

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
5th MEETING OF 2026
MINUTES
17 July 2026
CONFERENCE ROOM
HRC SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Benjamin Tonner KC	Chairperson
Mike Gibbs	Member
Nicholas Dixey	Member
Alecia Johns	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 3:27 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 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, LinkedIn and Instagram over the last month. The August draft posts were approved for International Youth Day and Humanitarian Day.
- ii. *School Visits* – The secretariat circulated an email to all the primary schools to try to get some presentations scheduled for the upcoming school year. Two schools responded so far requesting a follow up in September.

b. Migrants

The Secretariat will reach out to the new CBC Director to arrange an introductory Zoom call with HRC members, which will also be an opportunity to follow up on any outstanding issues.

c. Prison Updates

There was no update at this time. The Secretariat will follow up in Q4 2026 to establish any progress made, as outlined in the correspondence received.

d. Mental Health

The HRC visited the Poinciana facility on 9 June. The Secretariat was tasked with contacting Dr.

Lockhart to obtain an appropriate point of contact to whom the HRC may address its concerns regarding the issues of the continued absence of a secure facility for higher-risk patients, as well as a dedicated facility for juvenile mental health care. A letter was drafted and will be circulated to the appropriate persons/commissions.

e. Beneficial Ownership Register

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

f. Annual Report

The Secretariat has submitted the 2025 AR to arrange for it to be tabled at the next sitting of parliament.

g. GT Landfill

The Chairman requested that further research be undertaken on the matter of the human rights concerns surrounding the landfill and indicated that specific research into European case law would be beneficial.

h. Spent Convictions

The Secretariat submitted the HRC response on the spent convictions discussion paper from the Law Reform Commission. The deadline for responses was 27 June.

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. The delay in decision is still a current issue and the Secretariat will reach out to the Complainant for an update and request authorization to communicate with his son as representative.
- **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-007-2026:** The Secretariat communicated with the Complainant, who advised that he has a 1-year work permit pending approval. A follow up will take place to establish if this was granted.
- **HRC-COMP-008-2026:** The Secretariat reached out to the Complainant's lawyer for an update, but no response has yet been received.

5. New Business

The Law Reform Commission submitted a discussion paper on Cannabis reform for response by 1 September, should the HRC wish to respond.

6. Any Other Business

The HRC were informed that two new Members, Suzanne Bothwell and Michael Bromby, are appointed to the Commission and are expected to attend the next Commission meeting in September.

The Commission also expressed its sincere appreciation to Benjamin Tonner, whose term of office is due to expire in August. As this was his final meeting as Chairman, Members thanked him for his dedicated service and valued contribution during his tenure.

7. Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- a. Publish approved social media posts for August (3.a.i).
- b. Follow up with Primary Schools for potential September Visits (3.a.iii).
- c. Arrange meeting with new CBC Director (3.b).
- d. Revisit the prison concerns later in the year to verify if planned measures were implemented (3.c).
- e. Circulate letter on MH issues to progress (3.d).
- f. Follow up on AR 2025 to be tabled (3.f).
- g. Continue GT landfill research (3.g).
- h. Acknowledge discussion paper received from Law Reform Commission (3.h).
- 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. 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 was scheduled for 9 September @ 3:15pm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 pm.



Nicholas Dixey
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION