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<b>PRESS RELEASE</b>
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No: 361/2014

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014

**Feetham & GSD £158m Overspend**

The Government notes that the latest post-budget advertisement from the GSD, placed in the Gibraltar Chronicle alone, is based on the outright lie that the Chief Minister himself has spent over £1m on travel and entertainment.

This malicious and mendacious lie from Mr Feetham's GSD will have been transparent to anyone with basic knowledge of Government accounts.

Moreover, the fact is that the protocol, travel and entertainment heads reflect the spending of all ministers and civil servants at Convent Place, therefore including the Deputy Chief Minister and his staff.

The sum includes the cost of inviting the Leader of the Opposition and his wife - with travel and accommodation expenses - to the Gibraltar Day in London event; something the GSD did not do.

The Chief Minister said: "It's incredible to see how low Danny Feetham will stoop. The increased costs of protocol, travel and entertainment reflect the extra travel and lobbying required to face up to the onslaught we have seen from Spain. The amount is less of an overspend than Mr Caruana incurred in 2003 when facing similar pressures.

But of all people, the last person who should complain about overspends is Mr Feetham. He personally overspent by £3.1m on the new Prison project he led on. He also overspent by £6.2m on the new Court refurbishment project.

Danny's own Justice Ministry overspent on recurrent expenditure by over half a million pounds in 2007/8, in 2008/9 by another half million in 2011/12.

In fact, in total, the GSD overspent by £158m in the time they were in office on departmental expenditure - let alone the over spend of £60m on the airport that was originally going to cost £24m!

Most people will therefore think it isn't too wise for Mr Feetham to raise the issue of overspending as he has! He has spat up into air on this subject, with the obvious consequences!

Frankly, I think most people can see that when I travel I do so to defend Gibraltar abroad and if I have had to travel more often this year because of the repeated attacks from Spain, they will be happy I have done so!"