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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 6th APRIL 2021 AT 9.00AM

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 (Ag), Mrs Nicola Webster

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 21/131 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: -

Permanent Secretary, Health, Mr M Foster Rogers Chief Medical Officer, Dr Aisha Andrewin Health Planner, Ms Rochelle Rogers

Epidemiological Update

The World Health Organization's 20/03/2021 update indicates that the incidence of new COVID-19 cases increased for the fifth consecutive week in all regions. As of 30th March, over 126 million cases and 2.7 million deaths have been reported globally, with around 3.8 million new cases and 64,000 new deaths reported over the past week. The countries reporting the highest number of new cases in the past week were Brazil (533,024; 5% increase), the United States of America (421,936; 13% increase), India (372,492; 55% increase, France (254,228; 24% increase) and Poland (192,441; 27% increase).

The CARPHA report of 29/03/2021, indicated that to date, there are 607,218 cases in 35 countries/territories (including 26 CARPHA Member States), 308,177 recovered and 7,313 deaths in the Caribbean Region. This represents a 2% increase in new cases compared to the previous week in the region.

Anguilla has recorded 25 confirmed cases to date. Currently there are 2 active cases.

Vaccination Deployment Update

- (a) The third shipment of 8000 doses of AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccines arrived on island on 31st March, 2021.
- (b) As of 31st March, 2021 at 11:00 am; there were 6566 registered

persons of which 5,637 persons had received their first dose representing 45% of the target population number of 12,600 persons. The occupation breakdown is as follows:

- 262 Healthcare workers
- 356 Civil and border protection, port staff
- 1103 Hospitality
- 795 Retired
- 3109 Others

The age breakdown of individuals who have received the vaccine, compared to 2011 census age demographics, is below:

- 1397 persons age 18-34 (35% of target)
- 1701 persons age 35-49 (43% of target)
- 1584 persons age 50-64 (66% of target)
- 932 persons age 65+ (78% of target)

The above indicates that young persons are still significantly lagging behind older age groups. Promotional efforts to include younger persons in marketing material is ongoing. The vaccination team is also conducting community walk-throughs at popular hangouts to sensitize persons and provide vaccinations.

Exit Planning Update

On Monday 29th March, 2021, the Health team met with members of cabinet and the tourism sector to further discuss the draft exit plan. The following represents the timeline for COVID-19 control measures to be amended:

Vaccination	Control Measure	Timeline
Uptake est.		
(2 doses)		
(assumptions)		
30%	The quarantine period for persons with evidence of full COVID-19 vaccination with final dose administered at least three weeks (21 days) before arrival date will be reduced to 7 days. Persons will still be required to submit a test 3-5 days before arrival date, tested on arrival and at the end of the quarantine period.	April 12 th 2021

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	 Multi-generational families and/or groups with a mix of unvaccinated and vaccinated persons will all have to quarantine for a 10-day period utilizing only approved short stay services. PHE approved COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test will be approved for use for persons requiring test for onward travel only. These tests will not be utilized for persons entering Anguilla or to exit quarantine. Fees for visitors will be revised to \$300 for individual + \$200 for any subsequent persons on application. Fees for returning residents staying in private accommodation will be: unvaccinated persons \$600 for an individual +\$200 for any additional persons vaccinated persons \$300 for an individual + \$200 for any additional persons. 	
50%	 Persons travelling in groups (more than 10 persons) will be required to be vaccinated to enter and conduct any mass gatherings in Anguilla i.e. conferences, weddings etc. Spa, Gym and Cosmetology services will be permitted to short stay visitors if: Both staff and visitors are fully vaccinated i.e. three weeks have passed since the final dose of an approved vaccine. Staff have completed an Infection Prevention and Control Training offered by Ministry of Tourism and HAA. Fully vaccinated frontline workers will be permitted to offer services to mass gatherings for short stay visitors. Require COVID-19 vaccinations for frontline hospitality workers. Certification with vaccination requirement for port and transportation staff (first dose by May 1). 	May 1 st 2021
65-70%		June 2021
PHASE 1	 All visitors to Anguilla who are eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 are required to be fully vaccinated at least three weeks before arrival. Multi-generational families and/or groups with a mix of individuals who are not eligible for the vaccine (i.e. children), will not need to quarantine, but they will need a negative PCR test 3-5 days ahead of arrival, and may be tested on arrival and subject to subsequent testing. Persons entering Anguilla will be required to produce a negative COVID-19 test 3-5 days before entry. Persons with evidence of full COVID-19 vaccination will not be required to quarantine on arrival if the final vaccine dose is administered at least three weeks before date of arrival. Fully vaccinated persons will not be tested upon arrival. Unvaccinated returning residents will be required to Produce a negative COVID-19 test 3-5 days prior to arrival COVID-19 test on arrival Quarantine for 10 days in approved accommodation Select Public Servants and employees of statutory bodies required to be fully vaccinated. Permit Holders for festivals will be required to admit only fully vaccinated individuals to festivals. 	July 1 st 2021

PHASE 2	 Unvaccinated returning residents will be required to Produce a negative COVID-19 test 3-5 days prior to arrival COVID-19 test on arrival Quarantine for 7 days in approved accommodation When approved for use in persons under the age of 18, the COVID-19 vaccine will be added to the list of required vaccines for children to attend school under the existing Education Act. 	September 1st 2021
PHASE 3	 Application for entry removed – transport operators will be legally required to ensure that passengers have all necessary documentations for entry including: Evidence of completed COVID-19 vaccination Pre-arrival test for unvaccinated returning residents. All phase 2 provisions for unvaccinated persons remain in place. Legal requirement for businesses applying to provide services to short stay visitors removed entirely. 	October 1 st 2021

Council:

- 1) noted the draft exit plan and agreed to its timelines;
- agreed that there is a need to further sensitize the general public on the need to vaccinate due to supplies expiry date of 31st May, 2021 and the uncertainty of additional vaccination supplies beyond this date;
- 3) agreed in addition to the public announcement by Government that a coordinated letter drafted by the Deputy Governor and Permanent Secretary, Health to be prepared for issue across the Public Service; and each Minister to issue the same letter to respective Statutory Bodies and relevant stakeholders;
- 4) agreed that the Permanent Secretaries for each Ministry meet today Tuesday 6 April, 2021 at 2:00pm in the Executive Council Chambers to be appraised of the intention;
- 5) further agreed that the Public Policy be prepared and presented to Council on Thursday 15 April, 2021; and
- 6) additionally agreed that the Deputy Governor and Health Planner liaise with the IT Department to confirm the timeline for automation of Entry System and separately with relevant leads to determine the plan for producing validated vaccination cards.

Council:

- 1) agreed to the amendment of the existing COVID-19 regulation to permit the following:
 - implementation of a 7 day quarantine for fully vaccinated persons,
 - revision of quarantine entry fees,
 - multi-generational families and/or groups with a mix of unvaccinated and vaccinated persons will all have to quarantine for a 10-day period utilizing only approved short stay services.
- 2) approved the use of PHE approved rapid antigen test only for persons requiring COVID-19 test for onward travel; and
- 3) approved the updated exit strategy and allow for the implementation of legal framework required to implement.

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