 2023-2024 up to the current date?



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Could the Minister confirm whether there have been

- a. reported sightings of rats/rat droppings inside St Martin's School and/or in the external areas of St Martin's School.
- b. Whether the relevant department/agency has been in attendance in relation to this issue.