

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
3rd MEETING OF 2026
MINUTES
29 April 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 3:25 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2026 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

a. Education Initiatives

- i. Social Media Campaign* – The Administrator/Analyst reported that social media engagement had remained steady for Facebook and Instagram over the last month and there had been an increase in followers on LinkedIn. The May draft posts were approved for Emancipation Day and Discovery Day.
- ii. Bill of Rights Training* – The Chairman is to reach out to Vaughan Carter 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* – Members visited the Theoline McCoy Primary School on 14 April and presented to year 6 students. Students were enthusiastic and engaged on the topic. Members requested that a spreadsheet of all Cayman Islands schools be constructed, so that HRC can make an effort to visit all interested schools over the coming years.

b. Migrants

The Members requested that the Secretariat reach out to CBC and the Ministry to obtain an update on the matters arising from the last meeting to establish if another meeting is required at this time.

c. Prison Updates

After the HRC's visit to Northward, a letter was sent to the Ministry highlighting several areas of concern. A response was received from CO Ebanks, and the HRC plans to follow up later in the year to assess whether the issues have been addressed.

d. Mental Health

The HRC are scheduled to visit Poinciana facility on June 9th, as a follow-up to their 2024 visit when it first opened.

e. Beneficial Ownership Register

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

g. Annual Report

The Secretariat included an updated draft of the 2025 annual report for Members review and feedback. Members will revert with comments.

4. Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries

- **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 regarding the delay in receiving judgement. A letter has been drafted to the Chief Justice raising this as a concern and requesting an update on the progress.
- **HRC-ENQ-001/2025:** The Commission decided to close this enquiry following investigation and a letter will be drafted to the enquirer.
- **HRC-COMP-007/2025:** Complainant seeks assistance regarding denial of a dependent on her RERC. She applied for a Cabinet fee waiver to appeal the decision, but this was refused. The Complainant now has legal representation, and the Secretariat will reach out for an update.
- **HRC-COMP-001-2026:** The Complaint was closed and a closure letter will be sent to the Complainant.
- **HRC-COMP-002-2026:** The Complainant didn't respond to requests for documentation and was issued 30-day notice to comply. The complaint will now be closed, and a closure letter will be issued.
- **HRC-COMP-007-2026:** The CBC has provided a timeline of events along with additional details regarding the current situation. The Secretariat will reach out to the Complainant, requesting that they keep the Human Rights Council informed.

5. New Business

a. Discussion Paper on Spent Convictions

Members received a discussion paper from the Law Reform Commission concerning spent convictions. They suggested drafting a response to express gratitude for the correspondence and to confirm whether it was also sent to the Expungement Board and the Criminal Bar Association.

b. George Town Landfill

The recent fire at the landfill has come to the attention of the HRC. During the fire, several schools were forced to close due to smoke, and the lack of proper recycling facilities continues to raise environmental concerns. The Secretariat will conduct research and prepare an analysis of how these issues may contravene the Bill of Rights.

6. Any Other Business

Members decided that draft letters for review should be signed by the Commission and not the Chairman. This way all Members can review and approve correspondence going forward.

7. Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- a. Publish approved social media post for May (3.a.i).
- b. Progress the BOR training and provide updates at the next meeting (3.a.ii).
- c. Create schools spreadsheet for HRC presentations going forward (3.a.iii).
- d. Request updates from CBC and the Ministry on matters arising from the last meeting (3.b).
- e. Revisit the prison concerns later in the year to verify if planned measures were implemented (3.c).
- f. Members to provide feedback on draft 2025 AR (3.g).
- g. Respond to Law Reform Commission (5.a).
- h. Conduct research re GT landfill concerns (5.b).
- i. 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
- g. GT Landfill

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be arranged via a round robin.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.



Benjamin Tonner KC
CHAIRPERSON