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MINUTES OF THE 39th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 15th APRIL 2021 AT 9.00 AM

- PRESENT:
- Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam
 - The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance and Health,
Dr Ellis Webster
 - The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley
 - The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs,
Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services,
Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers
 - The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour,
Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting,
Lands and Physical Planning, Mr Kenneth Hodge
 - The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications,
Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes
 - The Honourable Minister for Economic Development, Commerce,
Information Technology, Environment and Natural Resources,
Mr Kyle Hodge
 - The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford
 - Clerk to Executive Council, Mrs Angela Hughes
- IN ATTENDANCE:
- Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development,
Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie
 - Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social
Development/Education, Mr Merrick Richardson
 - Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull

EX MIN 21/137

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 38th Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 8th April, 2021.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 21/138

EX MEM 21/74 GOVERNMENT OF ANGUILLA HOSTING EVACUEES FROM ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES (SVG) DUE TO THE ERUPTION OF THE LA SOUFRIERE VOLCANO

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

In Ex Min 21/136 Council considered the assistance to be offered to evacuees from SVG and the pertinent issues arising.

Council agreed:

- 1) that financial assistance in the sum of EC\$150K will be given to the Government of SVG via the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA);
- 2) that nationals of St Vincent employed in the public service will be able to access their deferred salaries and further information will be provided. The total amount of deferred salaries for the qualifying public officers is approximately XCD\$85K. It was noted that a large proportion of the qualifying public officers work in the RAPF and this expenditure was not included within the budget. This offer will be limited to the public officers identified only;
- 3) that the ivisit Anguilla portal, which is the existing platform for visitors to Anguilla, should be used and existing quarantine protocols will apply. Any visitor applications from Vincentians in St Vincent with family members resident in Anguilla, will be fast tracked and entry fees will be waived. The Government

of Anguilla will accommodate 20 people at a time in Government of Anguilla quarantine facilities;

- 4) that unaccompanied minors will require existing consent requirements to be satisfied. Anguilla residents will not be permitted to voluntarily enter quarantine with unaccompanied minors. In line with existing protocols, unaccompanied minors will not be admitted into Government of Anguilla quarantine facilities and must quarantine at a private home certified for temporary quarantine home stay, using the existing processes. Accordingly, the Government of Anguilla accepts the heightened risk of local transmission occurring, in circumstances where there has been no national evacuation order issued in SVG;
- 5) that any minors entering into Anguilla will be given support in the form of access to education and counselling services to ensure appropriate wellbeing support. It is necessary to ascertain the profile of school aged children, so that consideration can be given as to what accommodation can be made, as it relates to the Education Act. Endeavours will be made to obtain immunization records;
- 6) that SVG nationals resident in Anguilla should be encouraged to vaccinate and this will assist in reducing the risk of local transmission;
- 7) that an information sheet outlining the assistance to be offered will be prepared by the Public Service, under the supervision of the Hon Deputy Governor; and
- 8) that the matter in SVG and the response will remain under review.

Action: PS, HLTH; PS, FIN; PS, HA; BD; ACC, GEN; HON, DG;
HON, AG; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 21/139

EX MEM 21/75 THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC) 2019 ANNUAL REPORT, FOR TABLING AT THE ANGUILLA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

The Hon Minister for MICUHT briefed Council. The PUC has submitted its 2019 Annual Report, which provides a synopsis of the financial performance and activities of the PUC during 2019 and shows the financial position of the PUC at the year ending 31 December 2019.

The annual report is prepared and submitted in accordance with section 22 of the Public Utilities Act, which also requires the report to be tabled in the House of Assembly.

Council:

- 1) noted the 2019 Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission; and
- 2) instructed the Minister with responsibility for communications to table the 2019 Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission at the next session of the House of Assembly.

Action: PS, MICUHT; HON, MIN MICUHT

EX MIN 21/140

EX MEM 21/76 A BILL TO AMEND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT (ANGUILLA) ACT 2021 AND A BILL FOR THE BAIL ACT 2021

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

The Hon Attorney General briefed Council. The Bill to amend the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (Anguilla) Act creates a right of appeal. Where specified grounds have been successfully established, such as procedural irregularity, the Hon Attorney General can appeal to the Court of Appeal and the Privy Council

against the acquittal of an accused person. This right of appeal applies to limited offences including murder and sexual offences. This improves the administration of justice, because there is equal access to the appeals process and any irregularities in the trial process can be addressed. The amendment also gives the Hon Attorney General the power to seek an opinion of the Court of Appeal, via an Attorney-General's Reference, on matters of great general and public importance. An opinion may be sought on questions concerning the constitution, law or mixed law and fact. The opinion of the Court shall be authoritatively binding as if it were a judgment on appeal.

