

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR PRESS OFFICE

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Government purchase Sunrise Motel for use as a worker's hostel

The previous administration entered into arrangements with the developers of Buena Vista for the relocation of the Moroccan hostel from the Stone Block by June 2012. However, there was no adequate or timely provision made for a suitable building into which the workers could be decanted.

The Government has examined a number of options in this regard and finally decided on the purchase of the Sunrise Motel for this purpose. The building has been purchased for £ 3.25 million and it has been converted into a worker's hostel.

The Government will in turn receive £ 2.7 million from the developer once the Stone Block has been vacated.

The move of the Moroccan workers to the new location will put an end to the inadequate living conditions that these residents of Buena Vista have had to endure for many years. The new facilities offer on suite bathrooms, newly refurbished kitchens, a laundry room and both indoor and outdoor communal areas.

There will be a second phase of the project which will involve the addition of extra floors to the Sunrise Motel in order to accommodate the residents of the other Government hostel in Devil's Tower Road. This is currently at the design stage.