



THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

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Press Release: The GBC's Budgetary Document: Resilience, Sustainability and Recovery

The Gozo Business Chamber's budgetary document addresses four important points: employment, environment, accessibility, and infrastructure. The Chamber is of the opinion that these areas should be given the highest priority, given the issues that are being raised. Gozo is an island region with specific characteristics and issues which need to be addressed. The situation brought forward by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the recent situation in Ukraine, points forward to an economy which needs to be more resilient and sustainable so that it can start to recover. To this end the Chamber is of the opinion that the issues it is bringing forward should be addressed urgently.

Employment

- Tax all overtime earned at a flat rate of 15%
- Provide a scheme whereby those professionals who have their main office in Gozo but would like to open an office in Malta in order to expand their clientele, would be supported.

Environment

- Designate the whole of Gozo as a design priority area.
- Create and apply a regional and comprehensive planning policy for Gozo.

Accessibility

- Ensure that the fast ferry service between Gozo and Malta is retained, and a consistent level of service is provided throughout.
- Develop the air link between Gozo and Malta.
- Ensure that the permanent link between Gozo and Malta remains a key policy priority given the long-term nature of the project.

Infrastructure

- Initiate the process for a sustainable multistory underground car park in Victoria.
- Start the process for a new hospital for Gozo which should complement the investment made in the Queen Mary University of London Gozo campus.
- Finalise important infrastructural projects which are already being developed.

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Incorporated by Public Deed on 20th December 1999

Data: 17/08/2022

Stqarrija għall-Istampa: Id-Dokument tal-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex għall-Baġit: Reżiljenza, Sostenibiltà u Rkupru

Id-dokument tal-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex għall-baġit jindirizza erba' aspetti importanti: is-suq tax-xogħol, l-ambjent, l-aċċessibilita, u l-infrastruttura. Il-Kamra hija tal-opinjoni li dawn l-erba' aspetti għandhom jingħataw l-ogħla priorita, minħabba l-isfidi li qed jiġu ffaċċjati f'dawn id-diversi oqsma. Għawdex huwa gżira reġjun b'karatteristiċi spċċifici u bi sfidi li jridu jiġu ndirizzati. Is-sitwazzjoni li rriżultat minħabba l-pandemija tal-COVID-19, u s-sitwazzjoni reċenti fl-Ukrainia juri ekonomija li trid tkun iktar reżiljeni u sostenibbli biex tkun tista' tibda tirkupra. Għalkehh il-Kamra hija tal-opinjoni li dawn l-isfidi għandhom jiġu ndirizzati b'mod urġenti.

Is-Suq tax-Xogħol

- L-overtime kollu jiġi ntaxxat b'rata fissa ta' 15%.
- Tiġi provduta skema fejn professionisti li jkollhom l-uffiċċju principali tagħhom f'Għawdex jingħataw is-sapport biex ikunu jistgħu jifthu l-uffiċċju tagħhom f'Malta,

L-Ambjent

- Għawdex kollu jiġi desinjat bħala *design priority area*.
- Tiġi kkreata u applikata politika reġjonali u komprensiva tal-ippjanar għal Għawdex.

Aċċessibilita

- Jiġi żgurat li s-servizz tal-*fast ferry* bejn Għawdex u Malta jiġi miżimum, u li jiġi mogħti livell ta' servizz konsistenti.
- Jiddaħħal is-servizz tal-ajru bejn Għawdex u Malta.
- Tiġi żgurata li l-*permanent link* bejn Għawdex u Malta tibqa' priorita għall-politika nazzjonali u dan minħabba in-natura tal-proġett li jrid isir fuq medda ta' snin.

Infrastruttura

- Jiġi mibdi l-proċess ta' parkeggj fuq diversi sulari taħt l-art fir-Rabat Għawdex.
- Jinbdea l-proċess għall-sptar ġdid f'Għawdex li jikkumplimenta l-investiment li sar fil-kampus tal-Queen Mary f'Għawdex.
- Jiġu ffinalizzati proġetti infrastrutturali mportanti f'Għawdex li ja għadha.

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