



WISH LIST 2015

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Preamble: -

The present GSLP administration has embraced many but not all of our recommendations and not always at the rate that we would like to see. There are obviously areas where commercial interests threaten the green agenda – this is where we must continue to work hard to put Gibraltar's long-term sustainability first, our quality of life first, and the protection of our living environment first. We hope that all parties fighting the next election will take heed of our concerns and issues raised in our Wish List. We thank everyone working towards greening up Gibraltar and hope that our next update will reflect further improvements and signs of a maturing community learning from its past mistakes and looking ahead towards a more sustainable future

- [The **2011 ESG Election Wish List** details our interests and concerns and is attached
- [The **2014 update** marks an in-between review, which has been included in this version to illustrate how decisions and plans can change or are delayed. It also marks progress in specific areas since the new Government came into power
- [The **2015 update** outlines our present concerns and objectives. Please refer to 2011, 2014 for full details

ESG Wish List Published February 2015

(Included for reference: 2014 interim changes)

1. CLIMATE CHANGE

2015- Recent plans to set up working groups and committees to address climate change with local partners have excluded NGO's like the ESG that has set out its stall on several occasions and actively campaigns on this issue. We would welcome the opportunity to submit our recommendations and participate at each opportunity that arises on what is such a major issue facing Gibraltar and the world today – (another missed/major opportunity for our input is the ERDF Plan)

2014: *On the positive side the present Government has made efforts to link up within Europe and at international level to better understand and address challenges threatening nations like Gibraltar and others in the region from climate change. Seminars have been attended and held in Gibraltar*

The ESG still believes that all stakeholders interested should have an opportunity to attend such talks when held locally and to also hear first hand, and be able to question, the authorities on their ideas on adapting and meeting climate change issues

2. ENERGY

2015- Please refer to 2014 for appraisal of renewable energy advancements. The EAMP states that a grid facility to enable connection from renewable energy equipment will be in place by 2013 – this has not happened and we would like to know when this would be. ESG concerned over choice of technology of pistons over turbines for the new power station believing this is a mistake and will not obtain maximum efficiency – Technical details on H&S aspects regarding gas as part of fuel source remain unpublished

2014: *This area has seen significant change. Renewable Energy technology is now appearing around Gibraltar. The ESG welcomes this but believes this programme could be accelerated. With regards to the new Power Station, the choice of energy source has been diesel and gas. The ESG hopes the EIA produced for the new generator will be published soon so that all details and impacts can be carefully studied. It believes the decision has come from the fact that while Gibraltar is moving towards green and alternative energy systems that conventional fuels are still needed to meet our immediate (and growing) energy needs, while pressing forward with an agenda for the installation of ever more green energy systems to render the power station eventually to be used minimally and as back up. This is some way off. The ESG hopes all political parties will prioritise moving us towards energy independence that can only come from green technology such as wave/solar and wind, as well as combined power systems – energy recovered from waste heat, sewage, wastewater, waste treatment, etc. The ESG nevertheless calls for BAT (best available technology) to be used in the new Power Station to ensure that there will be highest safety standards and minimal environmental impact, as well as highest possible efficiency. For the latter the group urges **for turbines to be used instead of piston technology** According to the current **EAMP** the new power station will also mark the start of a proper grid to facilitate installations on an individual basis. Pilot projects are now going up around Gibraltar – examples are solar panels for communal lighting in housing estates/car parks/frontier; solar panels also set up at the GASA swimming pool. More projects are planned. All new build should incorporate green technology as far as possible. Several companies are in Gibraltar competing for green business to install such technologies. Things are finally moving in the right direction. Another measure being applied is combining green technology with energy saving programmes, such as the widespread use of LED lighting, and restricting the lighting of non-essential Govt and large facilities to help save energy. The ESG hopes the **EAMP** aims and timeframes are followed as the action template for the rolling out of the pledged, sustained increase in use of renewable energy technology in Gibraltar*

3. EAMP (Environmental & Action Management Plan)

2015- The EAMP has overrun on its targets on a number of key areas. Some of these have been highlighted in the individual sections in our wish list. Others include: No idling signs at the frontier and other locations where idling is prevalent; The closure of the aging power stations set for 2015, (when this will more likely be a further three years away); Revision of bathing water standards; Upgrading to the existing electricity supply to facilitate connection of renewable energy; Establishment of fund for energy efficient home improvements (?); All Govt Projects to be subject to the planning process; Modern Eco Park - Check if Govt Energy Grant now active

2014: *The ESG is pleased to report that the EAMP received a much-needed review under the present Government converting a paper of principles into a document of action. This document, with carefully laid out timeframes for implementation of goals, meets with our approval in general. There remain areas of emphasis where we may disagree with the document but it is clear the paper lays out an “action plan” that shows a sense of purpose, something which we welcome. We continue to lobby Government to address issues not included for action in this time period. Although the EAMP is published and accessible by all it has not been presented in an open meeting where the public could be asked to participate, interact and support Government measures to make us as pollution free and sustainable a community as possible*

4. POLLUTION

2015- As residential and industrial development grows in the NW of Gibraltar –it is also necessary to improve air quality monitoring by way of a fully equipped real time monitor in this zone. Recent WHO reports cited La Linea as having the highest levels of PM2.5's in Spain (the most harmful of pollutants for respiratory and heart ailments) and warned about the health impacts this could bring. The industrial base in Spain, busier airport, heavy border traffic emissions, new power station and port activity all point towards the need for greater monitoring in this area

Additionally: The Gibraltar Air Quality Site describes the pollutants found in our atmosphere locally and their impacts on health. The levels are guided by the EC but enforcement is always negotiated as countries struggle to meet the ever-exacting standards. Gibraltar is failing on NO₂, has significant levels of particulate pollution from power stations and traffic emissions (sooty dust produced by combustion), and is presently monitoring for PM10 but not **PM 2.5** (which scientists maintain are far more harmful to health than PM10). Authorities will say that Saharan dust increases particulate levels considerably locally, with the EC allowing a percentage to be deducted from those levels. This may be but given the health impacts from both PM10's and PM2.5's as well as NO₂, (regardless of the source), demands that accurate measurements and active steps towards their elimination must be an urgent priority

2014: *The ESG believes there have been improvements in the way the authorities respond to pollution incidents. Efforts have gone into reducing air and noise pollution in the south district by shutting down the power stations for part of the night for periods at a time. The improvement is very noticeable to those worse affected. For them, a new power station cannot come about too soon. The public is being encouraged to contact the authorities with any pollution issue in order for Government to respond. The ESG has now sat on the Development and Planning Commission for two years and we are able to input at an early stage when any new activity/business or construction comes before the Commission and highlight any environmental impacts that need to be carefully considered or even changed. The ESG is constantly calling for best practice/best available technology and for the precautionary principle to be applied*

There continues to be a need for a real time mobile air-monitoring device to investigate hotspots throughout Gibraltar so these can be better understood and tackled

5. TRAFFIC

2015: The 'Sustainable Traffic and Transport Plan' is finally released for public feedback first week of February 2015. The detailed report carries several important and bold proposals for change, investment and infrastructure in transport matters on the Rock and is far reaching in many directions. As with the EAMP, the ESG would like to see a timeframe set up so that the proposed measures, once approved, can be implemented with the important benefits delivered to the local community. The ESG is currently (Feb) preparing a more detailed response for the feedback request by Govt. This will also be published on our website (esg-gib.net) and/or available on request shortly

2014: *Traffic continues to be problematic in Gibraltar. The free bus service and additional routes and buses are all positive moves. Road safety continues to be a priority when thinking about cycling and walking in Gibraltar. Car numbers need to be reduced by discouraging car use through fee paying only car parks in the town area. A pavement survey Gibraltar wide is necessary. Government has conducted traffic surveys as well as a number of traffic workshops with members of the community run by overseas experts set up to break this conundrum that is Gibraltar traffic. Without tackling foreign vehicles however, the traffic situation in Gibraltar will never be fully resolved. It is hoped that the outcome and recommendations of the traffic workshops will be published without much delay*

6. RECYCLING- LITTER

2015: A well-resourced, modern Eco Park is urgently needed, for all the reasons given below. At present Gibraltar is creaking under the demands and needs from sorting and storage of different waste streams. The closure of the old incinerator site has placed great pressure on the quarry, which is not fit for purpose, and a reasonably central site must be allocated for this purpose. It is a critical need. Although the Litter Committee is meeting regularly greater cohesion is needed between members to ensure that the core issues and problems are being tackled with the same aims and goals in mind. Timeframes must be introduced to ensure that solutions are attained on every issue. A Litter Strategy needs to be in place that would help facilitate this approach. The ESG is drafting up its key concerns and recommendations supported by the annual Clean up Campaign, and will be presenting this as a suggested framework for such a strategy to the Committee. The ESG believes enforcement must be stepped up by way of Litter Wardens – we are seeing a growing number of wardens for pretty much everything else but not for littering. It is widely accepted that littering and dog fouling abounds in many corners of Gibraltar with pro-active wardens fining, necessary. The ESG's 'Litter Strategy' will also be published as a public document and responses will be sought

Kerbside collections for recyclables have been announced and feature in the EAMP with a schedule soon to be revealed

2014: *Recycling and Waste issues in general have taken a leap forward in the past few years. Government has responded and increased streams of collection of recyclables by providing an enhanced service in partnership with agencies and the Litter Committee that meets every 8 weeks to monitor and improve the service and address problems. A modern Eco Park is needed now more than ever given the increasing amount of waste, which is separated and stockpiled for export. Clearer information on the service provided by Government on recycling is needed. The need for enforcement of litter and fly tipping laws continues with no dedicated litter wardens in sight or likely in the foreseeable future*

*On the positives, Government is pressing ahead with a netting enclosure at the City Dump to contain lightweight waste – Government has purchased a compactor in order to be able to collect larger quantities of recyclable waste and we expect announcements soon on the new service to be provided for businesses as well as households. Bars and restaurants are being visited by Environmental Agency who are busy finding ways to get as many as possible to deliver their waste for recycling purposes. Another positive development is that **all schools** now recycle – not out of choice, but now Government policy*

7. WASTE

2015: Decisions continue to be deferred subject to the right tender and technology being approved. The ESG would like to see the best available technology used and will monitor this situation very closely. This is still a dynamic situation with Government currently considering anaerobic digestion to be incorporated in the treatment of wastewater at the new sewage treatment plant planned for Gibraltar. Given this new opportunity, our recommendations for the gasification treatment of waste, (see 2014), has now changed and the ESG would recommend that Government pursues a policy of maximum recycling and treating of our organic waste via the anaerobic digestion process.

Visible strides have been made in expanding and improving the management of controlled/hazardous waste as per EU regulations. Much more could be done if a dedicated Eco Park for all waste was created. Given the continued growth/development/construction in Gibraltar today this would allow for sustainable measures for the most environmental waste management practices to also be put in place

2014: *The ESG welcomes the present Government's moves towards greater recycling and a preference away from incineration. It is hoped that **gasification** will be the technology of choice being the cleanest technology with least impact on the environment. If no commercial deal is possible it is hoped that Government will consider this worth investing in*

8. SEWAGE TREATMENT

2015: Tender has been awarded for a Sewage Treatment Plant and the ESG has participated closely on the decision making process in this area so far. It is hoped that the introduction of anaerobic treatment to the proposed technology, that will bring economic and environmental gains, will be adopted.

