

**2nd MEETING OF THE
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE FOR 2026
10 MARCH 2026 @ 2:00 PM
MINUTES
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT: Woody Foster Chairman
Keith Blake Member (via Zoom)
Diana Deopersad Member
Jay Ehrhart Member (via Zoom)

APOLOGIES: Tonicia Williams Member

GUEST: Sue Winspear Consultant (via Zoom)

COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lise Hurlstone Research Analyst

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 pm. The Chairman welcomed all members and guest, Ms Sue Winspear, who continues to act as a consultant to the Commission.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

a. Meeting held on 20 January 2026

Members reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2026 and they were approved with minor changes. The Secretariat will upload the minutes to the CSPL website.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

a. Legislative Amendments – SPLA

Ms Winspear updated members on the public consultation survey, noting that it remained open for 3 weeks with today being the final day. She highlighted that Question 4 of the survey, concerning the balance between personal privacy and transparency in how declarations are accessed, as well as possible sanctions for Members of Parliament, had generated significant feedback from respondents.

Members considered whether the balance should favour personal privacy or transparency. Some members expressed the view that, based on the responses, the current balance may be appropriate and that personal privacy should remain a key consideration. The Chairman indicated general agreement but suggested that certain exceptions might be considered, such as allowing access for specific public authorities where necessary. Members noted that this perspective was broadly consistent with

public responses on the Commission’s ability to cross-reference declarations with other Government datasets, such as the General Registry.

Ms Winspear also summarised feedback received during stakeholder consultation meetings. She noted that the meetings with Members of Parliament and Chief Officers were particularly informative. During discussions with MPs, there was renewed debate regarding the appropriate oversight body for the Parliamentary Code of Conduct, including some reconsideration of the committee model that had been previously rejected in 2023 by MPs at that time. Ms Winspear continues discussion with the Speaker of Parliament, and other stakeholders, to progress the Parliamentary Code.

Ms Winspear advised that she will provide a full analysis of the consultation results and recommendations at the next meeting, including the potential implications for proposed amendments. Overall, both the Consultant and the Chairman expressed optimism that the Parliamentary Code of Conduct could progress toward approval. It was suggested that the amendments should perhaps also include a requirement to declare membership in associations. Ms Winspear will provide her comprehensive report at the April meeting.

b. Update: Parliamentary Code of Conduct

An update on this matter is contained in item 3.a. Legislative Amendments – SPLA above. Additionally, Ms Winspear advised that she has been retained under a separate contract as a Governance Adviser to the Premier and one of her tasks is to work with the Speaker on introducing a Parliamentary Code of Conduct. In addition, this contract also included work on updating the Public Authorities Act and the Procurement Act. She noted that this work also involves reviewing the broader governance landscape to ensure the various legislative frameworks operate effectively together. She said that she felt this new contract aligned well with the work she was doing for the Commission.

c. PR & Education Initiatives

i. Good Governance Campaign

Members reviewed the proposed communications plan. It was requested that an interview with Cayman Marl Road be included as part of the campaign’s outreach activities, and the Secretariat was asked to add this. The Chairman noted that he would be unavailable between 19 and 27 April to participate in the Good Governance Campaign.

Members also discussed the possibility of adding other activities later in the year to engage members of the public more directly through informal outreach, including community visits similar to those undertaken in the roll-out of the Economic Programme Oversight Committee’s ‘Pon di Corner’ community sensitisation meetings in Jamaica. It was agreed that additional engagement opportunities for later in the year would be explored, once the initial launch is complete. The Secretariat was asked to update the communications plan

accordingly and seek the availability of the Premier and Governor to participate.

d. Election Reform

Members were advised that no response had yet been received from the Supervisor of Elections, but the Research Analyst will follow up again. If no response is received within one week thereafter the matter will be referred to the Chairman.

During other discussions with the Supervisor of Elections, it was noted that a potential gap in the SPLA was identified, namely that there is currently no requirement for candidates who stand for election, but are not elected, to submit a further declaration after the election. Members noted that this issue may warrant further consideration and Ms Winspear was asked to follow up with the Supervisor of Elections on this as it may be relevant to the Commission's proposed amendments to the SPLA.

e. Information Sharing Protocol with Office of the Auditor General

Ms Winspear advised that she had met with the Auditor General during the consultation process. Notes from this discussion will be provided to the Secretariat for inclusion in the consultation records.

She noted that it may be premature to formalise an information-sharing protocol at this stage, as the relationship between the CSPL and the Office of the Auditor General may change significantly once the proposed amendments to the SPLA are implemented. Ms Winspear will continue discussions with the Office of the Auditor General and report back to the Commission.

f. MOU with the Ombudsman

Ms Winspear provided members with a signed copy of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ombudsman, dated 20 February 2026. The Secretariat added this to the Commission's files.

g. Register of Interests Update

i. Reviews of Declarations

Ms Winspear advised that she will present a consolidated update on the review of declarations at the next meeting. She noted that the verification process could not be completed as originally intended due to unexpected difficulties accessing information through the General Registry. As a result, less progress has been made and fewer hours worked on verification activities than anticipated.

ii. Compliance Follow-ups

The Secretariat advised that compliance follow-ups had not progressed according to schedule at present. This would continue to move forward as capacity allows.

h. Complaints/Enquiries

i. CSPL COMP 001/2023

Members reviewed the case summary materials provided by the Research Analyst and discussed the need to obtain further documentation from the relevant public authority. It was also suggested that relevant testimonies in Parliament on the subject of the complaint should be reviewed for any potentially relevant evidence.

