



Cayman Islands Government

STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT

Supplementary Funding for HES 11 – Mosquito Control Services

By

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& SUSTAINABILITY

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**Statement of Exceptional Circumstances for Section 11(5) of
the Public Management and Finance Act (2026 Revision)**
Expenditure –
Supplementary Funding for HES 11 – Mosquito Control
Services

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Section 11(6) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2026 Revision) (the “PMFA”), I rise to make this brief statement to Members of this Honourable House, with respect to an “exceptional circumstance” transaction that was approved by Cabinet during the 2026 Financial Year, for the Ministry of Health, Environment and Sustainability; for an increase in Appropriation HES 11 – Mosquito Control Services in the amount of one million, eight hundred and ninety-one thousand dollars \$1,891,000.00

Approved, pursuant to section 11(5) of the PMFA, Mr. Speaker, this transaction relates to necessary, supplementary funding, for the Mosquito Research and Control Unit to purchase additional larvicide to treat some fifteen thousand (15,000) acres across Grand Cayman, and ensure that aerial mosquito control operations remain uninterrupted in 2026.

Mr. Speaker, the MRCU approach to controlling the mosquito population requires an integrated management programme which involves the deployment of a range of products for both ground and aerial applications.

Mr. Speaker, constant monitoring and ongoing treatment of multiple areas throughout all three islands, particularly where the environment is conducive to mosquito population growth, is critical to controlling the overall mosquito population. Not only do mosquitoes in large numbers result in a serious nuisance factor for residents and visitors, the reality is that mosquitoes can be vectors of serious diseases that affect humans, resulting in negative impacts on our health and overall quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, so far for 2026, environmental conditions across Grand Cayman have proven to be favorable for mosquito breeding, resulting in elevated numbers being recorded. As a result, MRCU is doing its utmost to keep the mosquito population to a minimum. To achieve this, MRCU is strategically applying larvicide throughout Grand Cayman to arrest the development of mosquito larvae.

As a result, Mr. Speaker, MRCU's inventory stockpile of larvicide has depleted much faster than usual. Given the elevated temperatures and increased rainfall towards the end of the summer, the MRCU correctly anticipated that once again, we would experience a resurgence in the mosquito population, requiring an additional larvicide application.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, as Minister with responsibility for this area, I and my colleagues in Cabinet found it necessary to intervene under Section 11(5) of the PMFA; to ensure that the MRCU team has necessary resources at its disposal to continually keep the mosquito population in check.

Mr. Speaker, while many of us may be only familiar with the visible act of MRCU spraying to control the mosquito population, there is a science-based approach that determines the “where and when”. Larvicide spraying is a targeted intervention that is determined through the monitoring of mosquito numbers throughout the islands, environmental factors, and even the life cycle of mosquitoes.

This approach, Mr. Speaker, forms the methodology in how the MRCU identify those specific areas that require MRCU applying additional larvicide. Just to put this in perspective Mr. Speaker, a larvicide application has residual benefits for up to 30 days. Once applied, the larvicide will continue to prevent mosquito larvae from reaching the stage of maturity (in other words becoming an adult mosquito) for up to a 30-day period.

As mentioned earlier Mr. Speaker, MRCU has some 15,000 acres to treat, and each acre, Mr. Speaker, will require around 8lbs of larvicide being applied to it.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important to mention that this larvicide specifically targets mosquito larvae and does not pose any harm to other wildlife. It is one of our most effective tools being used to control the mosquito population.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, Cabinets authorisation of this transaction demonstrates just how serious the Government takes its responsibility to ensuring the health and well-being of everyone who calls these islands home.

I would also like to take a moment, Mr. Speaker, to thank the entire team of the MRCU, for the great work they do for the people of the Cayman Islands.

I therefore commend this statement to honourable Members of this Parliament in accordance with section 11(6) of the Public Management and Finance Act.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.