



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Training & Development Seminar for the Public Service**

HM Government of Gibraltar has today held a Seminar on Training and Development opportunities for the Public Service at the Sunborn Hotel.

The Government recognises the need to develop the skills of its employees in order to fully equip them to continue delivering an efficient service both now and in the future. To this end, it has been in contact with Civil Serving Learning, a cross-government organisation in the UK that provides generic learning and development opportunities to over 450,000 civil servants across the UK public service.

Guest speaker, Mr John Tomlinson, Regional Learning and Development Adviser (Europe), delivered a session on the importance of training and development in the civil service and the courses and training modules available. Mr Tomlinson addressed senior management representatives from government departments, agencies and authorities as well as union officials.

Two specific courses were also delivered in the afternoon, with Mr Tomlinson covering areas such as the importance of inductions, coaching and mentoring of staff, and Mr Richard Hillsdon providing training in the drafting of official documents.

The feedback following the course from those attending was very positive. The attendees emphasised the importance of embracing training as an essential part of the personal development of civil servants. It is therefore envisaged that further opportunities will be offered over the coming months on relevant areas identified.

The Chief Minister, officially opening the event, welcomed the key guest speaker, Mr John Tomlinson, and thanked him and his team for coming out and working with our public servants. He stressed the importance of Continuing Professional Development and the Government's commitment to a modern fully-trained professionalised Public Service. Mr Picardo said that 'investing in the public sector is not just about maintaining the compliment, it's also about providing the resources for training to ensure skills are properly honed and maintained'