

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR Office of the Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port Suite 631, Europort Gibraltar

## PRESS RELEASE

No. 477/2014

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

## GTB and Oxford Brookes team up in School of Hospitality pilot scheme

The Gibraltar Tourist Board has announced a new educational initiative in conjunction with Oxford Brookes University to provide a pilot programme of Tourism and Hospitality courses at Bleak House between September 29th - October 2nd.

Lecturers from Oxford Brookes University will be in Gibraltar delivering these courses on topics such as Leadership Development, Menu Planning and Food Presentation, Food Allergies and the accredited Wine and Spirit Education Trust.

These courses are focused on enhancing the skills of managers and employees already in the Rock's Tourism and Hospitality industry and will be offered at no charge to upgrade the levels of service offered and to make Gibraltar a leading destination in these fields.

Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port, the Hon Neil Costa MP, welcomed the initiative which he has been keen to get off the ground as part of the constant drive to help improve standards in a crucial area of the tourist trade.

Mr Costa who has been pursuing the project of a school of tourism and hospitality in conjunction with the Gibraltar Tourist Board said: "This was a long overdue enterprise and one which will help professionals in the sector to strive for higher standards, perfect their offering and become more competitive. The progress made will, in turn, serve to further enhance Gibraltar's magnificent tourist product which is vital for our economic well-being."

Further details on the courses planned are available from: <u>chris.grech@tourism.gov.gi</u> or <u>krystle.acolina@tourism.gov.gi</u> Telephone 200 74950.