The Research Analyst will draft correspondence to the public authority querying the apparent deviation from documented policies and procedures. Ms Winspear will look into specific Parliamentary transcripts for reference to relevant information as capacity allows.

ii. CSPL COMP 001/2025

Members reviewed the case summary materials provided by the Research Analyst and agreed that a draft letter should be sent to the relevant public authority seeking clarification as to whether there is an intention to revisit the matter. The Secretariat was asked to prepare this for the Chairman's review, noting the instance where the Commission disagreed with a recommendation of the reviewing public authority.

iii. CSPL ENQ 001/2025

Members noted that updated documentation on this enquiry had been received and agreed that no further action was required.

i. Draft 28th Report

Members provided additional feedback on the draft 28th Report, with the Chairman noting he will provide further amendments by email. Members also discussed the preference that future reports should focus more clearly on highlighting the Commission's key activities and achievements.

The Research Analyst will update the draft 28th Report accordingly and circulate it to former members for approval.

j. Regulation of Board Appointment Procedures

Ms Winspear presented her proposed draft correspondence from the Chairman regarding the Commission's recommended amendments to the Public Authorities Act. Members provided feedback and clarified that while the CSPL should have a role in commissioning training for board members, it should not necessarily be responsible for delivering that training directly.

Ms Winspear will revise the draft correspondence and recirculate it to members for approval via round-robin email.

4. Any Other Business

a. CSPL ENQ 001/2026

Members considered a query relating to a non-profit organisation connected to a public official. Concerns were raised regarding a potential conflict of interest, given that funds raised by the organisation appear to benefit such a narrow population (as opposed to the Cayman Islands community more broadly) that it may present a perceived conflict.

Members discussed examples of charitable initiatives related to public officials, such as the Alex Panton Foundation and the DG 5K, which support the wider Cayman Islands community rather than specific populations. It was further noted that the individual in question also serves on other public bodies, which may raise additional considerations regarding perceived conflicts of interest.

The Research Analyst will draft a letter reflecting the Commission's concerns. Member Jay Ehrhart agreed to provide relevant references he had noted from Erskine May for inclusion in the Commission's response to the enquirer.

b. Staffing

The Chairman noted the continued need for additional resources to support the Commission's work and to ensure that the Consultant's work can continue. Members discussed the broader need for increased Secretariat capacity to support the Commission's activities. This would be shared with the Secretariat Manager.

5. Action Items

Members will:

- a. Member Jay Ehrhart will provide relevant references with regard to CSPL ENQ 001/2026, per item 4.a.

The Consultant will:

- b. continue discussion with the Speaker of Parliament, and other stakeholders, on the Parliamentary Code of Conduct, per item 3.a. above;
- c. provide a full analysis of the consultation results and recommendations, per item 3.a. above;
- d. follow up with the Supervisor of Elections, per item 3.d. above;
- e. continue discussions with Office of the Auditor General on the proposed information sharing protocol, per item 3.e. above;
- f. provide notes from discussion with the Office of the Auditor General for consultation records, per item 3.e. above;
- g. provide presentation on the review of declarations, per item 3.g.i. above;
- h. review relevant transcripts, per item. 3.h.i. above;
- i. revise draft correspondence on the Public Authorities Act, per item 3.j. above;

The Secretariat will:

- j. upload the minutes from 20 January 2026, per item 2.a. above;
- k. update the communications plan and seek the availability of the Premier and Governor for the Good Governance Campaign, per item 3.c.i. above;

- l. follow up with the Supervisor of Elections, per item 3.d. above;
- m. continue to progress ROI compliance follow-ups, per item 3.g.ii. above;
- n. draft correspondence to the relevant public authority in CSPL COMP 001/2023, per item 3.h.i. above;
- o. draft letter to the relevant public authority in CSPL COMP 001/2025, per item 3.h.ii. above;
- p. update the draft 28th Report and circulate it to former members for approval, per item 3.i. above; and
- q. draft a letter reflecting the Commission's concerns on CSPM ENQ 001/2026, per item 4.a. above.

6. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meetings

- a. Legislative Amendments – SPLA
- b. Parliamentary Code of Conduct
- c. PR & Education Initiatives
 - i. Good Governance Campaign
- d. Election Reform
- e. Draft Information Sharing Protocol with Auditor General
- f. Register of Interests Update
- g. Complaints / Enquiries
 - i. CSPL COMP 001/2023
 - ii. CSPL COMP 001/2025
 - iii. CSPL ENQ 001/2026
- h. Draft 28th Report
- i. Regulation of Board Appointment Procedures

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 14 April 2026 at 2:00 pm.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.



Woodrow Foster
CHAIRPERSON
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE