

## HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

## **HM CUSTOMS**

Custom House Waterport



## PRESS RELEASE

No: 15/2014

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014

## Cigarette & Drug seizures

HM Customs seized a commercial quantity of cigarettes and arrested four persons in a number of separate incidents over the weekend.

A 30 year old local man was arrested at the Land Frontier as he entered Gibraltar from Spain; a search of his bag resulted in the find of 20g of herbal cannabis, a controlled drug. John CLANCY appeared in the Magistrates' Court this morning where he pleaded guilty. A pre-sentencing report has been authorised.

On Saturday afternoon, a 20 year old Spanish National was challenged by officers of HM Customs in the vicinity of Western Beach. He was arrested after being found in possession of 9,800 cigarettes (49 cartons). The La Linea resident has been bailed to surrender on Feb 18th. The cigarettes have been seized by Customs.

In an unrelated incident, Customs Officers conducting an area search along British Lines Road discovered a Spanish registered vehicle containing 20,000 cigarettes (100 cartons). The cigarettes have been seized by HM Customs and an investigation is ongoing.

This morning, as a result of a disruption exercise at Western Beach, HM Customs arrested two female Spanish nationals under the provisions of the Imports & Exports Act. The women, aged 40 and 22 are both from La Linea and have been bailed to surrender on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Customs seized 13,840 cigarettes (69 cartons) in this incident.