

COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE
2nd MEETING OF 2017
MINUTES
7 MARCH 2017
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

PRESENT: Rosie Whittaker-Myles	Chairman
Sheenah Hislop	Member
Pastor Shian O'Connor	Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheila Alvarez	Administrator/Analyst, Commissions Secretariat
Lise Hurlstone	Administrator/Analyst, Commissions Secretariat

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:55pm. The Chairman thanked all for attending and opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2016 were approved.

3. Outstanding Business**a. Procurement Legislation**

The Commission was informed that the approved correspondence was sent to the Honourable Minister for Finance & Economic Development on 23 February 2017. The correspondence was to ascertain the status of the Procurement Regulations, the anticipated commencement date for the Procurement Law, and the Government's views on how the Commission will participate in the development of procurement moving forward in order to discharge its constitutional remit. As a response has not yet been received, the Commission asked the Secretariat to follow up in a few weeks as necessary.

b. Policies and Procedures Manual

The final changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual were approved by members and as such the document will be uploaded to the website.

c. Standards in Public Life Regulations**i. Drafting Instructions**

The Commission was informed that the approved correspondence was sent to the Office of the Premier regarding the proposed timeline for the drafting instructions

for the Regulations on 23 February 2017. As a response has not yet been received, the Commission asked the Secretariat to follow up in a few weeks as necessary.

ii. Section 20(3) of the Law

The Commission was informed that the approved correspondence was sent to the Attorney General's Office regarding the Commission's comments on s.20(3) of the Law on 23 February 2017. This letter was combined with the letter on the drafting instructions for the Regulations to the Premier. As a response has not yet been received, the Commission asked the Secretariat to follow up in a few weeks as necessary.

d. Ministerial Code of Conduct

The Commission discussed the draft Ministerial Code of Conduct which was received from the Cabinet Office on 27 February 2017. Members agreed that more time would be required for review, and they would prepare comments for the next meeting. The Secretariat was asked to acknowledge receipt of the document on behalf of the Commission and to note that detailed comments will follow upon finalisation of the Commission's review.

e. Press Release re: CSPL Website

The draft press release regarding the Commission's new website was discussed. Several changes were suggested and the Commission agreed to continue to review the draft and provide their comments to the Secretariat to amend.

f. Gender Equality Tribunal Findings

The Commission was updated that the approved correspondence was sent to the Deputy Governor's Office on 23 February 2017. The Deputy Governor has acknowledged receipt of the correspondence and indicated that a substantive response is being prepared. The Commission asked the Secretariat to follow up in a few weeks if no response is received. The Commission also requested additional research into any publicity surrounding other incidences of misconduct in the civil service.

g. Public Authorities Bill, 2016

The Commission agreed that additional time was required for their review of this Bill to compare it to the Standards in Public Life Law, and that their comments would be prepared for the next meeting.

4. New Business

a. Twelfth Report of the Commission

The Chairman has previously been provided with the first draft of this Report however it was agreed that this item will be deferred to the next meeting to allow for detailed review of the document.

5. Any Other Business

a. CSPL Letterhead

The Commission requested that their letterhead be updated to include the newly developed CSPL logo, and for that to be used in all formal correspondence going forward.

6. Action List

Members were asked to:

- a. Review the draft Ministerial Code of Conduct as detailed above;
- b. Provide comments on the draft press release on the Commission's website;
- c. Review the draft Public Authorities Bill, 2016 as detailed above; and
- d. Review the Twelfth Annual Report of the Commission as detailed above.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Follow up with all outstanding correspondence to the Minister for Finance & Economic Development, the Premier/Attorney General, and the Deputy Governor after a few weeks as detailed above as necessary;
- b. Upload the final Policies and Procedures Manual to the Commission's website;
- c. Acknowledge receipt of correspondence from the Cabinet Office on behalf of the Commission and inform that more detailed comments will follow upon completion of their review;
- d. Update the draft press release on the website according to the Commission's comments when received;
- e. Research additional instances of misconduct in the civil service that have been publicised and circulate to members for their reference while reviewing the Gender Equality Tribunal's findings; and
- f. Update the Commission's letterhead to include the newly developed logo.

7. Items to be discussed at the next meeting

- a. Procurement Legislation
- b. Draft Policies and Procedures Manual
- c. Standards in Public Life Regulations Drafting Instructions
- d. Ministerial Code of Conduct
- e. Press Release Re: CSPL Website
- f. Gender Equality Tribunal Findings
- g. Public Authorities Bill, 2016
- h. Twelfth Report of the Commission

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 4 April 2017 at 2:15pm.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.



Rosie Whittaker-Myles

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE