

Robert Arrigo 'most wanted' for minister

James Debono

65% of respondents in MaltaToday's latest survey want to see new faces in the Cabinet, but just 25% of respondents could mention a potential candidate for minister.

Former Sliema mayor Robert Arrigo, an MP since 2003, got the highest support (11%) from those who proposed a new minister. Arrigo was returned from two electoral districts in 2008 and emerged as the PN's front-runner in the tenth district.

Support for giving the tourism entrepreneur a ministerial post came from Nationalists and Labour voters alike, with 12% and 14% respectively of respondents.

Interestingly, outspoken Nationalist backbencher Franco Debono – who recently denied rumours of crossing the floor over to Labour – has turned out to be more favoured by Labour voters. 6% say he should be made minister, but only 1% of PN voters said likewise.

An equal number of Nationalist and Labour voters (3.5%) want Jeffrey Pullicino Orlando.

But it is Nationalist whip David Agius who is the second most favoured (7%), after Arrigo, by PN voters. Beppe,



L-R - Jeffrey Pullicino Orlando, David Agius, Franco Debono, Jesmond Mugliett, and Beppe Fenech Adami

son of former prime minister Eddie Fenech Adami, got 3.5% in preferences from PN voters.

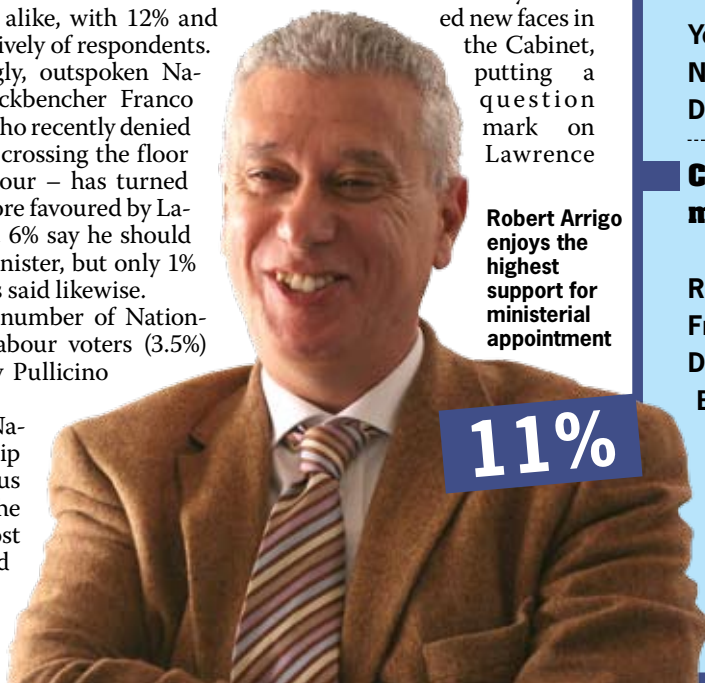
Overall, Labour voters were more keen on seeing new faces than PN voters (77%).

But a staggering 56% of PN voters said they wanted new faces in the Cabinet, putting a question mark on Lawrence

Gonzi's decision for a streamlined Cabinet of eight ministers and six parliamentary secretar-

ies. Respondents were not prompted with any names, and it was up

to them to mention a backbencher's name.



Robert Arrigo enjoys the highest support for ministerial appointment

Should the PM appoint new ministers? (%)

	All	PN (voted in 2008)	PL (voted in 2008)
Yes	65.4	55.8	77.9
No	14.3	22.1	9.3
Don't know	20.3	22.1	12.8

Can you name someone from the current backbench who should be made minister/parliamentary secretary? (%)

	All	PN voters	PL voters
Robert Arrigo	11	11.6	14
Franco Debono	3	1.2	5.8
David Agius	3	7	3.5
Beppe Fenech Adami	2.7	3.5	-
Jeffrey Pullicino Orlando	2.3	3.5	3.5
Jesmond Mugliett	1	2.3	-
Others	2.3	3.6	2.3
None	14.3	-	-
Don't know	60.4	N/A	N/A