

## **Robert Abela's trail of negotiations with Steward Health Care**

### **Key Dates:**

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|-----------|---|
| Jan-20    | Robert Abela takes oath of office and becomes Prime Minister  |
| Jan-20    | Cabinet provides short-term waiver to SHC postponing the payment of a €9 million performance guarantee  |
| Apr-20    | Cabinet approves transfer of funds for SHC to pay for employees and medical services  |
| Jun-20    | Government commences discussions on re-negotiating the concession with SHC<br>Robert Abela personally participates in key meetings with SHC   |
| Jul-20    | High-level understanding reached. SHC to take care of construction; Government to acquire Barts Medical School from SHC for €35 million; A new 30-year management agreement to be signed      |
| Oct-20    | Meeting at Castille between Government and SHC to finalise agreements   |
| Nov-20    | Drafting of final agreements on the new concession prepared   |
| Dec-20    | Government and SHC agree on 18 December 2020 as tentative date for the signing of the new deal  |
| 18-Dec-20 | Ministers Fearné and Caruana present Cabinet memo on new deal. Approved for signing.<br>Government informs SHC that only a minor issue remained and postponed the signing to 23 December 2020 |
| Feb-21    | New memo presented by Minister Fearné to Cabinet that increases SHC's payment by €25 million. Cabinet approves it.  |
| Apr-21    | Third round of negotiations between Government and SHC begin. Bank of Valletta is roped in.   |
| May-21    | Health Minister Fearné proposes 8 June as the new date for the final signing  |
| Aug-21    | Minister Fearné informs SHC that following advice from State Advocate and Department of Contracts, the government was no longer willing to strike the new deal because it was illegal         |