

explored as well as the ordering of promotional items to be used during opportunities for engagement.

e. Migrants

The Commission reviewed the response from the Prisons Inspection Board (PIB) Secretary regarding some of the progress that had been made on the recommendations relating to migrants. The Secretariat will continue to follow up for responses from the Deputy Governor, and the Chief Officers of Human Resources and Immigration, and Home Affairs.

f. Mother Withholds Child from School due to Alleged Assault

The Commission discussed the response received from the Chief Education Officer (the “CEO”) regarding the alleged bullying incident at the Red Bay Primary School. Members agreed that the school’s response, along with the Department of Education Services’ policy on bullying, appeared appropriate and no further action was required. The CEO will be duly informed.

g. Beach Access

An initial response from the Chairman of the Public Lands Commission (PLC) indicated that the Commission’s query on the timeline for addressing the concerns raised in the Beach Access Report 2017 would be raised at the next PLC meeting. The Secretariat will continue to follow up with the PLC Chairman for a substantive response.

4. New Business

a. Data Protection Law 2017

The Commission noted that the Data Protection Law is expected to come into effect in January 2019 and the draft Data Protection Regulations are now available for public consultation through to the end of April. The Commission continues to be concerned about the complexity of the Law.

b. National School Uniform and Dress Code

The Commission received a request from the Councillor for the Ministry of Education to review the National School Uniform and Dress Code Policy from a human rights perspective. The response was finalised by the Chairman and sent to the Councillor on 29 March. The Councillor is to be commended for her proactive approach in making this request.

c. HRC Complaint Forms

Discussions took place surrounding the apparent issue with the public’s misinterpretation of which rights are applicable to their complaints when completing an HRC complaint form. Members agreed to ensure that statistical reports entered in the Annual Reports represented the rights that the Commission agreed had been breached as opposed to those allegedly breached by the complainant at the time of making the complaint.

5. Human Rights Complaints & Enquiries

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 019/2017

After its last communication with the complainant, the Secretariat received the additional documentation requested. The submission resulted in the opening of a new complaint file (numbered 005/2018). These two complaints will be considered together as they relate to the same matter.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 002/2018

Members discussed correspondence that was received from the complainant since the Commission's last meeting. The Commission agreed to finalise the letter to the primary public authority to express its concerns and the the complaint will be closed.

c. Update on Human Rights Complaint 004/2018

Members discussed the response received from one of the public authorities involved and agreed that the response satisfied the query/concerns raised. No response has been received from the second public authority. As the matter continues to be a civil one between two private parties (which falls outside of the Commission's remit) the Secretariat will follow up with the second public authority one more time with a view to closing the file within 10 days of the same.

d. Human Rights Complaint 005/2018

The Commission reviewed this complaint and the actions taken by the Secretariat to secure the information necessary for the Commission's full consideration. This complaint was opened as a result of submissions provided in case 019/2017 above. The Commission agreed to await a response from the relevant public entity.

e. Human Rights Complaint 006/2018

The Commission reviewed this complaint and the actions taken by the Secretariat to secure the information necessary for the Commission's full consideration. Members agreed that the response provided by the public authority involved seemed an appropriate application of a rational, proportionate and well documented policy in this case. This complaint will be closed and the complainant informed.

f. Human Rights Complaint 007/2018

The Commission reviewed this complaint and the actions taken by the Secretariat. Members agreed that whilst it was out of time, writing to the public authority was an appropriate action in order to assist the member of the public. The complaint will be closed and the complainant informed.

g. Human Rights Complaint 008/2018

The Commission reviewed this complaint and determined that there was no evidence of a breach of human rights in accordance with the Bill of Rights. Members agreed, however, to make recommendations to the relevant public authority regarding the following of best practice human resources policies as a result of concerns raised. The complaint will be closed and the complainant informed. The complainant will be informed of the Commission's concerns about the supporting documents provided with the complaint and requested to confirm that additional copies of these documents will not be distributed (and subsequently destroyed) and that the originals have been returned to the rightful owner.

6. Any Other Business

a. Brac Artist Claims Protected Right of 'Freedom of Expression'

The Commission noted this matter continues through the Court system. No comments or further action is necessary.

b. Meeting with New Governor

The Secretariat Manager informed the Commission that, as the administrative liaison for several constitutionally mandated commissions, she met with the newly installed Governor earlier in the week. A meeting with all Chairpersons and an individual meeting with the Human Rights Commission Chairman will be forthcoming.

7. Action Items

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Draft a response to the CAL CEO regarding its revised employee handbook;
- b. Research opportunities to participate in Child Month and the ordering of promotional items;
- c. Follow up with the Deputy Governor and relevant Chief Officers on the progress of appointments to the PIB and recommendations on migrants, respectively;
- d. Inform the Chief Education Officer of the Commission's views on the response provided;
- e. Follow up with the PLC Chairman on the beach access report query; and
- f. Draft correspondence or conduct research in all human rights complaints and enquiries as detailed above.

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

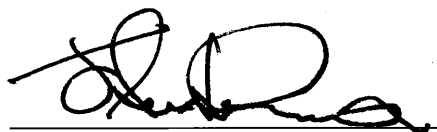
- a. Draft Annual Report
- b. Migrants
- c. New and outstanding human rights complaints

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC has been scheduled for 10 May 2018 at 3:00pm at the offices of the Commissions Secretariat.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm.



James Austin-Smith
CHAIRMAN
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION