



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

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Government notes Mr Licudi's recent statement in relation to parking loss at Flat Bastion Road

The Government notes with some amusement Mr Gilbert Licudi's recent statement in relation to parking loss at Flat Bastion Road.

Mr Licudi says that the Government "continues to ignore the needs of the motoring public". The only Government ever to ignore the needs of Gibraltar's motoring public was the last GSLP Government who, in 8 years did absolutely nothing for Gibraltar's motoring public – no new roads, parking or traffic flow schemes. Indeed, at the time Mr Bossano and Mr Juan Carlos Perez, both non-drivers used to enjoy saying that they saw no need for it.

In contrast this Government had built new roads, widened others, removed bus stops from traffic lanes, built new roundabouts, a safe tunnel access around the Rock, new multi storey car parks and modernised Gibraltar's bus system. There are many more projects to come including the tunnel under the airport, the new road to North Front, the dualling of Devil's Tower Road, the new Europort/Coaling Island link road, more roads, car parks and parking schemes.

If this is Mr Licudi's definition of "ignoring the needs of the motoring public", it is a huge indictment by him of his own party's record in Government.

Mr Licudi's statement about Flat Bastion Road is based equally on ignorance and political opportunism. Allowing himself to be wound up by a GSLP supporter in the area is not a substitute for knowing what he talks about.

Three legal car parking spaces and one legal motor cycle bay have been removed. Not "virtually along the length of Flat Bastion Road".

The illegal parking spaces were an obstacle to safe access to and through Flat Bastion Road by fire, ambulance and other essential and emergency services, as well as by the Upper Town Bus service.

The Upper Town Bus service is greatly valued by the residents of Flat Bastion Road many of whom are elderly. Only last week the Senior Citizens Association wrote to Government requesting a second bus stop along Flat Bastion Road.

Minister for Transport Joe Holliday said “In their desperation to tarnish every one of the Government’s many roads, traffic, parking and public transport initiatives, Mr Licudi and the GSLP’s army of newspaper letter writers seize on any point, however misconceived. They appear to have a pathological need to criticise everything. Well, given the great number of projects emerging from the pipeline, they had better sharpen their scribbling pencils. People can see things for themselves. The people of Gibraltar are a very long way from being foolish, and will not appreciate being treated like fools by Mr Licudi and the GSLP”.