

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
2nd MEETING OF 2026
MINUTES
26 March 2026
CONFERENCE ROOM
HRC SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Benjamin Tonner KC	Chairperson
Mike Gibbs	Member
Nicholas Dixey	Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Evette Burnell	Administrator/Analyst
Melanie Mcfield	Manager (In Part)

APOLOGIES:

Alecia Johns	Member
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Minutes of the Meeting

1. Call to Order

The meeting commenced at 3:40 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2026 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

a. Education Initiatives

- i. *Social Media Campaign* – The Administrator/Analyst reported that social media engagement had increased with the boosted International Women’s Day post, however, other upboosted post engagement remained steady. The April draft posts were approved for World Autism Day and International Mother Earth Day, and May posts for Emancipation Day and Discovery Day are to be drafted and approved in the next meeting.
- ii. *Bill of Rights Training* – The Chairman is to reach out to Vaughan in regard to progressing the BOR training. There had been some queries over certain content and a call will be arranged with Vaughan and Ian to discuss further.
- iii. *School Visits* – The Secretariat has been in touch with the Head of the Theoline McCoy Primary School in regard to the HRC presenting to year 6. The presentation was scheduled for 14 April and the Secretariat will circulate the presentation slides to Members for review.

b. Migrants

The draft minutes from the CBC meeting were reviewed and Members requested that the next HRC CBC meeting be scheduled for June.

c. Prison Updates

Following the last meeting and areas the members wished to address following their visit to Northward, a letter was drafted to the Ministry. However, there has yet to be a response. The Secretariat will follow up.

d. Mental Health

The Secretariat reached out to the Head of Poinciana facility to schedule a visit in June. A more specific dates was requested from management. Members agreed between June 8-10th would be suitable, depending on Member John's availability.

e. Beneficial Ownership Register

No action at this time. Members will monitor the situation and any developments.

g. Annual Report

The Secretariat included the draft 2025 annual report for Members review and feedback. Members will revert with comments at the next meeting.

Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries

OLD:

- **HRC-COMP-002/2025:** Appeal ongoing; Secretariat monitoring. A supplementary complaint regarding judgment delays has been filed.
- **HRC-COMP-006/2025:** Supplementary complaint linked to COMP-002/2024. The Secretariat reached out to the Governor's Office in regard to the delay on this judgement. The Governor's Office advised this was a matter for the Judicial Admin and a letter will be drafted to the Chief Justice.
- **HRC-ENQ-001/2025:** The Commission decided to close this enquiry following investigation.
- **HRC-COMP-007/2025:** Complainant seeks assistance regarding denial of a dependent on her RERC. She has applied for a Cabinet fee waiver to appeal the decision and still awaits a decision. Members advised that if the waiver is denied she still has legal recourse and may reach out to the Family Bar Association for possible representation.
- **HRC-COMP-014/2025:** The Commission decided to close this complaint and to advise the complainant to reach out should he wish for the assistance offered and denied.
- **HRC-COMP-001-2026:** Complaint from asylum grantee unable to return to Cayman and classed as prohibited migrant. Draft letter to Complainant to outline options.
- **HRC-COMP-002-2026:** Complaint regarding financial assistance being revoked after reassessment. Reached out to complainant for copy of letter from FAD, without response. Complainant will be issued a 30-day notice.
- **HRC-COMP-005-2026:** The complaint is regarding a scholarship (provided under MoE). The complaint will be closed as the HRC do not see it as a human rights issue. Secretariat to draft closure letter.

NEW:

- **HRC-COMP-006-2026:** The Commission noted this was not a human rights concern and decided to close the case. A closure letter will be sent from the Secretariat.
- **HRC-COMP-007-2026:** The Secretariat is to reach out to the legal representative and/or CBC for further clarification.

New Business

None.

Any Other Business

None

7. Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- a. Publish approved social media post for April (3.a.i).
- b. Progress the BOR training and provide updates at the next meeting (3.a.ii).
- c. Email Theoline McCoy with presentation slides in advance of presentation on 14 April (3.a.iii).
- d. Schedule next HRC CBC meeting for June (3.b).
- e. Follow up on letter to the Ministry following the Northward prison visit (3.c).
- f. Reach out to Poinciana to schedule a visit for June (3.d).
- g. Members to provide feedback on draft 2025 AR (3.g).
- h. Draft correspondence for all complaints and enquiries discussed (4).

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. Mental Health
- e. Beneficial Ownership Register
- f. Annual Report

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 27 April 2026.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 pm.



Benjamin Tonner KC
CHAIRPERSON