

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
7th MEETING OF 2025
MINUTES
18 September 2025
CONFERENCE ROOM
HRC SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Benjamin Tonner KC	Chairperson
Nicholas Quin	Member
Alecia Johns	Member
Nicholas Dixey	Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Evette Burnell	Administrator/Analyst
Melanie Mcfield	Manager (in part)

Minutes of the Meeting**1. Call to Order**

The meeting commenced at 3:28 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2025 were approved.

3. Matters Arising**a. Education Initiatives**

- i. *Social Media Campaign* – The Administrator/Analyst presented the October batch of posts, which were approved.
- ii. *Bill of Rights Training* – The Secretariat provided an update on the BOR training. A draft storyboard has been produced and a prototype presented. The storyboard will be circulated for members’ approval prior to arranging the audio recording.
- iii. *School Visits* – No visits are currently scheduled. Contact has been made with John Gray High School (awaiting response) and Sharon Marie Martin Primary School (visit expected, date to be confirmed). The approach of engaging smaller groups, rather than full assemblies, will be maintained.

b. Migrants

- CILPA has circulated a call for pro bono attorneys for migrants; responses are pending.
- Legal Aid has been granted in at least one Detention Centre case.
- The Secretariat will meet again with CILAC, who have offered support later in the asylum process, as well as potential legal clinics and training sessions. A Zoom link will be circulated.
- CBC has provided updated migrant statistics and removed the interview questions of concern.

- As progress on legislative amendments and the new Detention Centre remains limited, the next quarterly meeting with CBC is scheduled for Q1 2026.

c. Prison Updates

- A follow-up letter was sent to the Ministry of District Administration & Home Affairs regarding the increase in prisoners with mental health conditions; response pending.
- A further prison visit will be arranged for early 2026 once new members join in October.

d. HRC Annual Report

The 2024 report has been finalized and approved. It will be sent to the ODG for tabling before Parliament.

e. Mental Health

No updates at this time.

f. Beneficial Ownership Register

A UK barrister has been engaged to provide an opinion on the potential public beneficial ownership register, considering both constitutional and Cayman-specific concerns. A report may be published later.

4. Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries

OLD:

- HRC Complaint 002/2024* – Appeal ongoing; Secretariat monitoring. Supplementary complaint lodged regarding judgment delays.
- HRC Complaint 002/2025* – Resolved; satisfactory response received, case closed.
- HRC Complaint 003/2025* – Deemed outside remit; Secretariat to issue closure letter.
- HRC Complaint 006/2025* – Supplementary complaint linked to 002/2024; response letter confirmed judgment would be delivered at the next sitting.
- HRC Enquiry 001/2025* – WORC provided information on jobseeker support; Secretariat to follow up with complainant regarding assignment of an Employment Services Officer.
- HRC Enquiry 002/2025* – Enquiry on Immigration Law changes; draft Bill not yet circulated. Secretariat to follow up.

NEW:

- HRC Enquiry 003/2025* – Prison-related enquiry resolved by referral to the Director of Prisons.

5. New Business - None

6. Any Other Business (AOB) – Members were informed that new HRC Member, Mike Gibbs, is now appointed to the Commission and will be invited to join the next meeting.

Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- Publish agreed social media posts, as outlined in 3.a.i (Administrator/Analyst and Management).
- Progress the BOR training and provide an update at the next meeting, as outlined in 3.a.ii (Administrator/Analyst and Management).
- Follow up with Sharon Marie Martin School regarding the HRC to visit and provide an update at

- the next meeting, as outlined in 3.a.ii (Administrator/Analyst and Management).
- d. Follow up with CILPA regarding the responses to their email to Members and continue discussions with CILAC, as outlined in 3.b. above (Administrator/Analyst and Management).
 - e. Follow-up with CBC to reschedule the next quarterly meeting, as outlined in 3.b. above (Administrator/Analyst).
 - f. Follow up on letter to the Ministry of District Administration & Home Affairs regarding concerns on mental health in prison, as outlined in 3.c. above (Administrator/Analyst).
 - g. Provide the 2024 Annual Report, now approved, to be tabled in Parliament, as outlined in 3.d. above (Administrator/Analyst).
 - h. Progress the Beneficial Ownership Register opinion and provide an update at the next meeting, as outlined in 4.f. above (Administrator/Analyst and Management).
 - i. Draft correspondence for all complaints and enquiries as detailed above (Administrator/Analyst).

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. PR & Education Initiatives
 - i. Social Media Campaign
 - ii. Bill of Rights Training
 - iii. School Visits
- b. Migrants
- c. Prisons Updates
- d. HRC Annual Report
- e. Mental Health
- f. Beneficial Ownership Register

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 16 October 2025.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.



Benjamin Tonner KC
CHAIRPERSON