2014: *Government is very close to issuing a contract for a Sewage Treatment Plant for Gibraltar. It is expected that it will be considering every possibility in making this as environmentally friendly as possible. The ESG will be following the decision making process on this as well as any EIA assessments made on the chosen technology*

9. BUNKERING

2015: After initial attempts by Government, to begin works at the Detached Mole in preparation for the expansion of the bunkering services, were stopped at DPC stage, it is unclear what Government plans to do on this matter. The ESG urges for very careful consideration to be given to these plans and for wider public consultation to take place and responses heeded

2014: *The ESG are pleased to announce that a form of vapour recovery called "a closed line system" is now being utilised by all bunkering operators to help eliminate most of the offensive fumes that affect our community from this offshore activity. East side bunkering to remain disallowed. A sudden recent change in the way bunker fuel is stored (beginning 2014) – from the floating mother vessels out at sea to the detached mole – has prompted the ESG to question the process calling for a state of the art land based fuel storage built to the highest standards using best available technology. Also for full public consultation to be held prior to final decisions taken. We reiterate that commercial sensitivities should not be used to withhold information about how this operation is carried out*

On the positives it is welcome that the Gibraltar Port is now resourced with state of the art real-time, satellite technology. As bunkering is a key activity that is under the stewardship of the port it is also relevant that activities related to this business forms part of a port-wide holistic plan. This is especially important in 2014 when a number of projects are coming together in a small industrial area, which is nevertheless adjacent to residential and recreational areas as well as important water intake systems

10. CONSERVATION

2015: Development of the east side of the Rock will impact on natural coastline and protected cliffs and slopes. The ESG calls for a holistic plan for the east side to be respected and adhered to by all after public consultation. It considers plans for the preservation of Gibraltar's natural areas should also come before the DPC for feedback and to ensure members are kept up to date with such plans. Due to the public nature of the DPC forum this also ensures greater transparency and wider dissemination of plans for our homeland. Efforts are also underway to restore the natural and living heritage and environment in Gibraltar and this is welcomed. The ESG supports all these aims, including the significant Gibraltar World Heritage Bid by engaging the community during our Gibraltar wide Clean up the World Campaign that *continuously draws attention to areas of concern, neglect or abandonment*. 2014 saw over a hundred volunteers tackle diseased vegetation in the World Heritage Site demonstrating the long-term as well as immediate benefit of the Clean up

2014: *Government has expanded protected land to include sand slopes to the coast on East side as well as Gorham's Cave System and coastline, which is welcome news. There have also been significant gains for tree planting, not least the centrally located Park that will see an urban site converted to a green lung within the city. It is understood that the Upper Rock Management Plan is seeing movement and that works have started as per its recommendations. There continues to be issues such as littering, and irresponsible behaviour from people towards our macaques. The need for permanent, trained rangers to reside up the Rock and keep an eye on things properly is clearly called for. The Upper Rock Authority pulled together by the previous administration was disbanded and a new committee or body set up in its place by the current administration. However, it is unclear whether this cross ministry grouping meets and what is its remit as it appears that it is the Ministry for the Environment that manages this area?*

11. MOBILE PHONE MASTS

2015: The ESG worked hard towards seeing a Govt policy produced with respect to installation of masts in Gibraltar and welcomed the creation of such a working document by the Ministry for the Environment. However, this policy is not yet fully embraced by all Govt sectors and should be if cohesion and consistency at each stage of a fresh mast application is to be achieved. Real time, or continuous monitoring of mast emissions should be introduced to improve present service. The ESG will continue to run and develop its awareness campaign seeking to engage the public towards safest and best use of EMF equipment, taking on-board the rigorous scientific advice and growing concerns from many parts of the world. Awareness could be in the form of posters at GHA and Primary Care premises as well as at our schools. We would also like to see WiFi in schools to be replaced with wired/cabling instead

