

**7th MEETING OF THE
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE
17 OCTOBER 2023 @ 2:30PM
MINUTES
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT:

Dr. Sonia Bush	Chairman (via Zoom)
J. Rosalie Twohey	Member (via Zoom)
Keith Blake	Member (in person)

COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna-Kay Smith	Interim Manager
Sheila Watler	Administrator/Analyst
Jessica Ebanks	PR & Education Coordinator (for part)

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:37pm. The Chairman welcomed all in attendance and the meeting was opened with a prayer.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**a. 12 October 2023**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

3. Outstanding Business**a. Update on Amendments to SPL Act and Regs**

Members continued their discussion on the Attorney General Chambers' (AGC) response of 26 July 2023 concerning the SPL (Amendment) Regulations, 2023. Members agreed there were no further comments on the draft SPL Regulations and that the AGC can move forward with submitting both the draft SPL Bill, 2023 and draft SPL Regulations, 2023 to Cabinet. The Secretariat will advise the AGC accordingly.

b. CSPL Policies and Procedures**i. Lateral Flow Tests/Procurement Procedures**

Members considered the Director of Central Procurement Office's (CPO) response of 1 November 2022, to the CSPL's letter of 19 October 2022. The matter was in regards to a report released by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) titled, 'Review of the Procurement of the Lateral Flow Tests'. Accordingly, the CSPL sought an update from the CPO Director to ascertain whether the OAG's recommendations had been progressed.

The CSPL agreed it had no further comments on the CPO Director's response and the Secretariat was asked to draft a letter to the OAG to enquire whether any responses to the OAG's recommendations have been received.

ii. Port Authority Director Appointment

Members considered the Port Authority's response of 16 November 2022 regarding an update on the progress of the recommendations in the Internal Auditors Service report titled, 'Human Resources Review' (Port Authority Cayman Islands) July 2022.

Members agreed an update is needed on the status of the Authority's internal policies and procedures framework on its hiring practices. The Secretariat was asked to draft a letter to the Port Authority to request a copy of its procedural steps for the hiring of staff.

c. Update re Parliamentary Code of Conduct

Members were informed that follow-up correspondence was sent to the Office of the Premier on 12 October 2023 regarding the status of the Parliamentary Code of Conduct. The Secretariat was asked to diarise to follow-up with the office every six weeks.

d. Elections Observer's Report

Members were informed that follow-up correspondence was sent to the Supervisor of Elections (SoE) on 12 October 2023 regarding the status of the recommendations noted in the Cayman Islands General Elections 2021 Domestic Observers' Report. The Secretariat was asked to diarise to follow-up with the SoE every six weeks.

e. United Nations Education for Justice (E4J) Programme

The Chairman welcomed the Secretariat's newly appointed Public Relations & Education Coordinator, Ms. Jessica Ebanks, and introductions were made. The Chairman noted that the CSPL would like to be more active in the community, particularly in the schools.

Ms. Ebanks provided an overview of her research on the Education for Justice (E4J) Programme, noting its existing lesson plans, videos and other materials that could be incorporated into the Cayman Islands National Curriculum; specifically the Life Skills subject area. She also discussed a class poster competition in the schools and that CSPL could present prizes to the winners.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Ebanks for her presentation and asked her to reach out to the schools in January 2024 to pitch the CSPL E4J Programme. CSPL can then visit the various participating schools and take photo ops for the E4J campaign. Ms. Ebanks was further asked to prepare an approach in advance of the next meeting to launch the E4J Programme in the first quarter of 2024.

f. Correspondence from Anti-Corruption Commission ("ACC")

Members considered the ACC's response of 14 August 2023 wherein the ACC invited the CSPL to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which would enable the two commissions to exchange information as needed. Members agreed to accept the ACC's offer to enter into an MOU. The Secretariat was asked to respond to the ACC Chairman accordingly, to also apologise for the delay and to request a copy of a draft MOU for the CSPL's review. Members further agreed that an investigator should be hired to deal with all CSPL investigations and that this matter ought to be considered further.

4. **New Business**
 - a. No new business was discussed.
5. **Any Other Business**
 - a. No other business was discussed.
6. **Action Items**

The Secretariat:

 - a. Inform the AGC to move forward with submitting both the draft SPL Bill, 2023 and draft SPL Regulations, 2023 to Cabinet as detailed in item 3.a. above (Administrator/Analyst);
 - b. Prepare a letter to the OAG to as detailed in item 3.b.i. above (Administrator/Analyst);
 - c. Prepare a letter to the Port Authority re a status update on its funeral policy as detailed in item 3.b.ii. above (Administrator Analyst);
 - d. Diarise to follow-up with the Office of the Premier re the Parliamentary Code of Conduct as detailed in item 3.c. above (Administrator/Analyst);
 - e. Diarise to follow-up with the SoE as detailed in item 3.d. above (Administrator/Analyst);
 - f. Propose an approach to launch the E4J Programme as detailed in item 3.e. above (PR & Education Coordinator); and
 - g. Prepare a letter to the ACC Chairman re the sample MOU as detailed in item 3.f. above.
7. **Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting**
 - a. **Update on Amendments to SPL Act and Regs**
 - b. **Update CSPL Policies and Procedures**
 - c. **Update re Parliamentary Code of Conduct**
 - d. **Update Elections Observer's Report**
 - e. **United Nations Education for Justice (E4J) Programme**
 - f. **Correspondence from Anti-Corruption Commission ("ACC")**
8. **Date of the Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 6 November 2023 at 4:25pm via Zoom.
9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.



Dr. Sonia Bush
CHAIRMAN
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE