

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
3rd MEETING OF 2023
MINUTES
24 MARCH 2023
CONFERENCE ROOM
COMMISSION SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Deborah Barker Roye	Interim Chairperson (via Zoom)
Nicholas Quin	Member
Cathy Gomez	Member
Ben Tonner	Member

APOLOGIES:

Jennifer Hunter	Member
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SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marilyn Conolly	Manager
Lise Hurlstone	Research Analyst

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting commenced at 3:20 pm. The Chair acknowledged apologies from member Jennifer Hunter who was unable to attend due to a previous commitment.

2. Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries**OLD:****a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 009/2022 & 017/2022**

Members noted the update from the complainant's attorney and discussed the circumstances of the case. It was determined that there appeared to be ongoing legal proceedings pertinent to both matters and the Commission had no remit to interfere. Therefore, these matters would be closed and the complainant notified as such. The Secretariat was asked to draft the correspondence accordingly. It was noted that member Cathy Gomez was recused from this complaint.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 020/2022

Members reviewed the latest updates from the complainant and discussed the circumstances of the case. It was agreed to write to the complainant to request that they attempt to pursue the internal complaint procedure with the public authority involved. The Secretariat was asked to draft the correspondence accordingly.

NEW:

c. Human Rights Complaint 002/2023

Members acknowledged this complaint, which was received on 18 January 2023. After reviewing the submissions, members agreed that this matter was outside of the remit of the Commission and the appropriate course of action was for the complainant to avail themselves of their right to appeal, which includes the ability to submit an appeal out of time. The matter would be closed and the complainant notified accordingly. It was noted that this case was linked to HRC Complaint 025/2022, and therefore the latter could also be closed for the same reason in the absence of any additional information submitted by the complainant. The Secretariat was asked to draft correspondence to the complainant on both matters.

d. Human Rights Complaint 003/2023

Members acknowledged this complaint, which was received on 26 January 2023. Upon reviewing the submissions members agreed that specific documentation was required in order for them to make a determination. The Secretariat was therefore requested to draft correspondence to the complainant asking for him to provide the same. It was noted that member Cathy Gomez was recused from this complaint.

e. Human Rights Complaint 004/2023

Members acknowledged this complaint, which was received on 24 February 2023. After reviewing the submissions it was determined that this appears to be a legal matter and the complainant would need to bring legal proceedings to pursue the outcome they are seeking. Therefore the matter would be closed and the complainant notified accordingly. The Secretariat was requested to draft correspondence to the complainant.

f. Human Rights Complaint 006/2023

Members acknowledged this complaint, which was received on 23 February 2023. After reviewing the submissions it was determined that the complainant's concerns have been considered at the highest judicial level and therefore the Commission has no remit to consider this matter. Therefore, the matter would be closed and the complainant notified accordingly. The Secretariat was requested to draft correspondence to the complainant.

3. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

4. Any other Business

a. HRC COMP 007/2023

The Commission was updated on a complaint that was received on Wednesday, 22 March, which appeared to be of some urgency. The Commission discussed the complaint as well as the actions of the complainant at the time of the submission of the complaint. With

regard to the complaint it was agreed that the decision letter which prejudiced the complainant offered a route of appeal, and the Commission wished to know if the complainant availed themselves of that. The Secretariat was asked to enquire via email accordingly. With regard to the actions of the complainant, the Commission discussed the procedure for handling vexatious complainants and the safety of the Secretariat staff. The Manager expressed that staff safety was paramount and commission members agreed to support this in any way they could.

b. Prison Tours

Members briefly discussed the tours of Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service facilities at Fairbanks, including the Enhanced Rehabilitation Unit, and Northward. Members wished to note their sincere thanks to the HMCIPS staff who showed them around the facilities. It was agreed for a more detailed discussion to take place at the next meeting when all members would be in attendance.

c. Prospect Primary Request for Human Rights Presentation

The Secretariat shared a request that was received via email from the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Coordinator at Prospect Primary School. She requested for someone to present to her students on human rights and do a short question and answer session with them afterwards. She provided some topic suggestions from the students and explained that students were doing research for a project they would be presenting on later in the year. Interim Chair Deborah Barker Roye, and Member Jennifer Hunter agreed to review the request and see if they could assist. The Manager said the Secretariat would follow up with them via email to provide more details.

5. Action Items

Members of the HRC resolved that:

- a. Interim Chair Deborah Barker Roye and member Jennifer Hunter would liaise with the Secretariat regarding the request from Prospect Primary School for a presentation on human rights.

It was resolved The Secretariat would:

- b. Liaise with HRC members and the Prospect Primary School regarding a presentation on human rights; and
- c. Draft correspondence for all complaints and enquiries as detailed above.

6. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Awareness and Events Calendar
- b. Migrants
 - i. Migrants Policy
 - ii. Legislative Amendment
- c. Query re WORC Internal Process

- d. Bill of Rights (BoR) Training
- e. Prison Tours
- f. HRC Annual Report
- g. HRC Complaints and Enquiries

7. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was previously set via email round robin for Thursday, 18 May at 3:15 pm.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.



Deborah Barker Roye
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION