

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGUILLA

Copy No.

MINUTES OF THE 106th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 9.00 AM

PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam

The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment 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 Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie

Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford

Clerk to Executive Council, Mrs Angela Hughes

IN ATTENDANCE: Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull

EX MIN 22/306

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 105th Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 22nd September, 2022.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 22/308

EX MEMO 22/222 FEES FOR TRACTOR SERVICES IN THE AGRICULTURE LAND TENURE POLICY

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Specialist remained.

The Hon Minister for SIE briefed Council. Government approved the Agriculture Land Tenure Policy in 2021, which included a revision of the fees for tractor services. Tractor services along with other goods and services offered by the Department of Natural Resources, attract Goods and Services Tax. However, Government in the Goods and Services Tax Act and Regulations has zero-rated imported inputs for agricultural production with the goal of improving food security. On the other hand, Government collects GST on its own services which are geared towards achieving the same goal.

Given the 2021 increases in tractor service fees, the Department of Natural Resources proposes that Government does not add additional GST charges to the fees, but rather that GST be included in the existing fees and extracted for payment to Inland Revenue. In this way, GST is charged without food production being adversely affected by the higher cost. The Department proposes to do the same with fees for all other goods and services which are set internally.

As tractor service fees were approved by Executive Council, approval is now being sought for this approach.

Council:

- 1) noted the financial implications of the proposal and the projected difference between GST collections if GST is added to the current fees as compared to being included in the

current fees. The projections are based on fee collections for a one year period using July 2021 to July 2022 as a baseline and the projected difference is negligible;

- 2) noted that the Permanent Secretary of Finance is of the view that the tractor service and other goods and services offered by the Department of Natural Resources should be zero-rated. However, the proposal for GST to be included in the fees avoids another legislative amendment at this time;
- 3) noted that the GST legislation states that prices are inclusive of GST; and
- 4) agreed that the fees for tractor services approved in the Agriculture Land Tenure Policy 2021 shall be inclusive of GST.

Action: PS, EDMSIE; HON, MIN MSIE

EX MIN 22/310

EX MEMO 22/224 AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF LICENCE UNDER THE ALIENS LAND HOLDING REGULATION ACT – REGISTRATION SECTION SOUTH EAST, BLOCK 79214 B, PARCEL 201 SL A6 BEING 866 SQ. FT.

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Specialist remained.

Executive Council previously approved the grant of an Aliens Land Holding Licence in Executive Council Minute 22/275.

Council agreed to issue an Aliens Land Holding Licence to hold on a freehold basis land situated in Registration Section South East, Block 79214 B, Parcel 202 Strata Lot SL A6 consisting of 866 sq. ft. with a strata unit thereon located in Sandy Hill for tourism purposes, subject to the following:

- a) Stamp Duties payable are as follows:
 - (i) under the Stamp Act – 5%
of EC\$459,682.20 EC\$22,984.11
 - (ii) under the Aliens Land Holding
Regulation Act – 5%

of EC\$459,682.20

EC\$22,984.11

TOTAL**EC\$45,968.22**

- b) Sandy Hill Beach Resort Club Development shall be the exclusive renting agent for the villa;
- c) the Licensees shall be required to enter into agreement with Sandy Hill Beach Resort Club Development for the management and use of the villa for at least forty-four (44) weeks in each calendar year;
- d) the Licensees shall have the right to reside in the villa for a maximum of eight (8) weeks in each calendar year without being liable for the payment of Goods and Services Tax. However, if the applicants wish to live in their villa for a period longer than eight (8) weeks, they should be required to pay the Goods and Services Tax; and
- e) the Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla in force from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Control of Employment Act, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under.

Council queried how such a material error could arise in the calculation of duty payable, as the transaction documentation should be under review when the paper is drafted.

