



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Minister Costa in meetings with Scottish and Welsh Cabinet Secretaries for Health.**

Minister for Health, Care and Justice, the Honourable Neil F. Costa MP, travelled to Scotland and Wales, to hold meetings with the Scottish and Welsh Cabinet Secretaries responsible for health care provision. Minister Costa was accompanied by the Medical Director of the Gibraltar Health Authority, Dr Daniel Cassaglia.

In Cardiff, Mr Costa met Mr Vaughan Gething AM, the Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services. While in Edinburgh, Minister Costa held talks with Ms Shona Robison MSP, Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport. Minister Costa and Dr Cassaglia also met with Professor Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director of Healthcare Quality and Strategy for NHS Scotland.

Mr Costa also had the opportunity to meet Dr Philippa Whitford, a Scottish Nationalist Party MP in the House of Commons and SNP parliamentary spokeswoman for Health in London.

GHA Medical Director Daniel Cassaglia said: "It was a very interesting series of meetings for us, as we were able to gain first-hand knowledge of health systems in both Wales and Scotland and see from close quarters the challenges faced by health services in parts of Britain. It was a productive visit, as we were able to exchange views and experiences with colleagues and team leaders at the sharp end of the delivery of these vital services to the public. We discussed issues relating to healthcare improvement and in particular Clinical Governance, patient safety, procurement, professional development for Health professionals, all of which are vital in our effort to improve our clinical services at the GHA."

Mr Costa said: "It was an important opportunity for me to cement my relationship with my Scottish counterpart and to meet the Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Health, both of whom are seasoned politicians with great experience in the provision of health services to their respective communities. Further to my previous trip with my Medical Director to Scotland, we pursued our discussions in attempting to find commonalities and seek to determine whether the GHA could



establish economies of scale. We are hopeful that we will be able to find synergies, which will be mutually beneficial.”