

PN Electoral programme

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Here are some of the 353 measures that the PN is proposing ...

Read them all in the PN programme available at www.lawrencegonzi.info

More wealth from which you will benefit:

1. A budget surplus will be achieved by 2010, enabling us to increase investment, create more jobs and reduce taxes.
2. Income tax will be reduced through the widening of tax bands. The thresholds of when tax is paid at 15% and 25% will be raised. As a result the number of persons who do not pay income tax will increase as will those who will pay 15% instead of 25%.
3. The maximum tax rate will be reduced from 35% to 25% for those earning up to €60,000 (Lm 25,758).
4. Mothers who return to work after five years will get a one year tax break for each child under the age of 16. Working mothers who return after less than five years, will get a one year tax break for each child born in 2007 or later.
5. Overtime will be paid as it is paid today and not at the rate of an hour for every hour.
6. Inheritance tax on the ordinary residence will be removed completely, even when inherited by children.
7. The €23 departure tax, introduced by a Labour government, will be removed completely.
8. The €16.31 annual credit card levy, also introduced by a Labour government, will be removed.
9. The €34.94 licence fee on televisions will also be removed
10. Car registration tax will be replaced by a system based on the polluter-pays-principle. New cars will pay less tax but those who pollute less will be rewarded the most.

More Work, Better Work

11. At least 5,600 new jobs will be created in SmartCity whereas the target for financial services sector will be to employ at least 10,000 persons.
12. The access to Malta for low cost airlines as well as legacy airlines will be increased.
13. Workers' rights will be strengthened. Contracts of employment which deny workers of their rights or adequate working conditions will be banned. Government will lead by example in its public procurement.

14. EU funds will be used, amongst others, to finance the upgrading of five industrial estates, a crafts village and a minimum of five bays as well as a number of tourist zones and coastal zones.

Education lies at the very basis ...

15. The e-learning strategy will continue to be implemented, with a computer supplied for every four students and a laptop for every teacher.
16. The stipends system will be sustained.
17. The Government grant to the University and MCAST will increase and the master plan for a new MCAST campus will start to be implemented.
18. More direct and indirect support will be given to parents who send their children to private schools, including facilitators for children in private schools

We want the best health service for you

19. A commitment to remove waiting lists once and for all.
20. Zammit Clapp Hospital will be converted into a cancer-specialised hospital with radiotherapy and PET scan facilities.
21. The Pharmacist of Your Choice scheme will be extended.
22. Medicine prices will continue to be monitored and, where necessary, their price reduced.

Let's turn Maghtab green

23. We will invest in a wind farm project, 20 miles out at sea, generating between 75MW to 100MW of clean energy.
24. €33 million in incentives for households and businesses to generate clean energy and save energy, including the distribution of 10 energy saving lamps per household over two years, enabling each household to save €200 per year on its electricity bill.
25. €300 in EU funds – the largest portion - will be allocated to environmental projects.
26. MEPA will be reformed and will fall under the direct responsibility of the Prime Minister.

No one will be left behind

27. The electricity surcharge will continue to be subsidised for all households, whereas the 30,000 families who are most in need will continue to be relieved altogether.
28. More incentives to help more people, especially young couples, become owners of their home.

29. Rent laws will be reformed to protect today's tenants whilst ensuring justice for owners. As a start, rents earned from controlled properties will be exempt from income tax.

A government that listens to you and takes care of you

30. The Office of the Ombudsman will be strengthened to enable it to better deal with citizens' complaints on the public administration.

31. A law on freedom of information and the protection of whistleblowers will be enacted.

Securing a better quality of life

32. The authority responsible for the protection of the consumer and competition will be strengthened and will be responsible for monitoring prices.

33. More investment in sports facilities across Malta and Gozo.

Gozo: The jewel of the Maltese Islands

34. Gozo will become an ecological island, Eco-Gozo, a model for high environmental standards, starting with a pilot project in one locality.

35. Mġarr Harbour infrastructure will be upgraded for cruise liners and the yacht marina extended.

36. 10% of Malta's share of EU funds will be allocated specifically for the socio-economic development of Gozo.

An active role far beyond our size

37. Rather than unravel the EU membership package, the PN wants Malta to remain at the heart of Europe, more so following our accession to Schengen and adoption of the euro.

A full copy of the PN programme is available at www.lawrencegonzi.info