



PRESS RELEASE

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NEW SERVICES FOR DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT – LABOUR INSPECTORATE REVAMPED

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar is pleased to announce that the services provided by the Department of Employment are undergoing a wholesale review. The result will produce a much more efficient and user friendly service. As part of the review, the Department of Employment is currently in the process of modernising its internal software and in digitising all employment related forms. This will mean that employers and employees will be able to submit their forms online. This supports the objectives of Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar to reduce the burden on businesses for administrative purposes.

The Department will also be re-organising the Labour Inspectorate section. The revamped team are currently working on a new programme of inspections, including methods and objectives. This will enable them to assess compliance of annual leave, sick leave, redundancy pay, notice periods and minimum wage, amongst other statutory requirements. Once the programme is approved by the Director of Employment, it will carry out regular inspections of businesses to verify that all employees are registered with the relevant Government Departments.

The public is reminded that the Labour Inspectors are a valuable source of information and their services should be used by both employers and employees when in doubt about their rights and obligations. Businesses and the general public are reminded that the Department of Employment is here to serve their needs and should not hesitate to contact their offices for any queries they may have. The Department is committed to provide the community with a first class service that they deserve and should expect. The Labour Inspectors are looking forward to working with all stakeholders.

Commenting on the above, the Minister for Business and Employment, the Honourable Neil F Costa MP, said: "Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar is entirely committed to improving the interface between the public and private sector. As a result, the modernisation of systems within the Department of Employment will empower officials in their efforts to serve the public. It is envisaged that unemployed persons will benefit from this system in their efforts to find suitable employment. I am sure that all the improvements being made will be a huge step forward in serving the community. Similarly, in the last three years, the Government has taken on board the concerns of the business community and has not stood still in listening and addressing their issues in easing their administrative burden. The work currently undergoing to digitise all forms, in conjunction with the establishment of the new Office of Fair Trading, will be a quantum leap in our

relations with the public. I continue to be very excited to grasp the nettle of the different challenges and to roll out the different services throughout the following months.”