

**5th MEETING OF THE
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE FOR 2026
9 JULY 2026 @ 2:00 PM
MINUTES
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT OFFICES & VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT:

Woody Foster	Chairman
Keith Blake	Member (via Zoom)
Jay Ehrhart	Member (via Zoom)
Tonica Williams	Member (via Zoom)

APOLOGIES: Diana Deopersad Member

COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melanie McField	Manager
Lise Hurlstone	Policy Analyst
Zolla Jones	Office Support Assistant

1. Meeting called to order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed members. The Manager provided an update on the status of Ms Sue Winspear's consultancy contract. She advised that the necessary approvals had largely been secured and she was hopeful that Ms Winspear would resume work during the following week.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

a. Meeting Held on 2 June 2026

Members reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2026, which were approved subject to minor amendments. The Secretariat was asked to post the approved minutes to the CSPL website.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

a. Legislative Amendments – SPLA

As Ms Winspear was unavailable, no substantive update was provided. The matter remains ongoing.

b. Update: Parliamentary Code of Conduct

As Ms Winspear was unavailable, no substantive update was provided. The matter remains ongoing.

c. PR & Education Initiatives

i. Good Governance Campaign

The Manager advised that approval of the Premier's quotation had now been received, completing the final outstanding component of the campaign press release. It was therefore planned for the release be issued later that day.

The Manager updated members on the planned launch activities, including the proposed media briefing and the recording of video statements from the Governor, Premier and Chairman.

Members discussed whether a live media briefing at the commencement of the campaign would provide sufficient value given that the campaign had only just begun. It was considered preferable to reserve a comprehensive media briefing until later in the campaign when meaningful outcomes, public engagement statistics and campaign achievements could be presented.

Accordingly, members agreed that the live media briefing planned for next week should not proceed. Instead, the timeslot would be retained and the time would be used for professionally pre-recorded video, audio and social media clips to be produced for release throughout the campaign. The Manager would coordinate this change amongst the other campaign speakers.

Members also considered the draft press release and agreed that it should be shortened to improve readability while retaining its key messages. The Manager undertook to circulate a revised version for members' final comments by 10 July 2026.

d. Election Reform

The Secretariat advised that there were no updates on this matter at this time. Updates would continue to be provided as available.

e. Information Sharing Protocol with Auditor General

As Ms Winspear was unavailable, no substantive update was provided. The matter remains ongoing.

f. Register of Interests Update

i. Reviews of Declarations

The Secretariat shared responses to the Commission's previous request to leaders of public authorities to encourage Persons in Public Life be more transparent about gifts received in their declarations to the Register of Interests. Members discussed the continued low level of compliance by public authorities in maintaining and submitting this information in their declarations.

The Chairman advised that he intended to discuss the matter with the new Deputy Governor and Ms Winspear to identify practical measures to improve compliance and strengthen reporting across the public service. The Secretariat was asked to arrange

a meeting with the new Deputy Governor and add this to the agenda for the meeting.

ii. Compliance Follow-ups

The Secretariat presented an update on declaration compliance for the 2024-2025 period, including the review undertaken by the Secretariat Office Support Assistant of the response rates of high-priority entities.

Members agreed that the Commission should now proceed with the next stage of compliance enforcement in relation to outstanding declarations for Persons in Public Life who are also Key Management Personnel. The Secretariat was requested to prepare a timetable outlining the escalation process for this enforcement. It was agreed that outstanding declarants will be given 10 business days to submit their declarations following formal notification. Failure to comply within that period will result in referral to Treasury for recovery of the applicable statutory penalty.

