

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
6th MEETING OF 2026
MINUTES
9 SEPTEMBER 2026
CONFERENCE ROOM
HRC SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Nicholas Dixey	Chairperson
Mike Gibbs	Member
Suzanne Bothwell	Member
Michael Bromby	Member

APOLOGIES:

Alecia Johns	Member
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SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Evette Burnell	Administrator/Analyst
Melanie McField	Manager (in part)
Lise Hurlstone	Acting Deputy Manager (in part)

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

The meeting commenced at 3:22 p.m. and Members welcomed new Members Michael Bromby and Suzanne Bothwell to the Commission.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 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 September draft posts were approved, and it was agreed to draft a post for World Mental Health Day for October.
- ii. *School Presentations / Visits* – The secretariat will follow up on the email previously circulated to school administrators and potential interest. The HRC also had an offer from Poinciana Facility to host an information booth as a community partner on their upcoming open day on 10 October. Nick Dixey and Mike Gibbs volunteered to host this.

b. Migrants

The Secretariat will reach out to the new CBC Director again to arrange an introductory Zoom call with HRC members, which will also be an opportunity to follow up on any outstanding issues. To date attempts at contact have been unsuccessful. The last minutes will be circulated to him, so he may be up to date with the matters discussed.

c. Prison Updates

The Secretariat will draft a letter following up on the progress made, as outlined in the correspondence received from the Ministry in April regarding the Q2 and Q3 goals. The letter will also address recent concerns raised regarding juvenile facilities, including the lack thereof.

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 circulated to the appropriate persons/commissions without response. The Secretariat will follow up for a response.

e. Beneficial Ownership Register

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

f. Annual Report

The Secretariat previously submitted the 2025 AR to ODG to arrange for it to be tabled at the next sitting of parliament. A point was made by Ms. Bothwell that independent commissions should be able to table their own report, rather than first submitting them to ODG. This will be looked in to and discussed further.

g. GT Landfill and Environmental Health Bill

The Secretariat conducted further research into the human rights concerns surrounding the landfill, including a review of relevant European case law. The findings were presented to the Members, who agreed that this should be among the matters addressed in the Environmental Health Bill 2026, which the HRC has been asked to review. This issue, together with other matters identified during the review, will be addressed in the HRC's response.

The HRC has identified a number of areas within the Bill that may benefit from further consideration and refinement. In particular, Members have expressed concerns regarding the timing of the Bill, the amalgamation of certain provisions that may be better addressed separately, and the level of detail provided in some sections. The HRC is of the view that further consideration and development may be required to ensure that the Bill is sufficiently comprehensive and fit for purpose.

The HRC would also welcome the opportunity to review any proposed amendments arising from the consultation process before the Bill progresses further. Given the number and breadth of issues requiring consideration, together with the approaching deadline, the Secretariat will draft a letter requesting additional time to complete the review and setting out the HRC's principal areas of concern.

4. Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries

- **HRC-COMP-002/2025:** Appeal ongoing. A supplementary complaint regarding judgment delays has been filed. The Secretariat will reach out to find out which Judge is reviewing the Habeas Corpus application.
- **HRC-COMP-006/2025:** Supplementary complaint linked to COMP-002/2024 regarding the delay in receiving judgement on the appeal. The delay in decision is still a current issue and the Secretariat will draft a follow up letter to the Chief Justice on this matter.

- **HRC-COMP-007/2025:** The dependent application on the RERC has now been granted. The further matter of public education for the dependent is now in question. The Secretariat will advise the Complainant to contact the Department of Education.
- **HRC-COMP-007-2026:** The Complainant is following the correct legal process and the complaint will be closed. The Secretariat will draft a closure letter.
- **HRC-COMP-008-2026:** The Complainant is following the correct legal process and the complaint will be closed. The Secretariat will draft a closure letter. The Secretariat is to follow the judgement.

NEW Complaints:

- **HRC-COMP-009-2026:** A complaint was received from a prisoner following a flight he had with another prisoner in the High-Risk Unit, which is supposed to solitary confinement. Due to overcrowding this may be compromised. This will be addressed in the upcoming correspondence to the Ministry.
- **HRC-COMP-010-012-2026:** Complaints from prisoner regarding treatment and conditions/segregation for juveniles. The Secretariat will draft a letter outlining these concerns to the Director of Prisons. The broader issue of juvenile detention will also be raised with the Ministry in the forthcoming follow-up letter on prison concerns raised.
- **HRC-COMP-013-2026:** Asylum grantee complained due to being refused FAD assistance and family being homeless. Meeting with AG and DG will be scheduled to highlight this gap in legislation. Bring copies of FAD Act/Regs to next meeting.

5. New Business

The HRC were asked to provide a response on the Environmental Health Bill 2026, as discussed in point 3.g.

6. Any Other Business

Members discussed if going digital for meetings might be preferable going forward, but the consensus was to stick with paper copies for now.

Newsworthy items will also be added to agenda going forward.

7. Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- a. Publish approved social media posts for September and draft October (3.a.i).
- b. Follow up with Primary Schools for potential September Visits and Poinciana (3.a.ii).
- c. Arrange meeting with new CBC Director (3.b).
- d. Draft letter to follow-up on prison concerns to verify measures were implemented and include additional points of concern noted (3.c).
- e. Follow up on letter on MH issues (3.d).
- f. Follow up on AR 2025 to be tabled (3.f).
- g. Monitor GT landfill issue and draft letter re EH Bill 2026 (3.g)
- 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 and Environmental Health Bill
- h. Newsworthy Items / Matters of Interest

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled via round-robin.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.



Nicholas Dixey
CHAIRPERSON