



**HM Government
of Gibraltar**

Ministry of Tourism, Equality,
Social Services and Housing



**HM Government
of Gibraltar**

Ministry of Health, the Environment,
Energy and Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

No: 855/2015

Date: 16th November 2015

Government's Dementia Strategy Published for Public Consultation

HM Government of Gibraltar has today published its draft Dementia Strategy online for public consultation. It can be downloaded via www.gibraltar.gov.gi.

The strategy has been drafted by a multi-agency working group comprised of professionals across relevant public services such as the Gibraltar Health Authority, the Social Services Department at Care Agency and Elderly Residential Services, and has included consultation with the Gibraltar Alzheimer's and Dementia Society.

It sets out the Government's aims for improving the appreciation, diagnosis and care for dementia, and emphasizes the need to increased awareness and support both for those with dementia and their carers. It also sets out a number of targets with timelines and refers to the new Dementia centres, both day care and residential, set to open within months.

Minister for Health, the Hon Dr John Cortes, said: "It was about time Gibraltar had a recognized strategy for dementia. A great deal has been done, both by the public services and by GADS, and of course, day to day by those who care for those loved ones who have dementia. This draft strategy sets targets and challenges which we will be very pleased to work towards fulfilling in the shortest possible time."

Minister for Social Services, the Hon Samantha Sacramento, said: "This document is the result of inter-agency working together and consultation so as to achieve the best product. Dementia affects everyone's lives in one way or another and delivering on this front, both in terms of facilities as well as services, has become a priority for this government. We have invested heavily in this, as well as specific training at an unprecedented level, to ensure that those who care for vulnerable people are properly informed and equipped. It is also important that we have not forgotten the carers and family members of people with dementia and our investment in domiciliary care offers peace of mind that loved ones are safe."

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Comments on the draft strategy should be sent to Sonal Samtani by email to sonal.samtani@gha.gi or posted or handed in at the Primary Care Centre.