



PRESS RELEASE

No: 779/2018

Date: 10th December 2018

December 24th Given as a Holiday in Public Sector

The Chief Minister of Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar, the Hon Fabian Picardo QC MP, has today issued a Bulletin of Circulars to all Civil Servants and Public Sector workers to thank them for their support whilst he and the Deputy Chief Minister have been dealing with Brexit matters. The bulletin states that in recognition of the continuing commitment of all Public Sector workers, all office workers who have a scheduled half day on the 24th December, which this year falls on a Monday, should be granted that day off as an ex-gratia day off.

The Chief Minister adds that this measure "will enable us all to spend a little more additional time with family and loved ones."

The usual arrangements will apply to compensate those on shifts.

The terms of the whole bulletin read as follows:

"Dear all

As you know over the last months we have been working tirelessly to secure the best possible Brexit deal for Gibraltar. I really do believe that we have achieved what is in the best interest of our small nation, with options to keep Gibraltar safe and secure whether or not the Withdrawal Agreement is eventually passed by the UK Parliament. This would not have been possible without your hard work and support throughout in keeping Government functioning in all other areas. There will of course be more mountains to climb, as the journey ahead may be difficult, but with your constant ongoing support and commitment I know that we will get there. For now I just wanted to thank you all directly for your help in our endeavours.

This morning I have met with the Cabinet and spoken to the Chief Secretary. We all agree that in recognition of the continuing commitment of all Public Sector workers, all office workers who have a scheduled half day on the 24th December, which this year falls on a Monday, should be granted that day off as an ex-gratia day off. This will enable us all to spend a little more additional time with family and loved ones. The usual arrangements will apply to compensate those on shifts.

Once again, sincere thanks,

*Fabian Picardo QC MP
Chief Minister."*