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PRESS RELEASE

No: 552/2014

Date: 14th October 2014

OPPOSITION FAILS TO UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNMENT'S IN-HOUSE MAGAZINE

The Government is amazed that the Opposition should object to the style and content of the first edition of the new Public Services magazine. In fact, it is staggering that the Opposition should suggest that the magazine should be 'one for the whole community.' Quite simply, it is not intended for the whole community! It is an internal staff magazine, one of whose aims is to explain Government policy to members of the public sector. It should not come as any surprise that a GSLP/Liberal government should wish to explain GSLP/Liberal policies to its own staff. It should be obvious that the Government depends on the public service for the delivery of those same policies.

Most large-scale organisations use staff magazines as part of their internal communications strategy in order to circulate information around the staff and so provide an extra means of in-house communication. The Government's new magazine will also provide an opportunity to publicise social, cultural and sporting news of interest to the public sector.

Perhaps the Opposition would wish to compare this new in-house staff magazine with the unlamented '7 Days' newspaper which indirectly cost the tax-payer many thousands of pounds and existed merely as a propaganda tool for the previous Government.