GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Governor’s Group and Constitutionally Established Departments to Enhance Critical Legislation in 2026

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The Governor’s Group and Constitutionally Established Departments will progress various pieces of legislation aimed at advancing governance, transparency and accountability in The Virgin Islands. During the Speech from the Throne on 13 January, His Excellency the Governor, Daniel Pruce outlined the legislative agenda of the Public Service in 2026, highlighting ongoing work for the transformation of the Public Service.

Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor, Mrs Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome, MBE stated, “The legislation presented in the Speech from the Throne will bolster our ability to support the development of the organisation and contribute towards ensuring the Virgin Islands can stand firmly on modern and fit-for-purpose legislative ground.”

The planned legislation will seek to strengthen strategic priorities through the introduction of laws that will continue to shape the operation of organisations in the public sector including the Magistracy, Royal Virgin Islands Police Force and the Civil Registry and Passport Office, among others. Additionally, the Office of the Deputy will advance the Human Rights Commission Bill to Cabinet and the House of Assembly in 2026. This comes after an extensive territory-wide consultation in 2025 to ensure public education and input in the Bill’s contents

Key legislative initiatives outlined for 2026 include:

- The Police Act
- The Police Service Commission Bill
- Amendments to the Whistleblower Act
- Witness Anonymity Legislation
- Criminal Procedure Rules
- Magistrate’s Code of Procedure Act
- Amendments to the Immigration and Passport Ordinance
- Human Rights Commission Bill
- Amendments to the Service Commissions Act
- Amendments to the Archives and Records Management Act
- The Flexible Working Arrangements Bill

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Additional Documents or Media

- Archives and Records Management - Speech from the Throne
- Criminal Procedure Rules - Speech from the Throne
- Immigration and Passport Ordinance - Speech from the Throne
- Magistrate's Code of Procedure - Speech from the Throne
- Restorative Justice - Speech from the Throne
- Flexible Working Arrangements - Speech from the Throne
- The Police Act - Speech from the Throne
- Police Service Commission - Speech from the Throne
- Service Commissions Act - Speech from the Throne
- Whistleblower- Speech from the Throne
- VIHRC - Speech from the Throne
- Witness Anonymity - Speech from the Throne