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

EX MIN 22/311

EX MEMO 22/225 APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERMIT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- 1) endorsed the recommendation of the Hon Minister for Home Affairs, made to H.E. the Governor, as it relates to the grant of the Permit of Permanent Residence in accordance with Section 24 of the Immigration and Passport Act, for certain persons;
- 2) further agreed that each applicant must submit a valid Certificate of Good Standing from the Inland Revenue Department, before the Permit of Permanent Residence is issued; and
- 3) noted that granting Permanent Residence did not exempt persons from the provisions of the Labour (Relations) Act, nor did it entitle them to Belonger status until they have been residing in Anguilla for 15 years, or become naturalized British Overseas Territories Citizens in Anguilla. These individuals would become eligible to apply for naturalization after one year of permanent residency.

Action: PS, HA; LAB, COM; CIO; HON, AG; HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 22/312

COVID-19 UPDATE

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Specialist remained.

Globally, the number of new weekly cases remained stable during the week of September 12 - 18, 2022, as compared to the previous week, with over 3.2 million new cases reported. The number of new weekly deaths decreased by 17% as compared to the previous week, with just over 9,800 fatalities reported. As of September 18, 2022, over 609 million confirmed cases and over 6.5 million deaths have been reported globally.

Caribbean Region

Since the previous report on September 19, 2022, an additional 7,220 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in 20 countries within the Caribbean, bringing the region's total confirmed cases to 4,244,097 in 35 countries/territories (including the 26 CARPHA Member States). The new total represents a 0.2% increase in the number of confirmed cases. There were 35,650 deaths recorded in the Caribbean Region as of September 26, 2022.

Anguilla

As of September 26, Anguilla has confirmed 3,865 cases of COVID-19 of which 3,848 persons have recovered and 12 have died. There are currently 5 active cases. No one is admitted to the Isolation Unit.

Vaccination Deployment Update

As of September 23, 2022, a total of 10,850 first doses, 10,342 second doses and 2,955 first booster doses have been administered. In an estimated population of 15,500 total persons, this would represent 70% of the total population having received the first dose, 67% of the total population having received two doses and 19% having received a first booster dose. In addition, 80% of the total eligible population (13,560) have received one dose, 75% have received two doses and 26% have received a first booster. The breakdown by age of persons having received a first dose, is as follows:

- 355 persons age 5 - 11
- 587 persons age 12 - 17
- 2997 persons age 18 - 34
- 2918 persons age 35 - 49
- 2586 persons age 50 - 64
- 1406 persons age 65+

The occupational breakdown of first doses is as follows:

- 355 Healthcare workers
- 548 Civil and Border Protection
- 1850 Hospitality
- 1094 Retired

- 7004 Other

Distribution (Pfizer)

As of September 23, 5,517 total doses of Pfizer have been administered including 1,270 first doses, 1,069 second doses, 2,947 first booster doses and 231 second booster doses. This includes 586 first doses for 12 - 17 year olds; approximately 48% of the estimated 12 – 17 year old population and 441 (36%) second doses. This includes 355 (25%) first doses and 330 (23%) second doses for children aged 5 - 11 years old.

Monkey Pox (MPX) Update

Since 1 January 2022, cases of monkey pox have been reported to WHO from 105 Member States across all 6 WHO regions. As of September 24, 2022, a total of 65,295 laboratory confirmed cases (and 3,171 probable cases), including 26 deaths, have been reported to WHO. Since 13 May 2022, a high proportion of these cases have been reported from countries without previously documented monkey pox transmission. This is the first time that cases and sustained chains of transmission have been reported in countries without direct or immediate epidemiological links to areas of West or Central Africa.

Council:

- 1) noted the update on COVID-19 and MPX in the region. The Ministry will continue to monitor the COVID-19 and MPX outbreaks, there are no cases of MPX in Anguilla to date;
- 2) noted that vaccine uptake has now become very low and a campaign to promote vaccination will be worked up. This shall highlight the benefits of vaccination as we enter the cold and flu season. Noted that Anguilla wishes to obtain the COVID-19 bivalent vaccine and the health team shall work on this; and
- 3) noted the amendments to be made to the Regulations in Ex Min 22/305; and that the Russian sanctions shall be extracted from the Regulations and maintained.

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

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