

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR PRESS OFFICE

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GBC Board consultation mechanism was identical under the GSD

The comments by the Opposition regarding the Board of GBC shows both that they are suffering from selective amnesia and that they do not know what they are talking about.

Mr Feetham may not be aware that the procedure followed in the appointment of this Board, with respect to consultation, is exactly the same procedure that was used by Mr Caruana when he was Chief Minister. It is quite incredible and more than a little hypocritical that the Opposition should now complain about the mechanics of a process of consultation that they institutionalised when they were in office.

It is particularly surprising that the Opposition should question the integrity of the members of the Board of GBC on the basis of who they know or what they have done in the past. This is because Mr Caruana himself appointed not only close political supporters, but even members of his own family to the Board of GBC.

How can the Opposition possibly complain with any credibility in such circumstances?

Moreover, the Opposition does not seem to be aware that the role of the Board of GBC has evolved under the new Broadcasting legislation. The independent Gibraltar Regulatory Authority now has the power to deal with complaints of political bias and issues between Government and Opposition and political parties.

The Government has increased the number of people included in the Board of GBC and increased the number of women. This is something that the Opposition should have welcomed.

It is clear that the Opposition has nothing better to do than criticise the Government for everything under the sun, even for things that they themselves used to do when they were in office.