2014: The ESG is concerned about the proliferation of mobile phone mast equipment going up around Gibraltar to deliver a service to a growing number of networks and users. While on the DPC it became clear there is no cohesive and holistic plan for mobile phone operators to work under. For the past two years there have been extensive meetings and discussions with the various authorities, in the pursuance of a policy. A policy that will see the minimum level of emissions, utilised locally by operators to provide a good service, while at the same time, adhering to the precautionary principle of placing equipment at an agreed distance to residential areas, schools, hospitals, etc. We continue to meet and hope to be able to have our concerns taken seriously on board when finalising a policy locally

12. PLANNING

2015: We are now in 2015 and still no sign of the Town Act, which is due to come before public consultation, never mind implementation. Furthermore we would like to see 'Town Planning' called 'Gibraltar Planning' as this would help ensure greater holistic planning and management of projects outside the city walls.

Applications should be given greater publicity, physically, at intended sites, to ensure that all stakeholders are informed in good time to be able to respond calmly and within timeframes with their concerns or objections. All projects (private and public) should be available for public scrutiny online; something that has been long promised but not yet delivered.

Major projects such as Port development, Eastside Project and the east side itself, National Football Stadium, New Power Station as well as projects that affect public and community amenities should be given greater public consultation and publicity. After all, Gibraltar belongs to the people and the community should have a say in how our small country is sold off or developed. Holistic and long-term planning measures should be encouraged. Again the publication for consultation of our Town Act will hopefully allow for improvements in many of the issues raised here. Manifesto commitments place time pressures on developments and having Ministers on the DPC clearly brings this pressure to planning, especially when GoG projects do not yet follow full planning process. See 2014 (f) for more details

2014:a) This is an area of increasing importance in Gibraltar once again as we face a number of very large projects possibly going through simultaneously that will once again relegate us to living in a building site. What is more, quite a few of these projects are set to go up on or near our coastline, considerably altering our landscape. While the planning procedure has clearly been opened up for public scrutiny, it must be noted that large Government or Government backed projects are going through the system pretty much unchanged. Collectively these projects threaten us, because they threaten remaining available space and therefore our quality of life. How sustainable can all this construction be? How essential is it for our economy? Projects like the Football Stadium are already on a roll and almost at signing stage and it has not yet been close to DPC. The Sunborn Hotel arrived amidst confusion over whose project it was - the DPC was not allowed to evaluate it as a private enterprise project instead told it was facilitated by Government. Some Government housing projects, important as they are, are nevertheless going up in areas that are already heavily built up, something many hoped was to be avoided?

b) The ESG has called for two-way EIA's for all major projects in Gibraltar because it is not sufficient to simply gauge the impact a new project will have on its surroundings. The environment has to be factored in when placing a new development in Gibraltar due to our lack of space and the serious consequences that could develop if this is not done. Quite likely a two-way EIA would throw out some projects, but for very good reason!

c) Gibraltar is unique and is restrained by exceptional geographical conditions. There has to be sensitive, holistic development to ensure that we can continue to enjoy the considerable tourist economy which supports us and which relies on our retaining our character and beauty. The Strategic Environmental Plan produced in support of the Gibraltar Development plan made this very point

d) It is quite remarkable to witness the open planning discussions and the freshness this has brought to planning in Gibraltar

e) However the pressure Government feels in delivering on its manifesto commitments means that several large projects are getting through, simply on an information basis, and missing the more exacting scrutiny given to private developments. Government has said it insists that it wants to place all its projects transparently before DPC alongside private applications. **We are not seeing this yet and the numbers of developments are multiplying**

f) What appears still to be influencing this is that in meeting its election manifesto any existing administration will want to deliver on this regardless of the implications this can have when plans are revealed. This raises the need to de-politicise development in Gibraltar and perhaps even keep Government out of DPC and the planning and development screening process. This way, all projects can be equally evaluated in terms of their positive and negative impacts via the full screening process. Perhaps slow sustainable growth is better for Gibraltar and its community in the long-term?

g) 2014 should see a revamped Town Planning Act that will undergo public consultation. It is hoped this will be the opportunity for the community and interested stakeholders to submit contributions to correct and improve the existing Act for the benefit of the community

13. CROSS BORDER ISSUES

2015: There continues the fractured state of cross border activity by NGO's due to the political and economic climate raising other priorities for the time being. The ESG intends to resume its cross border networking once these issues have improved.

