



**HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER
No 6 Convent Place
Gibraltar**

PRESS RELEASE

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Government allocates empty flats by tender

The Government has continued with its policy of putting empty flats which it owns on the market in order to assist with and improve the housing needs of a number of families.

There were 22 applications for seven vacant apartments in Merlot House. These were put on the market on a fixed price basis so that the selection was made on a pre-published criteria other than price. A total of £914,000 will be raised when the flats are sold to the persons to whom they have been allocated.

There were 44 applicants for nine Government residential units which were also put out to tender. These were located in Harbour Views, Sir William Jackson Grove, Portland House and Carltree House. They were put on the market on an open tender basis and have been allocated to the highest bidders. A draw will take place between three tenderers who bid the same amount for one particular flat. These properties will raise about £1.2 million once these transactions have been completed.

Commenting on the matter, the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia said:

“These flats have been lying empty for a considerable amount of time and the Government felt that it was important to put them on the market in order to give prospective purchasers the opportunity to buy their own home.”