HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR MINISTRY OF EQUALITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

14 GOVERNOR'S PARADE GIBRALTAR

PRESS RELEASE

No: 623/2012

Date: 28th September 2012

Gibraltar 'Safeguarding Adults at Risk' Training the Trainers Course

The Government is pleased to announce another positive milestone in relation to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults. The Care Agency has organised training in the context of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults at Risk Committee.

The two day training course facilitated, by Bob Skinner an independent trainer from the UK is aimed at training a multi-agency group of trainers who will in turn deliver a set training programme in 'Basic Awareness in Safeguarding Adults at Risk of Abuse'. This training has taken place this Thursday & Friday.

These trainers will then be responsible for providing a rolling programme of training throughout the year to various statutory agencies such as the police, health and social care workers, and a range of voluntary agencies and organisations. The course will enable the trainers to increase their own awareness around the key issues of identifying and reporting allegations of different types of abuse as well as increasing their knowledge of the different roles, responsibilities and procedures. They will then be able to cascade this knowledge down within the different agencies and organisations and ensure cases of abuse are quickly and efficiently processed within the procedures.

The Gibraltar Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults at Risk procedures clearly highlight the close working relationships that have been successfully established between the lead agencies that include the Police, GHA and the Care Agency in order to protect the most vulnerable within our community. The number of Safeguarding referrals received has continued to rise over the past six months since the successful Raising Awareness campaign held at St Bernard's Hospital earlier in the year.

Minister Samantha Sacramento said, "I am delighted that this important initiative has come to fruition. The present training is yet another critical step, under this Government, in ensuring the safety of vulnerable results. Once those who have participated in this session have been trained, they will themselves train other professionals, widening the scope of awareness and thus maximising the protection of those who are most vulnerable. It is also significant there is a multi agency approach to this, which further enhances the service provided."

Telephone No: (350) 20047564 (Centrex 2348); Fax No: (350) 20074941 (Centrex: 2388)