The Bill for the Bail Act provides a legislative framework, for deciding whether a person who is accused of an offence or is otherwise required to appear before a court should be detained or released, with or without conditions. The Bill details the circumstances under which bail may be given and the grounds under which bail may be denied. It stipulates that the reasons for denying bail must be given and any person that is refused bail may appeal. The Bill creates an offence of absconding whilst on bail and specifies the consequences for absconding for both the sureties and the person who has absconded. The Bill has been formulated using the ECSC pilot legislation.

Council:

- 1) noted the proposal to conduct public consultation in the intervening period between the first and second readings of the Bills;
- 2) approved the Bill to amend the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (Anguilla) Act and the Bill for the Bail Act, for public consultation for a period of 6 weeks; and
- 3) instructed the AG's Chambers to prepare the Bills for tabling at the next session of the House of Assembly.

Action: HON, AG; SCC (Cr)

EX MIN 21/143

COVID-19 & ASTRAZENECA/OXFORD VACCINE UPDATE

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined the meeting: -

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Aisha Andrewin
Health Planner, Ms Rochelle Rogers

Vaccination Update

As of April 14 at 4.00 pm there were 6868 persons registered of which 5,969 persons had received their first dose. This represents 47% of the target population figure of 12,600 persons. Thus far, 189 persons have received their second dose. The breakdown by occupation for first doses is as follows:

- 280 Healthcare workers (80%)
- 390 Civil, border protection and port staff (104%)
- 1174 Hospitality (35%)
- 835 Retired
- 3271 Others (68%)

Using 2011 census age demographics, the breakdown of individuals who have received the vaccine by age, is as follows:

- 1533 persons age 18 - 34 (38% of target)
- 1789 persons age 35 - 49 (45% of target)
- 1689 persons age 50 - 64 (70% of target)
- 955 persons age 65+ (80% of target)

This indicates that vaccination uptake is lower among the younger age groups. Efforts to include younger persons in marketing material are ongoing.

Vaccine ID Cards

Executive Council agreed that the Health Authority of Anguilla should issue cards to persons who are fully vaccinated. The card has been designed and the Electoral Office printer will be used to print the cards. The cards will be printed using the same system and process employed for existing Government issued ID cards.

The Thoughtful Agency and DITES are collaborating to populate the database with the requisite information to be included on the cards.

DITES are in the process of securing additional supplies to support this process, which should arrive on island within approximately 3 weeks.

Council:

- 1) thanked the Health team for the work well done;
- 2) reviewed the existing COVID-19 related regulations which expire on 17 April 2021 and agreed that the following Regulations should be extended, for the period 18 April 2021 to 30 April 2021:
 - a) Public Health (Covid-19 Regulation of Ports) Regulations, 2021;
 - b) Public Health (Covid-19 Monitoring of Approved Businesses) Regulations, 2021;
 - c) Emergency Powers (COVID-19 Border Control) Regulations, 2021; and
- 3) approved the amended Quarantine (COVID-19) (Arriving Passengers Health Clearance) Rules, 2021, for the period 18 April to 30 April 2021, subject to amendment, to enable the shortening of quarantine for vaccinated persons. There is mandatory quarantine of no less than 7 days for persons with evidence of final vaccination conducted no less than 21 days prior to arrival date. Also included are the standards required for vaccination evidence, the streamlining of entry fees and the introduction of reduced fees for fully vaccinated persons;
- 4) approved the amended Public Health (Quarantine) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2021, for the period 18 April to 30 April 2021, subject to amendment, to enable the shortening of quarantine for vaccinated persons. There is mandatory quarantine of no less than 7 days for persons with evidence of final vaccination conducted no less than 21 days prior to arrival date;

- 5) noted the proposed design for the vaccination cards;
- 6) noted the progress in the issuance of vaccination cards;
- 7) noted that consideration needs to be given as to what requirements may be put in place so that summer camps and babysitting services may operate safely; and
- 8) noted that the anti-vaccination sentiment among senior members of the Anguilla Public Service needs to be addressed.

Council authorized the release of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HLTH; PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR; BD; ACC, GEN;
HON, DG; HON, AG; MINS OF GOV'T
