



CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

31st January, 2019

6th February, 2019

His Excellency the Governor Augustus J. U. Jaspert chaired the Meetings held on 31st January, 2019 and 6th February, 2019 at the Peebles Hospital, Conference Room P12.

All Members were present.

Cabinet Meeting – 31st January, 2019

Cabinet:

1. Noted the Strategic Blueprint Report and the eGovernment Road Map prepared by Januvation Solutions in November 2018 and approved its implementation inclusive of ICT and Business Process Management Road Map and Work plan and agreed that the Permanent Secretary/Premier's Office take the necessary steps to implement the recommendations contained in the Report and the eGovernment Road Map in partnership and collaboration with the e-Government Committee, Chief Records Officer and other stakeholders.
2. Decided to accept the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority's Resolution No. 1 of 2019 to rename the Tortola Pier Park as the Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park and noted that a subsequent Board Resolution will be made to incorporate the invaluable contributions of Mr. Romney to the development of Cruise Tourism in the Virgin Islands.

Cabinet Meeting – 6th February, 2019

Cabinet:

1. Granted permission for a seabed licence for the installation of one (1) private mooring at Low Bay, Great Camanoe.
2. Approved the British Virgin Islands Resilient National Energy Transition Strategy prepared by Rocky Mountain Institute and decided that it be tabled in the House of Assembly at its next convenient sitting.

3. Noted that the National Security Council considered the proposal for the Witness Anonymity legislation at its meeting of 13th August, 2018 and decided that the Government consider the introduction of legislation to enable a witness in criminal proceedings be granted anonymity when giving evidence before a court due to a reasonable fear on the part of the witness or another person of death, injury, retaliation, recrimination or oppression or serious damage to property, if the witness is identified. The Attorney General's Chambers would be instructed to draft the legislation.
4. Approved the Medium Term Fiscal Plan of the Government of the Virgin Islands for the period 2019-2021.
5. Decided to approve, in principle, the grant of Certificates of Residence to some persons in accordance with section 18(1) of the Immigration and Passport Act (as amended) and the Policy on Residency for Direct Investors approved by Cabinet on 9th May, 2018, on the basis that these persons are suitable candidates who have made substantial direct investment, have a substantial business presence and have consistently contributed to the development of the Territory's financial services industry.
6. Decided that the Governor continue to serve as Chairman of the Old Government House Museum Management Board and decided that the following individuals be reappointed to serve on the Board for another three (3) years until 30th November, 2021:
 - i. Mr. Mark Chapman - Treasurer
 - ii. Ms. Ermin Penn - Member
 - iii. Mrs. Jillian Dunlop - Member
 - iv. Dr. Michael Kent - Member
 - v. Mrs. Verna Penn-Moll - Member
 - vi. Mrs. Judith Vanterpool - Member
 - vii. A representative of the BVI Tourist Board - Member
 - viii. A representative of the National Parks Trust - Member
 - ix. A representative of the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society - Member
 - x. Executive Private Secretary to the Governor - Secretary
7. Decided that Ms. Julia Dawson, Dr. Harlan Vanterpool, Mrs. Rosalie Adams, Mrs. Andria Flax, Mr. Ulric Scatliffe, and Mrs. Iciss Malone be reappointed to serve as members of the BVI Honours Committee with effect from 1st July, 2018 to 30th June, 2020 and that Andria Flax be appointed as Chairman. Mr. Bennet Smith and Mrs. Janice Blyden were appointed to serve as members of the Committee with effect from 1st January, 2019 to 31st December, 2020.

8. Considered:

- (i) the Bill entitled, Public Procurement Act, 2019, which seeks to enhance the existing procurement procedures and bring greater structure to the procurement process by establishing the framework for creating value for money, greater transparency and flexibility in the procurement of goods and services, and allow for greater accountability by all involved in the procurement process;
- (ii) and agreed to the inclusion of a Regulations section on the policy and definition of Contract Splitting; and
- (iii) and decided that the Ministry of Finance instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to include a Part VIII – Miscellaneous in the Bill to provide for the making of Regulations - the issuance of financial instructions, enforcement matters, the necessary repeal of the relevant sections of the Public Finance Management Act and Regulations, and any transitional provisions, as deemed necessary, and to incorporate the amendments into the Bill.

9. Noted the formal establishment of a Housing Programme and the creation of a Social Registry as initiatives being pursued by the Ministry of Health and Social Development in line with Public Service Transformation Plan.

10. Accepted the British Virgin Islands' Cancer Society 2016 Annual Report and 2016 Audited Financial Statements and noted that Government makes an annual contribution of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000). The Annual Report would be tabled in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.

11. Approved a number of Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

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- 1. Cabinet decisions will be published by the Cabinet Office following confirmation of the minutes.
- 2. Only a summary of the decisions will be published.
- 3. Cabinet discussions will not be disclosed.
- 4. Cabinet decisions of a sensitive nature, matters of national security, those where publication breaches regional or international conventions and those relating to personal privacy will not be disclosed.

5. Cabinet decisions will be published in the weekly issues of the Virgin Islands Official Gazette at www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette.
6. Cabinet decisions will be also available on bvi.gov.vg and on Twitter.