**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British Overseas Territory***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Paula Lombardo  Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment  [lombardo.paula@yahoo.com](mailto:lombardo.paula@yahoo.com) | 24 March 2020 | Airport closed to both incoming and outgoing flights. Links to 3 local newspaper articles for details of efforts made in Caymans: [Article dated 16 March](file:///C:\Users\Andy\Dropbox\Islands%20and%20Climate%20Change\Covid\Survey\Profile%20countries\•%09https:\www.caymancompass.com\2020\03\16\cayman-to-shut-down-air-travel-for-3-weeks\), [Article dated 17 March](https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/03/17/hotels-to-close-but-continue-paying-staff/), [Article dated 23 March](https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/03/23/curfew-announced-as-two-new-coronavirus-cases-confirmed/) |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | * Residents and returning students in self-isolation; students in isolation at a hotel * Curfew order is enforced, full lockdown in effect from 25 March to 28 March 2020 * All schools are closed * Airports closed since Sunday night, March 22, 2020 * COVID-19 hotline and NEOC hotline functional * NEOC activated 2 weeks prior to confirmation of first case * Two (2) web pages launched to provide reputable information and to counteract the challenges with fake news * Daily press conferences are held at 2 PM with the CMO, Ministry of Health, and the Premier * All businesses closed and civil servants are working from home |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | The borders have been closed and we have been on a combination of soft and hard curfews since March. |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
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1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Paula Lombardo  Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment  [lombardo.paula@yahoo.com](mailto:lombardo.paula@yahoo.com) | 24 March 2020 | Cayman is somewhat unique in the sheer number of expats employed here for the [tourism industry](https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/03/22/supermarkets-impose-limits-to-stop-panic-buying/) |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | Well this was our weak point, they live in the past here and I am passionate about much needed change and the future. Covid has forced their hand and we are now finally seeing goods delivered and available for collection but not without being charged additional exorbitant fees for the privilege! Essential services are allowed to operate - the government has listed and can grant exemptions to specific types of service. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | The government has a needs assistance unit which was already in place for Caymanians. The NAU is currently helping everyone regardless of nationality but resources are limited. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Paula Lombardo  Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment  [lombardo.paula@yahoo.com](mailto:lombardo.paula@yahoo.com) | 24 March 2020 | The Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman, has been offering one free meal a day to all employees; free exercise and other "wellness" classes on Zoom; and regular video messages from management. The outpouring of genuine kindness has been impressive all over the island. |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | We have a mental health helpline and a number of volunteers and organisations on hand to assist - but we do not have mental health facilities which have been a dire need here for far too long already. I believe they are working on that but its taking years. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | As of 26 March:   * 8 confirmed cases. |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | Whilst we currently have 85 cases only about half of them are active and whilst I might not agree with everything the government has done I admire their handling of the pandemic and the cases have so far been quite well controlled with only limited community transmission. |

1. If applicable, how are lockdown measures being relaxed?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Caroline Barnes  Thrive Ltd  [ceb@thrivecayman.com](mailto:ceb@thrivecayman.com) | 13 May 2020 | We have a 5 phase lockdown plan. We've been on level 5 since March but last week relaxed to level 4 to allow certain workers to get back. Our beaches have been closed since Easter. Hopefully on Friday we will drop to Level 3 which will release another tranche of workers and hopefully allow us access to the beaches again. |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Paula Lombardo  Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment  [lombardo.paula@yahoo.com](mailto:lombardo.paula@yahoo.com) | 24 March 2020 | * I am very interested to see how Cayman proceeds in the weeks to come. My prediction is that it will get better here before other places, which will make it sensible for Cayman to open up the local economy before re-opening to tourists. * Also, of great interest to me is the future of cruise ships in Cayman. Before COVID-19 there was a major debate about the construction of a new port and berthing facility at the expense of some amazing coral reefs as well as beach and water clarity. This public health crisis has the potential to shift people's opinions. I personally agree with this op-ed piece from the [local paper](https://www.caymancompass.com/2019/12/12/langevin-do-we-want-quality-or-quantity/). * See news Forbes news article on island response [here](https://www.forbes.com/sites/daphneewingchow/2020/03/29/how-a-little-island-in-the-caribbean-sea-is-standing-up-to-the-goliath-of-coronavirus/). (29 March 2020) |

1. Resources

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| Resource and Date | Link |
| “How A Little Island in The Caribbean Sea Is Standing Up to The Goliath of Coronavirus”  Forbes  29 March 2020 | Read [here](https://www.forbes.com/sites/daphneewingchow/2020/03/29/how-a-little-island-in-the-caribbean-sea-is-standing-up-to-the-goliath-of-coronavirus/#23f75e2235e9) |

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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*