

CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

16th and 28th July, 2021

Special Cabinet Meeting – 16th July, 2021

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the virtual Special Meeting held on 16th July, 2021.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General Hon. Dawn Smith, who was on annual leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Noted the Situation Report presented by the Health Emergency Operations Centre and:
 - a. decided to advise the National Security Council to renew the curfew order for a further fourteen (14) days from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., effective 23rd July, 2021.
 - b. decided to renew the provisions of the Public Health (COVID-19 Control and Suppression Measures) (No. 4) Order, 2021, subject to the following decisions:
 - i. that members of the public stay at home and work remotely, where possible, and should not loiter;
 - ii. that between the non-curfew hours of 5:01 a.m. and 6:59 p.m., members of the public shall stay at home, unless for purposes of work or conducting business, obtaining services or supplies, including for the purpose of COVID-19 testing or vaccination, or approved outdoor exercise; and
 - iii. that allowances be made for meals to be served in hotels and resorts' dining areas to overnight guests only, provided that all prescribed public health measures are strictly observed.

- c. decided that the Ministry of Health and Social Development instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to draft the relevant amendments necessary to give effect to item b;
- d. noted that funding to support the implementation of the territorial response to the COVID-19 pandemic is provided from the Ministry of Health and Social Development Coronavirus Prevention budget;
- e. decided that the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), previously allocated solely for the purpose of securing resources to address the surge in COVID-19 cases, be expanded for the purpose of securing resources, personnel, premises, and all needed material to immediately address the surge under the same monitoring regime outlined, where a team headed by the Financial Secretary, together with the Ministry of Health and Social Development, shall monitor and approve all expenditure prior to same being incurred; and
- f. decided that in-person visits to and from Her Majesty's Prison are restricted mandatorily for a further period of 14 days from 20th July, 2021, with the exception of emergency situations determined by the facility to necessitate a visit, subject to the contrary advice from the Attorney General.

Cabinet Meeting – 28th July, 2021

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the virtual Meeting held on 28th July, 2021.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General Hon. Dawn Smith, who was on annual leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and accepted the 2020 Annual Report of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force and decided that it be laid on the table in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.
2. Reviewed and approved the Bill entitled, Virgin Islands Gaming and Betting Control (Amendment) Act, 2021, which seeks to amend various definitions in the principal Act, to allow for online gaming and betting activities, and decided that it be introduced for its first reading in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.

3. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board (CTB) Technical Sub-Committee, which was approved by the CTB on 28th July, 2021, and accepted the CTB's recommendation to award the contract to Century Insurance Agency Ltd./Nagico Insurance Ltd. for insurance coverage up to twenty-five million, five hundred and eighty-nine thousand dollars (\$25,589,000) for the coverage of fire and extended perils, contractor's all risk insurance and public liability for the Ralph T. O'Neal Administration Complex in the amount of two hundred and thirty-eight thousand, one hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$238,185.00).
4. Approved a number of non-belonger land holding licences.

Published by the Cabinet Office on 12th August, 2021.

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Guidelines:

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.