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MINUTES OF THE 46th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 3rd JUNE 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 (Ag), Ms Dawne M. Richardson
- 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
- ABSENT: The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford

EX MIN 21/179

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 that the Minutes of the 45th Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 27th May, 2021 would be approved by Round Robin.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 21/180

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
Commissioner of Police, Mr David Lynch

Update on the COVID-19 cluster investigation and current situation

As of June 2, Anguilla has recorded a total of 109 confirmed cases with 109 recoveries and 0 active cases.

Cluster Cases Overview

All 78 cases of COVID-19 associated with the cluster first identified on April 21 have now recovered. There were three hospitalizations, and no deaths.

Testing and Contact Tracing

More than 1480 persons have been screened since April 22. The last positive cases were confirmed on May 10.

June 7 will be two incubation periods since identification of the last cases from the cluster. All things remaining the same, the interruption of further transmission and resolution of the cluster may be declared on June 7, i.e. two incubation cycles or four weeks – since the last positive cases.

Vaccination Deployment Update

As of June 2, there were 9508 registered persons of which 9058 persons had received their first dose, representing 72% of the target population figure of 12,600 persons. Thus far, 5567 persons have received their second dose. The breakdown by occupation of first doses is as follows:

- 345 Healthcare workers
- 508 Civil, border protection and port staff
- 1749 Hospitality
- 1042 Retired
- 5444 Others

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

- 2730 persons age 18 - 34 (68% of target)
- 2720 persons age 35 - 49 (68% of target)
- 2373 persons age 50 - 64 (99% of target)
- 1238 persons age 65+ (103% of target)

Vaccine Stock

On Sunday May 23, the vaccination team received 500 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, due to expire on May 31, from Montserrat. The team utilised 260 doses before the expiry date. The remaining doses will be discarded in accordance with the appropriate waste disposal protocols.

Vaccine ID Cards

DITES and the Thoughtful Agency continue to work to develop the vaccine cards. Reconciliation between paper records and digital systems is required. The necessary information is now stored on the Government servers. Work continues on the logistics surrounding the verification of ID card information, printing and a schedule for issuing cards. Supplies have been purchased to start printing ID cards and an additional printer has been requested.

Police update on enforcement and policing plan

The Commissioner of Police updated Council on the enforcement operations of the RAPF.

Approximately 95 cases have been prepared for prosecution before the courts and this number may rise. Moving forward sea based surveillance will end and enforcement will be undertaken via land based surveillance. This will be achieved using vehicles, specialized binoculars and drones. Some equipment will have to be acquired, but this approach is a better use of resources.

Work continues to monitor and utilize information received via the confidential line and website.

Notification has been received of two anti-vaccination protests planned for Saturday morning.

COVID-19 De-escalation of Measures

The Ministry of Health notes that the last recorded cases from the cluster were identified on May 10 and all contact tracing has been exhausted. The ongoing surveillance mechanisms including in-patient testing at the PAH ward, fever and cough reporting from health center sites, and community testing have not revealed any additional cases. Thus, the Ministry supports the further implementation of Step 4 of the De-escalation of measures, which permits the expiration of the temporary restrictions on movement and gatherings.

This also aligns to the previous Escalation of Measures Plan - Stage 0 designation.

Council:

- 1) thanked the Health team and the Commissioner of Police for the continued hard work and the efforts made to protect Anguilla;
- 2) noted that the COVID-19 cluster seems to have been resolved. In the coming weeks the health team will liaise with the WHO, CDC and CARPHA regarding a possible change in status;
- 3) noted that the visitor's portal is functioning well, it is being operated by 8 persons, and there are approximately 2700 registrants;
- 4) noted that vaccination uptake remains key, however, rates have now plateaued and whilst the vaccination of 10,000 persons is a good target figure, the ideal target remains approximately 12,600 persons. The Exit Plan for re-opening on July 1 is premised on a vaccination rate of 70% and currently we are at approximately 58%;
- 5) noted that the vaccinations expire on July 31 and that June 18 is the last date preferred for 1st dose vaccinations, in order to allow the required 6 week intervening period between the 1st and 2nd doses;
- 6) noted the recommendation of the health team that the requirements for physical distancing and mask wearing could cease on June 7. This recommendation is based upon the epidemiological situation;
- 7) noted the indication of the Commissioner of Police that there are adequate resources to allow night fishing to be undertaken in the waters to the north side of Anguilla. The fishermen must comply with the requirements in place, especially as it relates to tracking, and have GPS tracking

installed. There have been instances where there has been dispute about the accuracy of the GPS data;

- 8) noted that August Carnival events were cancelled owing to Government's financial constraints; and the minimum requirements for event participation and vaccination not being met. A minimum of 3 participants per event were required and participants had to be fully vaccinated. Some other events for fully vaccinated participants are being planned;
- 9) noted the proposal to vary the Quarantine Fees to accommodate groups of 100+ arriving towards the end of June. Noted that consideration could be given to achieving this objective by bringing forward the July 1 date for waiving fees. A paper identifying the key considerations and financial assessment shall be circulated for Council's approval by Round Robin;
- 10) agreed that persons employed in positions where they are particularly exposed and have contact with members of the public shall be further strongly encouraged to vaccinate;
- 11) agreed that in keeping with the Exit Strategy the production of Vaccination ID Cards is a very high priority and the specifics around inclusion of the appropriate data, storage of the data, printing and issuing have to be finalized immediately. From next week the first tranche of vaccine cards must be issued. A clear schedule of the distribution plan needs to be worked up and published on the MoH website. The Hon Deputy Governor shall work with relevant leads to reprioritise resources to facilitate this;
- 12) agreed that a Covid-19 risk assessment shall be worked up by Ministers of Government;
- 13) agreed that Anguilla could proceed to further implementation of Step 4 in the table of de-escalation measures;
- 14) agreed that the Public Health (Temporary Restrictions on Movement of People and Public Gatherings) Regulations 2021, shall be extended for the period June 8 to June 30, to reflect that physical distancing requirements will remain in place, as will required mask wearing for public indoor spaces

and places where physical distancing is not possible. All other restrictions have been removed;

15) agreed that until June 30 the restrictions on the movement of boats in our waters shall remain in place. However, from Monday 07 June, there will be no restrictions to fishing in the waters to the north side of Anguilla for fishing vessels licensed with fitted GPS trackers; and

16) agreed that a joint statement by the Hon Premier and H.E. the Governor shall be issued today confirming the details of the way forward.

Council authorised 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 21/181

PUBLIC HEALTH (LANDING OF PASSENGERS) (SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS) REGULATIONS, 2021

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

Council ratified the decision taken by Round Robin on Saturday 29th May as detailed in Ex Min 21/178.

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

EX MIN 21/182

EX MEM 21/96 OFFICIAL FUNERAL FOR THE LATE HUBERT BENJAMIN HUGHES, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER OF ANGUILLA

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

An Official (State) Funeral is a public funeral ceremony, observing the strict rules of protocol, which is held to honour Heads of State or other important people of national significance. State Funerals usually include much pomp and ceremony as well as religious overtones and distinctive elements of military tradition. The public nature of a State Funeral means that it is offered, organized and administered by Government in coordination with the family of the deceased.

Council:

1) approved the following:

- (i) the holding of an Official (State) Funeral for the late Hubert Benjamin Hughes on Friday 18th June 2021;
- (ii) the observance of a period of national mourning and a programme of activities from Monday 14th June 2021 to Friday 18th June 2021; and
- (iii) the declaration of Friday 18th June 2021 as a public holiday; and

2) instructed the Attorney General's Chambers to draft the Regulations to bring the public holiday into effect.

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

Action: PS, EDCITENR; HON, MIN EDCITENR
