

Deputy Chief Minister

PRESS RELEASE

No. 419/2015

Date: 18th June 2015

Hundreds of car parking spaces for Glacis area in proposed new development

A multi-storey car park for residents of Glacis Estate and the surrounding area is planned for the car park next to St Anne's School. This follows the sale of the land by the Government to the Ocean Village group.

It will be recalled that the car park in question was purchased by the Government for £ 3 million in 2013. It has been sold for £ 3.3 million which represents a profit of 10% for the taxpayer.

The proposal from the Ocean Village group is to provide over four hundred parking spaces on the site. These will be distributed between residents of the area and the general public and will also be used to meet the parking requirements of different Ocean Village developments.

The proposal is for the construction of residential accommodation above the car park and commercial units on the ground floor.

Commenting on the matter, the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia who is responsible for Lands said:

"When the Government announced the purchase of the car park in October 2013 we made it clear that the intention was to use the site for the provision of hundreds of car parking spaces for the surrounding area. The Government also said at the time that there may also be office or residential units above the car park and that the ground floor would be earmarked for commercial use. This is the proposal currently on the table which will be consistent with the Ocean Village scheme.

The construction of a multi-story car park would be an important public gain for the area. There is considerable demand for car parking on the part of residents of Glacis Estate and the surrounding homes. The parking issue is often compounded by the proximity of two marinas and the sporting facilities at the Victoria Stadium which themselves also generate a demand for car parking spaces. Parking is also required for the other leisure facilities in the area like the Casino and restaurants.

The project is obviously subject to planning permission in the same way as any other private sector application."