

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **First Public Service Senior Leaders' Conference**

Today the Chief Secretary Darren Grech, in collaboration with the Human Resources Manager, was delighted to host a first public service conference with senior leaders with the aim to distil a service-wide development plan for the future.

This first forum was an important opportunity for public service leaders to spell out a strategic vision for the future of the public sector, building on achievements to date. The forum allowed senior staff to discuss and share ideas, align thoughts, and set out new improved policies and procedures. As part of the vision for the future of a more efficient, joined-up service, the outcomes of this first forum will be followed-up and similar conferences will take place twice a year.

Opening the conference the Chief Minister Fabian Picardo expressed his desire to assist the Chief Secretary, whose expected 10-year tenure will deliver continuity and stability as the public service adapts to new challenges. The Chief Minister said: 'Today's public service compliment has gone up with this Government, and it is important that we trust in the Chief Secretary and work with him and for him, to ensure that each department is as efficient as it can be. This meeting is a crucial first step to bringing the public service leadership together so that we can continue to develop a modern, cohesive and agile organisation that is ready to engage in any future challenge'.

The Chief Secretary, Darren Grech, commented: 'The underlying key to success is firmly grounded on unlocking the true potential of people, on working together in mutual collaboration, and on restoring pride and a sense of purpose in what we do and why we do it. Today's broad agenda enabled us to discuss efficiencies, recruitment and selection and e-Government against the backdrop of Brexit, GDPR and other emerging issues. Moving forward we will formally launch and explain the Dignity at Work Policy and the much awaited Civil Service Code. We will not forget that the most prized asset of any organization are the people who work for it. Gibraltar certainly needs a high functioning, efficient and effective, streamlined public service that serves the private sector in the interest of Gibraltar. Our journey has certainly started but is incomplete.'