

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 634/2015

Date: 21st September 2015

## **Another Win-Win Situation for Gibraltar**

HM Government of Gibraltar is delighted to confirm that, subject to DPC approval, the proposed move of the new football stadium to Lathbury Barracks will permit a swathe of Europa Point to be made available to the community for additional sports and training facilities.

The area of the old MOD cricket pitch will remain an open space containing two football training pitches and a rugby pitch. The whole expanse will be covered with the latest generation of artificial turf and, in the summer months, it will be used as a cricket pitch. No buildings other than an attractive Pavilion will be constructed on the site and thus Europa Point will retain its current outlook.

The Chief Minister, the Hon Fabian Picardo, said: "We are delighted that, with the planned move of the stadium to Lathbury, we will are able to provide not only additional training pitches for football but also a full rugby pitch and a cricket pitch. These facilities will be available to the whole community and, in the case of rugby and cricket, it will provide facilities infinitely better than those sports have ever enjoyed before. All this will be achieved without any impact on the landscape. To add to the net gain for the Community as a whole, the development of the Rugby pitch, Pavilion and other facilities will be paid for by the sponsors of the Rugby Union and not the taxpayer. Moreover, the location next to the stunning University we are officially opening today makes the facility even better suited to the site. It's the right development in the right place now that the GFA could be going to Lathbury. We have worked hard to get all the pieces of the jigsaw puzzle to work as best as possible in everyone's interest, and it is now coming together in a fantastic way. This is therefore a classic 'win-win situation for Gibraltar.'