GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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The Virgin Islands launches new National Security Strategy

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A new strategy designed to transform security and justice in The Virgin Islands was launched yesterday, Tuesday 27 October 2026.
The Virgin Islands National Security Strategy sets out a shared vision for building a safer, more secure and resilient Territory alongside a programme of reform to achieve that vision.

The Strategy does four things:

- Identifies the security threats facing The Virgin Islands.
- Sets out the key internal challenges that affect our ability to respond to threats.
- Lists priority actions that will be taken to address those challenges.
- Establishes a Security and Justice Transformation Programme to coordinate, oversee and drive delivery of the actions.

Through this coordinated programme of reform, the Territory will strengthen its ability to tackle crime, protect communities, secure borders and increase resilience to emergencies and natural disasters.

Yesterday’s launch event was hosted by Governor Pruce, in partnership with the

Premier, and brought together representatives from across the security and justice sector, including law enforcement, criminal justice and government partners.

The Right Honourable Lord Hanson of Flint, Minister of State at the United Kingdom's Home Office, attended the launch and welcomed the Strategy, highlighting the importance of continued partnership between the United Kingdom and The Virgin Islands in strengthening security, improving justice and building resilience. During his visit to the Territory, Lord Hanson met with security and justice partners to discuss shared priorities and ongoing cooperation.

Governor of The Virgin Islands, Mr Daniel Pruce said: 'This strategy sets out a clear vision for a safe, secure and resilient Virgin Islands. Developed by partners across the security and justice sector, it provides a framework for addressing the challenges we face today while strengthening our ability to respond to those of the future.

'The focus now must be on delivery. Through the Security and Justice Transformation Programme, the Premier and I will work with partners across the sector to strengthen coordination, drive implementation and turn ambition into meaningful improvements for the people of The Virgin Islands.'

Premier of The Virgin Islands, Honourable Dr. Natalio D. Wheatley, said: 'The safety and security of the Virgin Islands is a shared priority that calls for shared commitment. Our people deserve to feel safe in their homes, our children deserve to grow up free from violence and exploitation, and our businesses and visitors must have confidence in the security of our Territory. I am committed to working closely with His Excellency the Governor in a relationship grounded in mutual respect, trust, open communication and a clear understanding of our respective responsibilities. Our common interest in protecting The Virgin Islands must guide our cooperation and translate into practical, measurable results.'

Minister of the State for the United Kingdom’s Home Office, Rt Hon. Lord Hanson of Flint, said: ‘The UK and The Virgin Islands Government share a deep commitment to keeping communities safe. This strategy brings partners together to tackle crime, to protect the vulnerable and strengthen justice in the Territory.
‘We stand ready to support its delivery, helping build a safer future for the people of The Virgin Islands.’

Read the British Virgin Islands National Security Strategy here.

For Additional Information Contact:

Office of the Governor