

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

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BCA and RGP officers co-operate over security alarm at the airport

Shortly after 4pm on Friday the 12th August, Borders and Coastguard agents carrying out routine security screening with Explosive Trace Detectors identified what appeared to be a prohibited item. The item was being carried as cabin baggage by a passenger. Checks of the passenger's hold luggage gave rise to similar concerns. In accordance with established protocols the Royal Gibraltar Police was informed.

Following an investigation by RGP officers, which included consultation with subject matter experts, it was determined that the suspect item and hold luggage had been very likely contaminated by a substance with which the passenger had been legitimately in contact through his employment. The passenger was later able to continue on his journey.

Commenting on the matter Commissioner Yome said: "This is a good example of the close cooperation between officers of the BCA and the RGP. We have a great working relationship on both matters of immigration and of security. Both are essential in keeping Gibraltar and its community safe in today's world."

Chief Executive of the Borders and Coastguard Agency Mr Andrew Bonfante echoed the Commissioner's comments on the excellent and close cooperation that exists between both organisations and highlighted the professionalism of his officers who undertake important duties at the airport which, because of the sensitive nature of them, all too often go unnoticed.

Advice on what can be carried on board an aircraft can be found on the BCA's website www.gibraltarborder.gi