

Police and Prison Join Forces to Strengthen Security Systems

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The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF) and His Majesty's Prison Service are strengthening security and public protection through a joint initiative aimed at deterring unlawful activity in and around HM Prison Balsam Ghut.

As part of the initiative, a mobile CCTV unit has been deployed in the vicinity of the prison to provide an additional layer of surveillance and serve as a visible deterrent to suspicious activity, including attempts to introduce prohibited items into the facility.

The initiative builds on existing security measures and forms part of ongoing collaboration between the RVIPF and HM Prison Service to strengthen intelligence sharing, prevent criminal activity and safeguard prison officers, prisoners and the wider Virgin Islands community.

Commissioner of Police Mr. Richard Ullger said "The security of HM Prison is an important part of protecting the wider Virgin Islands community. This deployment demonstrates the RVIPF's commitment to working alongside HM Prison Service to deter criminal activity, support the security of the prison and safeguard the public."

Superintendent of Prisons Mr. Jay Kendall welcomed the additional security measure and thanked the RVIPF for its continued partnership. "Contraband entering a prison presents a serious risk to staff, prisoners and the wider community. This practical and highly visible measure strengthens our collective efforts and sends a clear message that suspicious activity around the prison will be monitored and addressed," Mr. Kendall said.

The public is reminded that introducing, attempting to introduce, or assisting with the introduction of prohibited items into HM Prison is a serious offence.

The Ministry of Health and Social Development remains committed to protecting and promoting the health and social well-being of the people of the Virgin Islands through effective policies, sustainable programmes, and strategic partnerships that support a safe, healthy, and resilient society.

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