

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR Ministry of Tourism, Public Transport and the Port Suite 631

Europort Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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BETTER SERVICE AND REDUCED COSTS FOR THE GIBRALTAR BUS COMPANY

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar is delighted to announce various improvements in the Gibraltar Bus Company's service to the public and reductions to its overall costs.

After receiving representations from the Senior Citizens Association, two new bus stops will be created in the area of Bishop Canilla House thus making this area more accessible to our senior citizens.

Also, following representations from the residents in the South District, a new bus stop on Route 9 will be created by St. Joseph's School. Residents of this area will now have the choice of travelling into town on Route 9 or on Route 3 via Queensway. The general public will be informed when this is in place.

The residents of Flat Bastion Road have also seen the introduction of a new Bus Stop between the Astoria Bus Stop and Gardiner's View Bus Stop after the residents of this area submitted their request.

These new stops will increase convenience for passengers and are being introduced as a direct result of requests from users.

In addition, a bus shelter will be erected along east side, Europa Road, below Shorthorn Estate.

The new Management of the bus company, in consultation with the Minister, the Hon Neil Costa MP, has also identified various areas for reducing costs:

- minor maintenance works will now be carried out in-house by staff of the Bus Company rather than contracted out;

- electrical works will be carried out by Gib Elec whilst major works will be carried out by GJBS. As these are government companies, the works will be done for the costs of materials alone.

Meanwhile, salaries and payments at the Bus Company will be organised through the Treasury rather than through an accounting firm. This will result in a saving of over £26,000 each year.

Commenting on the above, the Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port, the Hon Neil Costa MP said: 'I am very pleased on how the Bus Company is both improving its service and reducing its costs. I look forward to continuing my work with the Gibraltar Bus Company and to further improve this vital service to the public.'