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MINUTES OF THE 64th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 28th OCTOBER 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 Acting Deputy Governor, Mr Karim Hodge
 - 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: Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT:
- The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley
 - 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

EX MIN 21/339 **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 63rd Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 21st October, 2021 and the Special Meetings held on Thursday 7th October and Friday 8th October 2021.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 21/340 **COVID-19 UPDATE**

Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined:

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

Epidemiology

Global overview

According to the WHO's most current epidemiological report of October 26, the global number of new cases increased slightly compared to the previous week, with just over 2.9 million cases reported for the period October 18 – 24. This is largely attributed to increasing case numbers in the European Region, which accounted for 57% of the new cases globally. The number of deaths also increased slightly as compared to previous weeks, with just over 49,000 new deaths.

The regions with the highest weekly incidence rates of cases and deaths per 100,000 population are the regions of the Americas and Europe. The US is the country with the highest number of reported cases in the last week, there were 512,956 new cases, which is a 12% decrease.

Caribbean Region

The total number of confirmed cases is 2,048,422 in 35 countries/territories (including the 26 CARPHA Member States) and 395,685 in CARICOM Member States. The new total represents a 1.6% increase in the number of confirmed cases. There were 26,134 deaths recorded in the Caribbean region as of October 18, 2021. Some Member States continue to experience increasing positive case numbers, though declines in the number of cases from the September peak, have been observed in several Caribbean countries. Cluster outbreaks through to community transmission of the virus, with increasing hospitalizations and deaths continues.

Anguilla

As of October 27, 2021, the total number of confirmed cases since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020 is 892 with 790 recoveries, 1 death and 101 active cases. Six persons are currently admitted to hospital due to COVID-19 symptoms and one person was flown overseas in a critical condition.

- Moreover, the test positivity rate for the last week October 17-23 was 10.46%, it had increased over the previous three weeks, peaking at 11% last week.
- From August to present 88 out of 769 cases (11.4%) were imported and they are mainly coming from the United States, Sint Maarten and the Dominican Republic (the top three countries), which together account for around 81% of the imported cases. There has been an increase in the proportion of cases from the DR to 37%, which now surpasses the US at 29%.
- Focusing on the cases of local transmission occurring between August 8 and October 27:
 - The age range is 7 months to 91 years, with around 66% aged 44 years or younger, around 32% aged 45 to 69 years and around 2% are 70 years or older.
 - Last week school transmission accounted for 3% of

cases. A number of children also subsequently tested positive at the end of quarantine, leading to a slight increase in that transmission category to 5%.

- There has been an increase in positive cases with no obvious link to a cluster, from <20% overall in the previous weeks to 25% at this time.
- At this time household contacts and transmission is still dominant, accounting for around 50% of transmission and together with social contacts, around 60% of transmission.
- Vaccination status of local cases:
 - 311 are vaccinated (46%) while 370 (54%) are unvaccinated.
 - 195 are unvaccinated minors representing 29% of cases and 53% of cases among the unvaccinated.
 - 372 (55%) females and 309 males (45%) of which, 177 out of 270 (66%) adult females and 134 out of 216 (62%) of the adult males are fully vaccinated.

Vaccination Deployment Update

Introduction of the Pfizer/BioNTech Vaccine

The COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Team are working towards implementation of the plan for introduction of the Pfizer vaccine. The shipment date is now confirmed for November 3, with the launch date scheduled for November 8. On Monday 25th October, the team had a sensitization session with partners in the UK on vaccine handling and administration and this underscored the need for daily forecasting. Consent forms will be distributed via the school and parents must return the forms by November 4, to allow for appropriate scheduling.

Vaccinator Training is ongoing today, the administration team shall concentrate on the appropriate handling, administration, documentation and management of adverse reactions.

Visual communication products will be ready shortly, radio advertisement materials have been sent for production and radio appearances by team members are being scheduled for next week

COVID-19 Response Measures

Executive Council recently revised the entry and quarantine protocols for Anguilla. As requested by the Government the impacts of this decision and the mitigation measures to keep the country as safe as possible, have been assessed and detailed by the health team for Council's consideration.

Council:

- 1) thanked the health team for their continued hard work;
- 2) noted that throughout the pandemic the focus in terms of the management and resourcing of the hospital has mainly been reactive to the immediate threat. There now needs to be consideration of the long term plan to integrate COVID-19 care into the provision of healthcare support;
- 3) noted that public resources should be focused on entry testing. As it relates to provision for other testing, including exit testing for onward travel, consideration should be given to the capacity of the private sector to assist;
- 4) noted that persons have to take greater personal responsibility overall in terms of protecting themselves from infection and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, this includes following the protocols and practicing good respiratory hygiene;
- 5) noted in respect of contact tracing that persons will be asked to observe quarantine periods as follows:-

- a) 7 days quarantine for vaccinated persons, who have had contact with a known positive case, starting from the day of contact with the positive case;
 - b) 10 days quarantine for unvaccinated persons, who have had contact with a known positive case starting from the day of contact with the positive case; and
 - c) 14 days quarantine from the day of the COVID-19 test for persons who are ***positive for COVID-19***.
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- 6) agreed in respect of entry requirements that the antigen test completed via a nasopharyngeal swab should be taken within **48 hours of arrival to Anguilla**;
 - 7) agreed that the cost to cover the entry testing regime is USD\$50 for all fully vaccinated adults and USD\$50 for all minors whether vaccinated or unvaccinated;
 - 8) agreed that the Ministry, based on the epidemiological situation and assessment of the ongoing risks shall determine who shall be required to undertake day 4 testing. The Ministry has the discretion to determine who shall be tested;
 - 9) noted all of the proposed COVID-19 response measures outlined for consideration and agreed that the health team shall work up a long term plan for increasing resources for Council's consideration, and the plan needs to align with the 2022 Budget; and
 - 10) agreed that the health team shall work up clear proposals and protocols for testing arrangements in workplaces and schools, including costing and processes. School protocols should consider the sharing of information between the health team, authorities and schools. Noted that the position with respect to mandatory vaccination for school children shall remain under review.

Council authorized the issue 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

EX MIN 21/341

EX MEM 21/207 LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT A MONEY TRANSMISSION LEVY

Financial Specialist remained.

The Hon Premier briefed Council. A money transmission levy is included in the 2022-2024 MTEFP as a planned tax measure of the 2022 Budget estimates.

Council:

- 1) noted that based on an average of outgoing money transfers for the period 2017 – 2021 at a rate of 2% the Money Transmission Levy is estimated to generate revenue of EC\$831,130 in 2022. This figure may vary should there be a change in consumer behavior; and
- 2) instructed the AG's Chambers to draft legislation to give effect to a Money Transmission Levy at the rate of 2% of the gross amount transmitted on money transmissions facilitated by Class A licensees under the Money Services Business Act.

Action: PS, FIN; HON, AG; HON, PREM

EX MIN 21/342

EX MEM 21/208 APPOINTMENT OF A NEW TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING (TVET) COUNCIL

Financial Specialist remained.

The Hon Minister for Social Development briefed Council. Section 87 of the Education Act provides for the establishment, composition and appointment of the TVET Council. The previous Council's term expired on September 30, 2021. Members were invited to re-apply

to serve. Additionally, an advertisement was placed to recruit suitably qualified Council members. Persons with the skills most closely matching the requirements of the Education Act were identified.

Council approved the appointment of the following persons to serve on the TVET Council for a period of 3 years commencing November 15, 2021:

- (a) Ms. Jo-Anne Hodge - designated by the Permanent Secretary with responsibility for Labour (ex-officio)
- (b) Mr. Bren Romney - Chief Education Officer (ex-officio)
- (c) Dr. Kenneth Williams - President of the Anguilla Community College (ex-officio)
- (d) Mr. Feliciano James - TVET Coordinator (ex-officio)
- (e) Mr. Ronald Lynch - recommended by the Anguilla Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- (f) Mrs. Sharon Richardson - recommended by the Anguilla Hotel & Tourism Association
- (g) Mrs. Fuan Campbell-Toussaint - recommended by the Anguilla Teachers' Union
- (h) Ms. Katrina Richardson - recommended by the Anguilla Civil Service Association
- (i) Mr. Teron Hodge-Carty - expertise in technical and vocational education and training and a member of the previous TVET Council
- (j) Mr. Michael Lawrence - expertise in technical and vocational education and training
- (k) Mr. Christopher Mason - expertise in technical and vocational education and training

Action: PS, SD; HON, MIN SD

EX MIN 21/343

EX MEM 21/209 THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY CHAIR TO THE ANGUILLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ACC) BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Financial Specialist remained.

In Ex Min 21/297 persons were appointed to the ACC Board of Governors. Section 5(4) of the Anguilla Community College Act stipulates that the *“Governor in Council shall designate a member*

- b) Regulations to be issued for Exemption in accordance with the Fourth Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding dated 27th August 2019 between the Government and SOF-VIII-HOTEL II Anguilla Holdings LLC.

Council authorised the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 21/347

INF/02 - NATIONAL FUNERAL FOR THE LATE EVANS MCKENLEY RICHARDSON

Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the passing of Mr. Evans McKenley Richardson of Long Bay.

Council noted in keeping with Ex Min 14/612(vii) and Ex Min 15/535, the late Mr. Evans McKenley Richardson shall be honoured with a National Funeral with the following arrangements:

- (i) the holding of a National Funeral for the late Mr. Evans McKenley Richardson in collaboration with the family, on Friday 29th October 2021 at the Pro-Cathedral of St Mary at 2:00pm;
- (ii) the publication of an Official Statement of Condolence from the Government and people of Anguilla on the passing of this revolutionary;
- (iii) flags are to be flown at half-mast on the day preceding the funeral (i.e. Thursday 28th October 2021) and on the day of the funeral (i.e. Friday 29th October 2021);
- (iv) a Police Guard of Honour will be drawn up at the Church and a contingent of uniformed officers will bear the body in and out of the church and at the graveside. The casket will be draped with the national flag; and

- (v) a contribution of EC\$5,000 will be made towards the funeral expenses and EC\$3,000 towards the other related expenses.

Action: PS, EDCITENR; HON, MIN EDCITENR

EX MIN 21/348

ORAL MENTION – OVERSEAS TRAVEL

There will be no Executive Council meeting on November 18, as H.E the Governor and the Hon Premier will be overseas on official business.

Action: CLK, EXCO
