

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**3 NOVEMBER 2020**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**ARTEMIS HOUSE**

**PRESENT (via Zoom):**

Dale Crowley	Chairman
Deborah Barker Roye	Member
Joni Kirkconnell	Member
Dorothy Scott	Member
Nick Quin	Member

**COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT (via Zoom):**

Deborah Bodden	Manager
Shari Welcome	Public Relations and Education Coordinator (for part)

**1. Meeting called to order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:45am.

**2. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed new Member Mrs Deborah Barker Roye, and formal introductions were made.

**3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of 10 September 2020 were approved.

**4. Outstanding Business (where updates have been received)****a. RPAT**

The Clerk of Cabinet provided an update by way of email on 28 October 2020 wherein she indicated that Members of the new Refugee Protection Appeals Tribunal attended training, conducted virtually by UK Judges from 12 to 16 October 2020. The first meeting is due to be held on 4 November 2020 at which time Members will review and accept the Rules of Procedure and determine the date for their first appeal hearing. The Clerk will be thanked and this matter closed given the concerns of the Commission have now been addressed.

**b. HMCIPS Outline Business Case**

The Consultants hired to progress the OBC for the building of a new prison have indicated, by way of reply email to the Commission that they are progressing well and expect that it would be completed by the end of October. Members agreed that this matter remained a

priority for the Commission and as such it should remain as an agenda item with a further update to be requested at the end of the first quarter in 2021.

**5. New Business**

**a. 2021 Plan**

The Public Relations and Education Coordinator reviewed the proposed draft communications strategy for 2021. The strategy is broken down into three broad areas – Facebook/other social media posts, press releases, and projects. Members are to review the calendar to confirm approval of the proposed dates to be recognised. It was agreed that the Public Relations and Education Coordinator will release the social media posts once the days are agreed, press releases will be approved by the Commission as a whole, and each of the Members will oversee the development of one of the projects before the Commission as a whole confirms the final project. In addition, Members agreed the initial draft logo which the PR & Edu Coordinator will make minor changes to, for final approval via email.

**6. Human Rights Complaints & Enquiries**

**a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 001/2020**

Following the review of the requested information from the public authority, the Commission agreed there was no evidence of the alleged breach and the public authority had been thorough in their processes. The complainant will be advised and the file closed.

**b. Human Rights Complaint 006/2020**

The complaint was received on 16 July 2020 however as the matter was not one in which the Commission had constitutional powers to consider, the complaint was advised and the file closed on 4 August 2020.

**c. Human Rights Complaint 007/2020**

The complaint was received on 24 July 2020. The complaint was acknowledged on the same day received and a substantive response sent on 4 August 2020. The complainant indicated, on 5 August 2020, that further information would be provided. The complainant was told, on 7 August 2020, that the additional information would be helpful however no such information has been received. Members agreed the file could now be closed given that the initial information was of a matter that was not one in which the Commission had constitutional powers to consider and no further information was provided.

**d. Human Rights Complaint 011/2020**

This complaint was received on 15 October 2020 and given the seriousness of the accusations, the complaint was immediately shared with Members via email, the complaint acknowledged, and queries made of the public official responsible for the subject area. Initial information was received and subsequently follow-up information was also received. Following a review of the actions being undertaken by the public official the Commission was satisfied that the Government's responsibility to remedy any allegation referenced in

the complaint (though these actions do not imply that the allegations were proven) had been met. The complainant will be advised and the file closed.

**7. Any Other Business**

**a. Letter from the Constitutional Commission**

Members received a copy of the correspondence from the CC querying whether the Commission has identified whether it needs any supplementary legislation to support its operations, and if so, what type of provisions which would be useful. Members agreed that they needed to consider this matter carefully. It will be added to the next agenda for consideration.

**b. Changes to the Customs and Border Protection Law Re: Rights of Spouses of Asylum Grantees**

Members requested that the Secretariat follow-up with the Ministry of Employment and Border Control in regards to the timeframe that they expect the changes to the CBC Law to be made in order to provide the spouses of asylum seekers with the right to remain on island and to work.

**c. Tour of Facilities**

Following the Chairman's attendance at the Lighthouse School's inaugural Neurodiversity Concert in recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness Month, the Commission has been invited to attend the School for a tour and information session about their efforts. In addition, the Commission's tour of the prison facilities needs to be rescheduled (due to COVID-19 the original date was cancelled). The PR&EDU Coordinator was asked to make such arrangements for the later part of the first quarter and/or the second quarter of 2021.

**8. Action Items**

Members were asked to:

- a. review the calendar to confirm approval of the proposed dates to be recognised in 2021; and
- b. consider the request from the Constitutional Commission.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Follow-up in due course on the progress of the HMCIPS Outline Business Case;
- b. Draft letters for approval in all human rights complaint matters;
- c. Follow-up with the Ministry Re: changes to the CBC Law;
- d. Arrange a Tour of the Lighthouse School and HMCIPS Facilities; and
- e. Finalise the new logo and source polo shirts with the logo for IHRD.

**9. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting**

- a. IDC and Prisons Tours
- b. Letter from the Constitutional Commission
- c. Changes to the CBC Law

**10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting date will be held on 10 December 2020 at 11am.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04am.



Dale Crowley  
CHAIRMAN  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION