



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry of Enterprise, Development, Technology and Transport
Suite 771
Europort
Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

No: 29/2009

Date: 20th February 2009

The Government rejects the misleading comments made by Committee Spokesman for the small boats at Watergardens, John Buttigieg, on GBC yesterday.

The Government wishes to clarify that the 9 boats berthed on an old pontoon by the ex-Yacht Reporting Berth have been there without the permission of the Port Authority.

All owners of these boats have known ever since they took it upon themselves to berth on this pontoon that they were doing so without permission and even though they remained there on a temporary basis, they would be required to move at some point in time at short notice. This time has now arrived.

Earlier this week the Port Authority contacted all 9 boat owners and informed them that these boats needed to be moved, as the pontoon was being removed, to allow the yacht filling station to complete their project. The boats owners were offered the option of finding alternative berth themselves or putting these boats on land at Western Beach.

The Government wishes to make it known that although these boat owners have valid licences known as the 'Red Book' to own a boat in Gibraltar, they do not have a licence to berth at the ex-Yacht Reporting Berth, as has been stated by the boat owners.

The Government wishes to assure all boat owners who suffered the demise of the Western Beach berthing and whose boats are on the hard, or elsewhere, awaiting relocation that they will be reprovided with berthing facilities whenever this is possible. The Government is actively continuing to identify a suitable site for this purpose.

The Government's policy continues to be to afford safe and proper berthing facilities to local boat owners.