# HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

# **HM CUSTOMS**

Custom House Waterport



### PRESS RELEASE

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# HM Customs cigarette seizures – 4 men arrested

HM Customs have seized 128,000 cigarettes and arrested 4 men in two separate operations.

Two Spanish nationals (aged 39 & 28) were arrested after being challenged by Customs Officers on Sunday afternoon. Both are residents of La Linea and were seen acting suspiciously at the entrance to New Harbours Industrial Estate. A search of their vehicles resulted in the detection of 121,000 cigarettes (605 cartons) concealed within two Spanish registered cars.

Investigation into the matter continues; meanwhile, the men have been bailed to surrender on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Both vehicles and cigarettes have been seized by HM Customs.

In a separate matter, HM Customs stopped and searched a Spanish registered car in the upper town area and arrested the 30 year old Spanish national driver after detecting 7,000 cigarettes (35 cartons) inside the car.

A 20 year old local man was also arrested in a subsequent search of premises in relation to the matter.

Both the Algeciras resident and the British Citizen are bailed to surrender on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

The vehicle and cigarettes have been seized by HM Customs.