A close to five year problem with the sewage contamination at Western Beach caused by illegally connected pipe works to a storm drain in La Linea does not appear anywhere close to being resolved. This popular beach must be saved and action needs to be taken by our Govt to see necessary works done by the Spanish authorities to stop this disgusting dumping once and for all! The ESG will continue to monitor this situation and lobby at EU level. Meantime conditions at this beach – in February 2015 - threatens public health and its closure is imminent under upcoming EU law if this illegal dumping is not stopped

2014:*The past two years has seen considerable worsening of relations between Gibraltar Spain and so any real gains made by cross border NGO's as per 2011 entry, and prior to elections in both countries, have literally been lost. This impedes cross border environmental management and is having a degrading effect in the bay with growing oil industry and increasing sewage contamination. Spanish NGO's have advised that the financial crisis in Spain has affected state monitoring of chemical industries in the bay area which means that pollution is not being measured properly and a rise can be expected*

14. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES

2015: This critical issue has also been overshadowed by political tensions and economic hardship in Spain but we shall resume efforts at a cross border level at the earliest opportunity together with regional NGO's and our international advisers. There are substantive reports, which confirm the bay to be: a public health, biodiversity and environmental hotspot and thus active NGO action is imperative and should be resumed as soon as possible

2014:Another serious issue affected by breakdown in cross border relations. All lobbying done by 5 environmental NGO's to improve the bay environment and clean up toxic industry is now halted by the political impasse which now exists. The ESG worked closely with other groups and public health experts to gather information, produce documents and reports, lobby the European Commission and national governments, carried out bay wide petitions and more. Together we were stronger. There has been no movement in cross border or epidemiological studies since 2011

2011 WISH LIST

CLIMATE CHANGE

- a) Climate Change Forum to present biannual reports **at public meetings** to encourage community engagement, participation and awareness of the single most important issue facing humanity today
- b) NGO participation important – climate change affects everyone and should be cross party and include interested stakeholders such as environmental NGO's
- c) This "Think Tank" should look at Gibraltar's long-term sustainability with regards to energy, water, and food, and map out alternative strategies for future secure provision of our basic needs. In the full knowledge that Climate Change and its impacts will have devastating consequences for future generations, it is essential that we take responsibility by launching a well funded research programme and plan of action and not simply expect others to "deal with this" at some future time!

ENERGY

- a) Renewable Energy projects to be launched with short and long-term targets. Modern Power Station using diesel engines could be modified to use biofuel (such as olive oil from Europe, generated as a by product, available regionally) enabling Gibraltar to comply in time with EU Directives
- b) Meanwhile a sustained programme is needed to modify our grid to allow selling of electricity to the Electricity Authority by private micro generation of electricity. (Solar Water Heating, Photovoltaic, Photovoltaic roof tiles, Micro Wind Turbines, etc.)
- c) Government Grants to be set up to encourage approved micro systems for renewable energy for the householder
- d) Project to reduce our energy use for example only allowing the higher efficiency household items to be imported or highly taxing the less efficient items; ("A" classification items for energy consumption being the best) banning of importation of incandescent light bulbs; replacement of all street lighting for high efficiency LED's or similar
- e) While some reports on renewable energy feasibility for Gibraltar are already available (see MoD report 2005 – contact ESG for info) fresh research and focus into how best to harness energy from the multiple sources open to us needs to be set up with no further delay and for this to be done openly inviting ideas and resources from interested stakeholders
- f) Gibraltar-wide study to be conducted to assess energy efficiency and consumption to limit unnecessary or wasteful practices
- g) Vigorously pursue other Govt own stated objectives as set out under its **Environmental and Action Management Plan (EAMP)**

