



THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

The Brokerage, Level 4A, St Marta Street, Victoria VCT 2551, Gozo, Malta

Tel: (+365) 21550305

E-mail : info@gozobusinesschamber.org

Website : www.gozobusinesschamber.org

PR GBC08/2021

Date: 25/05/21

The New Fast Ferry Service to Gozo

The Gozo Business Chamber notes with satisfaction both the schedule announced by the two operators who will be operating the new fast ferry service to Gozo, and the relevant pricing structure. The Chamber believes that accessibility is key to Gozo's continuous sustainable economic development. However, accessibility depends also on the pricing of the service, both to people living in Malta and those living in Gozo. The Chamber notes also that both entities have acknowledged the necessity of such a service for Gozitans, with both the pricing structure, and the schedule reflecting the Gozitans' need to use this service more frequently.

This service has multiple advantages including its impact on the environment, as it will act as an incentive for persons to reduce car travel both in Malta and in Gozo. It can also create multiple economic niches which can create considerable value added, especially to cruise liner visitors at Valletta Cruise Port, who will now have the possibility to actually visit Gozo even during their short period on the island of Malta. It will also have a significant social impact reducing substantially travelling time for commuters, leading more people to actually decide to make Gozo their home while working in Malta, and therefore helping preserve our communities' identity.

The Chamber has always advocated the need for such an important service, linked to the main economic hubs on both islands. Consequently, it would like to note the positive impacts of the Government's decision to liberalise this service, and also the current works being done to ensure that the service starts to be operational as from the 1st June.

The Chamber looks forward to the start of the service and would like to augur both operators a successful venture.

Incorporated by Public Deed on 20th December 1999