GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Ministry of Health Hosts Planning Day to Chart Strategic Vision

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The Ministry of Health and Social Development recently convened its annual Planning Day under the theme "*From Framework to Action: Aligning Strategy, Initiatives and Performance*," as it continues to chart its strategic vision for the next several years.

The session brought together senior leadership, programme managers and administrative staff in a collaborative forum designed to strengthen alignment between the Ministry's long term strategic objectives and its day-to-day operations. Discussions focused on ensuring that policies, initiatives and performance measures are clearly linked to the Ministry's desired outcomes for the people of the Virgin Islands.

A key feature of the day was an engaging presentation by guest speaker Mr. Colin Gunthorpe of Unlimited Potential, who delivered a thought-provoking session on resetting the leadership lens to cultivate a more strategic and positive in approach. Mr. Gunthorpe encouraged participants to adopt forward-thinking leadership, intentional decision-making and a solutions-oriented mindset as they navigate the evolving social and health landscape.

Minister for Health and Social Development, Honourable Vincent O. Wheatley, emphasised the importance of translating strategy into meaningful results.

Honourable Wheatley said, "Planning is not simply about setting goals. It is about ensuring that our actions today build a stronger, more responsive Ministry for tomorrow. As a Ministry, we are committed to ensuring that every initiative we undertake is aligned with clear outcomes that improve the quality of life for our people."

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Social Development, Ms. Tasha Bertie, highlighted the value of organisational alignment and shared accountability.

Ms. Bertie said, "Strategic planning is most effective when it is inclusive and intentional. Today's discussions allowed us to critically examine our priorities and ensure that our initiatives, resources and performance indicators are working together to achieve our main strategic outcomes."

The day also included a structured strategic planning exercise, during which teams engaged in focused discussions on the Ministry’s primary strategic outcomes and the practical steps required to achieve them. Participants examined existing programmes, identified areas for improvement and outlined measurable actions to strengthen impact and service delivery.

The outcomes of the Planning Day will inform the Ministry’s multiyear strategic framework and guide programme development, performance monitoring and resource allocation in the years ahead.

The Ministry remains committed to delivering responsive, accountable and people centred services as it advances its strategic vision for the Territory.

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