EAMP

- a) Urgent Govt wide implementation of its Environmental and Action Management Plan (EAMP -which nevertheless needs improving/expanding to address dockyard and bunkering as well as other impacting activities on the Rock omitted from the Plan)
- b) EAMP to permeate all Ministries and Departments, Agencies and others to ensure that all decisions reflect genuine environmental considerations as well as economic and technical factors
- c) EAMP public presentation overdue and anticipated

POLLUTION

- a) It is important that our three ageing power stations are closed once the new replacement station is built within the expected deadline of end 2012. This would allow us to comply with EU directives on air quality and substantially elevate the quality of life in residential areas around these power stations
- b) It is essential to place strict environmental controls on all polluting industry in Gibraltar to eliminate effects beyond the fence line e.g. oil treatment, desalination, dockyard, cement factories, refuse storage and transport, petrol stations, etc. Mitigating technologies exist and Government and the private sector should be directed to invest in environmental protection equipment and practice regardless of whether legally required. The absence of safe buffer zones due to our size demands that we do not only settle for compliance on environmental protection standards, as do larger countries. It is after all, our own community and hence our own families we are trying to protect
- c) Ensure the Precautionary Principle is a key factor when assessing impacts and mitigating needs of all industry related activity;
- d) Re-invent the Environment Agency to be target driven and results orientated with a mission to make Gibraltar as pollution free as possible. For this agency to become autonomous and independently enforce environmental and public health laws
- e) Such targets to include the systematic application of BAT (Best Available Technology) in all industry

TRAFFIC

- a) Traffic reduction measures and schemes and new low emission public transport targets to be actively developed
- b) Free Bus Service for local residents to be introduced without further delay
- c) Incentives for low emission vehicles over heavily polluting ones to be applied (reward and penalising schemes)
- d) Control and eventual elimination of two-stroke motorbikes as these produce high levels of air and noise pollution
- e) While welcome to see cycling encouraged on our roads, this cannot take place without accompanying rules and safety guidelines: Cycle lanes to be included in new roads/Warning Signs for motor vehicle drivers to be aware of cyclists/Cyclists to adhere to safe road use- e.g. set up road signs targeting cyclists-indicate, respect lights, etc.
- f) Road surfaces to be maintained year round as pot holes pose a serious danger to cyclists and motorbike riders, raising risk of accident and collision with cars
- g) Increase road safety by creating more pavements to encourage walking
- g) Consideration of feedback from public consultation exercise on Govt Transport Plan namely ESG's and ITWMC among others

RECYCLING

- a) Recycling of all our refuse – sustained public awareness and enforcement campaign
- b) Enforcement of litter and fly tipping laws
- c) Creation of a dedicated Eco Park to reduce fly tipping and waste piles (eye sores)
- d) Netting enclosure at City Dump to limit spread of lightweight waste onto our roads and green cliffs
- e) Facilities to be provided at the City Dump to receive paper, plastic and cardboard waste for onward recycling which at present goes to landfill
- f) Development and promotion of Govt Recycling Policy to ensure that all high waste producers of glass and cans use the recycling services available today. (This to include schools, hospitals, clubs, bars and restaurants)

SEWAGE

- a) Sewage treatment plant to be installed without further delays to eliminate raw sewage disposal to the sea (and if it can be done anaerobically/ eliminating smells and producing methane as a by product for energy production, all the better)