Members further agreed that the Secretariat should liaise with Ms Winspear, once she has returned to her work with the Commission, regarding cases where Key Management Personnel designation remains unclear.

g. Complaints / Enquiries

i. CSPL COMP 001/2023

Members reviewed the revised draft correspondence to the public authority in this matter. Following discussion, members agreed to several amendments, and to issue letters to other related public authorities. The Secretariat was asked to finalise these letters and share them with the Chairman prior to issuing.

ii. CSPL COMP 001/2025

Members noted that a draft has been prepared on this to take the public authority involved up on their offer to share an update on this matter in due course. The Secretariat would provide the letter to the Chairman for final approval before issue. Other than to receive the update, it was agreed that no further action is required of the Commission at this time.

iii. CSPL ENQ 001/2026

Members noted that the agreed correspondence to this enquirer had been issued on 18 June 2026, and no response had yet been received. It was agreed for no further action to be taken at this time.

iv. CSPL ENQ 002/2026

As Ms Winspear was unavailable, no substantive update was provided. The matter remains ongoing.

h. Draft 28th Report

The Secretariat advised that the Commission's 28th Report had been submitted to the Deputy

Governor's Office but was not tabled during the most recent sitting of Parliament. Members noted that the report would be flagged by the Office of the Deputy Governor for tabling at the next sitting.

i. Regulation of Board Appointment Procedures

Members noted that, beyond acknowledgements of receipt, no substantive responses had yet been received to the Commission's previous correspondence to the Governor, Premier and Deputy Governor. It was agreed that the Secretariat would issue a follow-up letters requesting any comments on the proposal.

Members further requested that the Secretariat include this matter on the agenda for the meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Governor, attaching a copy of the Commission's earlier correspondence on this matter to the agenda.

4. Any Other Business

a. Commissions Secretariat Staffing

The Manager updated members on recent staffing developments within the Secretariat, including the appointment of a temporary Policy Analyst and the expected appointment of a temporary Public Relations and Education Coordinator, to support the work of the Secretariat and its commissions. Members welcomed the additional resources.

b. Future Meeting Agendas

The Chairman requested that action items no longer be included on meeting agendas, as action items are usually not compiled until the draft meeting minutes are provided. The Secretariat agreed to amend the meeting template accordingly.

5. Action Items

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a.** post the approved minutes to the CSPL website, per item 2.a. above;
- b.** coordinate the changes to the Good Governance Campaign amongst the other campaign speakers, per item 3.c.i. above (the Manager);
- c.** update the Good Governance Campaign press release and circulate a revised version for members' final comments by 10 July, per item 3.c.i. above (the Manager);
- d.** update members on developments to the Elections Act as available, per item 3.d. above;
- e.** arrange a meeting with the new Deputy Governor and include an item to discuss the declaration of gifts to the agenda for the meeting, per item 3.f.i. above;
- f.** prepare a timetable outlining the escalation process for non-compliance enforcement for declarations to the ROI, per item 3.f.i. above;
- g.** liaise with Ms Winspear, once she has returned to her work with the Commission, regarding cases where the Key Management Personnel designation remains unclear, per item 3.f.ii. above;
- h.** finalise letters relating to CSPL COMP 001/2023 and share them with the Chairman prior to issuing, per item 3.g.i. above;
- i.** provide the draft letter on CSPL COMP 001/2025 to the Chairman for final approval before issue, per item 3.g.ii above;

- j. follow up with the relevant public authority on the suggested update on CSPL COMP 001/2025, per item 3.g.ii above;
- k. issue a follow-up letters to the recipients of the letter containing the CSPL's recommendations on amendments to the Public Authorities Act requesting any comments on the proposals, per item 3.i. above;
- l. add the recommended amendments to the Public Authorities Act to the agenda for the meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Governor, per item 3.i. above; and
- m. remove action items from future CSPL meeting agendas, per item 4.b. above.

6. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Legislative Amendments – SPLA
- b. Update: Parliamentary Code of Conduct
- c. PR & Education Initiatives
 - i. Good Governance Campaign
- d. Election Reform
- e. Information Sharing Protocol with Auditor General
- f. Register of Interests Update
 - i. Reviews of Declarations
 - ii. Compliance Follow-ups
- g. Complaints / Enquiries
 - i. CSPL COMP 001/2023
 - ii. CSPL COMP 001/2025
 - iii. CSPL ENQ 001/2025
 - iv. CSPL ENQ 002/2026
- h. Draft 29th and 30th Reports
- i. Regulation of Board Appointment Procedures
- j. Meeting with Deputy Governor

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting date is scheduled for 17 September 2026 at 2:00 pm.

8. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 3:40 pm.



Woodrow Foster
CHAIRPERSON
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE