



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR  
OFFICE OF THE CIVIL CONTINGENCY COORDINATOR  
No. 6 Convent Place  
Gibraltar**

***PRESS RELEASE***

No: 340/2010

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2010

**Letter to the occupiers of ex-Mediterranean Hotel building**

Attached please find a letter from the Civil Contingency Coordinator to the occupiers of flats at the ex-Mediterranean Hotel building. The letter has been handed over to them today and should be self explanatory.

The Occupier flat  
Mediterranean Hotel  
Eastern Beach Road  
Gibraltar

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

### **EX-MEDITERRANEAN HOTEL BUILDING – EASTERN BEACH ROAD**

Last Friday, the Government's appointed structural engineers advised that following an initial inspection of the ex-Mediterranean Hotel Building, serious defects had been identified and further advised that they could not, at that time, guarantee the continued structural integrity of the building. The building was therefore considered as being vulnerable to partial or total collapse. In light of that advice, the Government ordered the immediate evacuation of said building on the grounds of Health and Safety.

Following the evacuation of the building, the Government's appointed structural engineers embarked on a more thorough intrusive inspection to identify whether the initial findings were symptomatic of the overall situation. Regrettably this has proved to be the case with the loss of connectivity between key structural members of the building now having been confirmed as being a widespread problem. The consultant has advised that it is not possible to predict whether and when this building, or parts of it, will collapse but that occupation presents a risk of injury or death. They further advise that the probability of an individual suffering harm while inside the building increases with the length of the period of occupation and is sufficiently high to justify the continued evacuation of the building.

In an effort to determine the degree of risk posed by the building with more definitive precision, further still more extensive investigations and structural calculations are being carried out but it is not possible to complete these prior to the Festive Season. The Government expects to be in possession of a more definitive structural report by 14<sup>th</sup> January. Government has therefore ordered the continued evacuation of the building, regrets the disruption to you and your family during the Festive Season and hopes you will understand that it is acting in your own interest and also hopes that you will enjoy the best possible Festive Season in the circumstances. The current accommodation and subsistence arrangements will therefore continue during the intervening period.

A contact telephone number is available for emergencies only on 200 50129. This number should not be used for general enquiries.

Civil Contingency Co-ordinator