BUNKERING

- a) Freeze and controls imposed on Bunkering activities to include vapour recovery
- b) Disallow East Side Bunkering as this will increase air pollution problems as well as significantly raise the risks of a serious oil spill with devastating implications for humans, marine and bird life and our economy; c) Full disclosure of income evaluation of bunkering and port activity to the public purse, taking into account the degrading impacts this has on quality of life and marine environment, as well as to our tourist product which is sustainable and critically important to our economy
- d) Elimination of floating petrol stations
- e) In setting up land based fuel storage alternative, this to be done to the highest standards and using BATS, including full public consultation during planning and construction process. Commercial sensitivities should not be used to withhold information on new, polluting activity

CONSERVATION

- a) Expansion of Nature Reserve to include East side sand slopes down to the sea joining it up with marine protected area. (To protect the last bit of natural coastline remaining in Gibraltar)
- b) Major expansion of urban tree numbers and major creation/expansion and up keep of urban green areas; c) Due consideration of key areas and recommendations as factored in the Upper Rock Management Plan produced by the GONHS
- d) Upper Rock Authority announced some time back needs re-launching and should include active participation from relevant stakeholders, public discussion and participation in the decision making process

PLANNING

- a) Complete overhaul of Planning Procedure in Gibraltar
- b) DPC to have a neutral chair, to be open and transparent with public consultation on all major projects
- c) EIA's to include consideration of the existing environment on new development projects as well as impacts from new projects on the environment
- d) All major projects, including Govt, to undergo EIA's given the limitations of land space in Gibraltar and need for best assessment ahead of breaking ground
- e) Adherence to Best Practice in planning to be applied to all Planning Procedures in Gibraltar
- f) Recommendations made under the Strategic Environmental Plan released alongside Gibraltar's' Development Plan to be given open and serious consideration: Most importantly Gibraltar must consider setting limits on levels of development, traffic and pollution to safeguard quality of life
- g) Gib. Dev. Plan "green measures" and check-list to be actively applied and reviewed

h) Green Building Legislation to be vigorously adhered to as well as developed to retrospectively tackle recent and major new development for improvements in environmental performance

CROSS BORDER ISSUES

a) The cross border nature of the Bay's environment means that political issues often hamper achieving progress in environmental issues, even though the solutions require cross border co- operation. Such pressures are once again evident in the impasse facing the Tripartite Process; a dialogue, that for a while, appeared to provide a workable model for co-operation at many levels including the environment

b) Gibraltar and United Kingdom), pledging to get to grips with cross border issues. A practical and technical approach was being designed at a cross border level that could provide technical and practical support and response to **real problems and issues** affecting people and the environment. C) A group of 5 NGO's from Gibraltar and Spain have submitted three dossiers to the Tripartite Forum outlining critical regional environmental issues with potential solutions

Issues include:-

• pollution • health • land reclamation • urbanisation • loss of green spaces & biosphere, • sewage treatment • industrial expansion • maritime activity

d) Environmental NGO's have also lobbied and secured their participation within the technical assessments under the Tripartite Process. This, however, has not yet taken place due to the indefinite stalling of the Tripartite Talks themselves. We hope the Government of Gibraltar will continue to seek co-operation at cross border level for environmental and health issues which are urgent in nature with a resumption of the working groups meeting under the Tripartite Forum

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES

a) One of the key and most urgent areas to be considered is the true state of public health of Bay communities, given their long term and chronic exposure to toxic emissions from poorly regulated heavy industry and the Oil Refinery based in the Spanish town of San Roque. Gibraltar's first independently commissioned epidemiological study for the Gibraltar population is an important first step but one that needs to be followed by further study to fully understand the state of our health, and the "potential" and "actual" impacts from environmental factors which most affect us including from local sources. Cross border studies are also necessary to gauge how the Bay environment impacts on the health of all Bay communities. The focus should then quickly move to bring all identified causes of ill- health and higher mortality in the area in line with best practice and best available technology within Europe with the aim of improving health prospects and quality of life

b) The ESG and our public health advisers consider more research is required as well as an expansion of the existing air monitoring programme in Gibraltar (also advised by a report commissioned by Government and published January 2011)