

(From the official page of The Office of the Prime Minister Antigua and Barbuda)

The Cabinet at its meeting held on Wednesday April 29, 2020 was advised that no new person has tested positive for Covid.

Eleven tests were submitted to CARPHA yesterday, to include five new tests, all of which tested negative. The remaining six were repeat tests, of which one remained positive. This has now reduced the confirmed cases of persons presently afflicted with Covid to six, two of whom are hospitalized.

As a consequence of the stability in Covid cases, Cabinet has reduced the restrictions as follows:

All retail business could ply their trade between 6am - 6pm. As far as practicable, delivery and pick up services are encouraged.

Beauty salons, barbershops, spas, bars and night club remain closed for the time being.

Effective Tuesday May 5, the beaches will be opened during weekdays to the public for health and wellness purposes. The beaches will remain closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays to avoid crowding.

Public gatherings including, beach entertainment are strictly prohibited therefore, no food, alcohol and music will be allowed on the beach.

Unfortunately, localized Covid testing has been further delayed, due to the unavailability of the overseas trainers, but is expected to commence next week. The Cabinet was further advised that all salaries and wages, government and Social Security pensions would be paid in full tomorrow.

The Cabinet unanimously agreed to avoid any borrowings that would exacerbate our debt repayment obligations or may create the dislocation of workers.

The 12 hour curfew and all health protocols, including physical distancing, mandatory wearing of masks remain in place.

Citizens and residents are required to continue to exercise personal responsibility and to remain vigilant to avoid a second wave of Covid, which could be more deadly Than the first.