



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry for Health & Environment
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VALUE OF THINKING GREEN EVENT FAR EXCEEDS NET COST

The sum of €200,000 quoted by GBC "as the cost of the Thinking Green Conference is not the real cost of the event. This sum was the fee paid to Vice President Gore's agents. The fee included Speakers' fees, travel expenses and management fees. There were additional organisational costs as well as income from sponsors, ticket sales and trade fair exhibitors' fees.

The full accounts are not yet finalised, which is the reason why it was not possible to present details at last month's session of Parliament. However, in view of the publication of the incomplete figure by GBC, Government feels it timely to state that the expected final net cost of the event will be approximately £97,000.

The monetary cost clearly does not reflect the enormous value of the event to Gibraltar. Thinking Green, including the visit to Gibraltar of a former US Vice President, has given Gibraltar great international exposure and has impressed key players in the United States about Gibraltar's potential for economic development. It has attracted the attention of many, including businesses in new technology, with potential investment in Gibraltar to follow. The value of the event, therefore, potentially far exceeds the net cost.

As an event, the Thinking Green Seminar was enjoyed by close to a thousand people on the day, and raised awareness of crucial issues, also having great educational value to the many young people who attended, which will have a lasting effect of great intrinsic social, educational and moral value.

The Government remains committed to the publication of a full accounting of the event when available.