



Parliamentary questions

14 November 2013

E-012945-13

**Question for written answer
to the Commission
Rule 117
Ashley Fox (ECR)**

► **Subject: Sewage contamination affecting Gibraltar's coastline**

 Answer(s)

Sewage contamination from La Linea in Spain continues to cause serious pollution along part of Gibraltar's coastline, despite previous assurances from the Spanish Government that no sewage would be discharged from this site after the end of 2011. I am informed that this contamination is stemming from a storm drainpipe illegally discharging raw sewage towards Gibraltar's Western Beach.

According to data compiled by the Gibraltar Environmental Agency⁽¹⁾, the situation is worsening, with sewage contamination from La Linea reaching Western Beach. This is creating a serious risk to public health, and as a result the beach has had to be closed on a number of occasions.

What action is the Commission taking to bring an end to this persistent pollution of Gibraltar's waters?

(1) <http://www.environmental-agency.gi/beachresult.php?beachid=6>

OJ C 228, 17/07/2014

Last updated: 4 December 2013

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Parliamentary questions

7 January 2014

E-012945/2013

Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission

The Commission would refer the Honourable Member to its joint answer to written questions **E-012287/2013** and **E-012288/2013**⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

OJ C 228, 17/07/2014

Last updated: 9 January 2014

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Parliamentary questions

6 January 2014

E-012288/13

E-012287/13

Joint answer given by Mr Potočnik on behalf of the Commission

Written questions :E-012288/13 , E-012287/13

A complaint has been registered on pollution at the Western Beach (nr CHAP (2011)916). In addition, the Parliament accepted a petition regarding bathing water quality at the Western Beach (nr 258/2011).

Following the complaint and the petition, the Commission has requested information from Spain on the water pollution at the Western Beach. According to the information provided by the Spanish authorities in the context of the abovementioned investigation, the problems of the sewage systems that could influence the quality status of the beach concerned, including discharges as those mentioned by the Honourable Member, have been tackled.

In October 2013, the Commission requested updated information on these issues including data from this year's bathing water season from Spain. No information has been received yet by the Commission.

Moreover, the Commission has asked the United Kingdom to provide information on other possible causes of the pollution at the beach concerned.

The Commission would also note that it has raised its concerns on the lack of a treatment system for waste water in Gibraltar in a letter of formal notice addressed to the United Kingdom, issued on 20/06/2013.

Once Spain and the United Kingdom have replied, the Commission will be in a position to decide on how to proceed.

OJ C 221, 11/07/2014

Last updated: 7 January 2014

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