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**MINUTES OF THE 65<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA**  
**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 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: Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT:
- 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 21/349      **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

EX MIN 21/350      **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 November 2, the global number of new cases increased slightly compared to the previous week, with just over 3 million cases reported for the period October 25 – 31. This is largely attributed to increasing case numbers in the European Region, with all other regions reporting declines or stable figures. The number of deaths also increased (8%) as compared to previous weeks, with just over 50,000 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 528,455 new cases, which is a 7% increase.

***Caribbean Region***

The total number of confirmed cases is 2,083,845 in 35 countries/territories (including the 26 CARPHA Member States) and 410,318 in CARICOM Member States. The new total represents a

1.7% increase in the number of confirmed cases. There were 26,692 deaths recorded in the Caribbean region as of October 18, 2021. Some Member States continue to experience increasing positive case numbers. Cluster outbreaks through to community transmission of the virus, with increasing hospitalizations and deaths continues.

### ***Anguilla***

As of November 3, 2021, the total number of confirmed cases since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020 is 1019 with 913 recoveries, 1 death and 105 active cases. Nine persons are currently admitted to hospital due to COVID-19 symptoms, this includes 4 fully vaccinated adults and 4 unvaccinated adults.

- Moreover, the test positivity rate for the last week October 24 - 30 decreased to 7.15%.
- From August to present the United States, Sint Maarten and the Dominican Republic (the top three countries), together account for around 81% of the imported cases.
- Focusing on the cases of local transmission occurring between August 8 and November 3 the patterns of transmission have remained largely the same.
  - Vaccination status of local cases:
    - 375 (47%) are vaccinated while 429 (53%) are unvaccinated.
    - 226 are unvaccinated minors representing 28% of cases and 52% of cases among the unvaccinated.
    - 438 (54%) females and 366 (46%) males of which 212 out of 319 (66%) adult females and 166 out of 259 (64%) adult males are vaccinated.

## **Vaccination Deployment Update**

### *Introduction of the Pfizer/BioNTech Vaccine*

The COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Team continues to work towards implementation of the plan for introduction of the Pfizer vaccine.

### *Storage*

On November 3, Anguilla received a shipment of 80 AstraZeneca doses and 3510 Pfizer doses, which have been stored appropriately. However, accompanying consumables are expected to be shipped on November 4.

### *Distribution*

Preparations are ongoing to begin the vaccinations at the Rodney MacArthur Rey Auditorium on November 8, focusing on 12 - 17 year olds for the first week. Registration/consent forms have been distributed via the school and persons can return the forms electronically.

### *Communications*

A virtual PTA meeting was held in conjunction with the Department of Education on November 2, and this sought to address various questions from parents. Health officials have commenced radio appearances. Printed materials have been released via social media and this will continue.

One query concerned whether resident children who have received one dose will be considered fully vaccinated for the purposes of entry into Anguilla. The Ministry of Health would recommend that this provision is implemented, given that current UK guidance supports the administration of one dose of the Pfizer vaccine to this group at this time. If this guidance changes the position can be reviewed.

## **COVID-19 Response Measures**

The Ministry of Health continues to implement measures that are designed to improve access to testing. On November 3, 2021 a

drive-through service in the Caribbean Commercial Complex commenced. The health team continues to work towards improving the timeliness of sample collection and the dissemination of results for onward travel. Accordingly, the Ministry intends to hire five additional staff to assist with the collection of samples and reporting of results and also five additional staff for contact tracing.

Further, two consultants from the UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England) have been in Anguilla for the past three days, conducting consultations on improving the health system and assisting the COVID-19 response. This includes exploring with education stakeholders, measures to enable the re-introduction of full face-to-face instruction at schools. They also participated in radio interviews regarding the current rollout of vaccines to the public.

Council:

- 1) thanked the health team for their continued hard work;
- 2) thanked Professor Ian Cumming & Dr Natalie Wright from the UKHSA (formerly PHE) for attending Council and the work undertaken to support the health team. Noted that they are assisting with public health measures, general health service measures and the Pfizer rollout. Noted the good vaccination rate in Anguilla and that continuing to vaccinate is a key strategy in managing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Vaccination protects both the individual and the wider population. The consequences of long COVID-19 symptoms should be reinforced. Noted that quarantine may not incentivize persons, but if quarantine restrictions are eased testing can be aligned accordingly and used to manage risk, lateral flow testing can be used. Medium and long term plans for a sustainable healthcare system which take into consideration living with COVID-19 are required, with provision for anticipated staffing needs;
- 3) noted the health teams position that provision should be made in the 2022 Budget to increase specialist mental health services on island, as given the present medical needs and taken into consideration the additional impacts of COVID-19 a visiting or remote psychiatrist is not sufficient. Agreed that

the health team shall work up a plan for Council's consideration, detailing the required resources, support and wrap around care that they desire to put in place, for Council's consideration;

- 4) noted that the health team continue to look for a suitable property in order to accommodate the psychiatric patients so that the isolation ward at the hospital can be expanded. The present capacity on the isolation ward is 8 to 10 beds. Noted that presently the plant can produce 10 bottles of oxygen per day, this is not enough to meet the needs of the patients and it is necessary to acquire oxygen from the private sector;
- 5) noted that 233, 12 – 17 year olds have registered their interest in vaccination. Noted the health teams indication that any rollout to 5 -11 year old children should only be considered after there is MHRA approval of a vaccine for this age group;
- 6) noted that in terms of the relaxation of any measures it is prudent to lift one measure at a time and see what the effect is. The level of acceptable risk has to be considered. Noted that in other territories there may be no quarantine, but each situation is unique and a jurisdiction may be at a different stage having previously experienced wider infection and higher transmission rates. Council will review at a later stage whether relaxation of the quarantine period for returning resident minors can be adequately managed;
- 7) agreed that the definition of full vaccination for the purpose of entry into Anguilla will be widened, to include 12 – 17 year old returning resident minors that have received one dose of the Pfizer vaccination; and
- 8) approved the amended protocol for St Martin/ Sint Maarten day trips contained in the Protocol for the Movement of Vessel Operators and Day-trips in relation to the outbreak of COVID-19 for discussion with the French authorities.

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 21/352

**EX MEM 21/213 APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF LICENCE UNDER THE ALIENS LAND HOLDING REGULATION ACT - REGISTRATION SECTION WEST END, BLOCK 17910 B, PARCEL 277 STRATA LOT SL A/3A BEING 2322 SQ. FT.**

Financial Specialist remained.

Council agreed to issue an Aliens Land Holding Licence to hold on a freehold basis a luxury condominium unit of approximately 2,322 sq. ft. forming part of Parkstone Incorporated, a Condominium development at Tranquility Beach Anguilla for Tourism purposes. The property situated in Registration Section West End, Block 17910 B, described as Parcel 277 SL A/3A, subject to the following:

a) Stamp duties payable are as follows:

(i)	under the Stamp Act – 5% of EC\$6,168,074.90	EC\$308,403.75
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 2% of EC\$6,168,074.90	<u>EC\$123,361.50</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>EC\$431,765.25</u></b>

b) Regulations to be issued for Exemption by the Attorney General's Chambers;

c) the Licensee shall rent the unit that forms part of Signature Suites Condominium Association Inc;

d) the Licensee shall fully comply with the Memorandum of Understanding dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015 signed between the Government of Anguilla and Parkstone Incorporated and in particular Part III, Government Transfer Taxes and Annual Levies; and

e) the Licencee shall place the unit in the rental programme/pool

of the hotel for the first two (2) years of ownership of the property.

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

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

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