

<p>COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE 4th MEETING OF 2018 MINUTES 12 JUNE 2018 COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT</p>

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

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden	Manager, Commissions Secretariat
Lise Hurlstone	Administrator/Analyst, Commissions Secretariat
Sheila Alvarez	Administrator/Analyst, Commissions Secretariat

1. Meeting called to order and Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 3:39pm. The Chairman thanked all for attending and the meeting was opened with a prayer.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 1 May 2018 were approved with changes.

3. Outstanding Business

a. Chairman's Meeting with His Excellency

The meeting with His Excellency the Governor, due to be held prior to the Commission meeting, was postponed as His Excellency had been called back to the UK on official business. The Chairman was therefore unable to discuss the Commission's concerns with the delay in securing a commencement date for the SPL legislation and the drafting of SPL Regulations. The meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

b. Register of Interests ("ROI")

The Commission has extended its thanks to the Register of Interests Committee for meeting with members and queried the estimated timeframe for receipt of a response on the points raised during the meeting which the Committee undertook to consider/address. The query has been acknowledged and the Commission will await a substantive response.

c. Gender Equality Tribunal ("G.E.T.") Report/Findings

Following a request for a copy of the report on the findings of the Internal Audit Unit, Members considered the same (as submitted by Chief Officer Howell). It was agreed that

Members would provide any queries on the content of the report, for submission to CO Howell, by the end of the week.

d. Miller Calls for Action Against a Chief Officer

The Hon. Deputy Governor submitted his substantive response to the Commission as previously requested, which included a copy of the Attorney General's Chamber's legal advice to him. Members considered the response along with the media report released online today entitled "PAC motion threatens CO with contempt". The article indicated that:

"...based on documentary evidence, he [the Honourable Leader of the Opposition and Chairman of the PAC] and the PAC members think Ahearn lied for the third time in a row when she gave evidence to the committee in October.

The PAC chair said he believes Ahearn has lied to the committee several times before this but it had been dismissed as a mistake or the CO had not sworn an oath so there was little the membership could do to act. However, this time the committee has extensive evidence that Ahearn told a deliberate falsehood and did so after swearing an oath..."

Given these statements, Members agreed to write to the Honourable Opposition Leader and Chairman of the PAC to enquire whether he possesses any further information which may be useful to the Commission's enquiries given the response from the Hon. Deputy Governor and the Commission's legislative mandate to "...to assist in the setting of the highest standards of integrity and competence in public life..." and "...to monitor standards of ethical conduct in the Legislative Assembly, the Cabinet, and on the part of public authorities and public officers...".

e. Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies (CCAICACB)

The Chairman and Member Shian O'Connor attended the Fourth Annual Conference of the CCAICACB last week in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands. Members were briefed on the content and lessons learned from the Conference, under the theme "Counting the real cost of Corruption- Engaging everyone in the fight". It is anticipated that the Cayman Islands will host next year's conference and the Chairman and the Manager will meet to discuss this possibility with Dr. Koranteng of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

4. Action Items

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Seek to reschedule the Chairman's meeting with the Governor;
- b. Draft correspondence to CO Howell re queries of the G.E.T. report/findings;
- c. Draft correspondence to the Honourable Opposition Leader and Chairman of the PAC as detailed above; and

d. Meet with the Chairman and Dr. Koranteng of the Commonwealth Secretariat re next year's CCAICACB Conference.

5. Items to be discussed at the next meeting

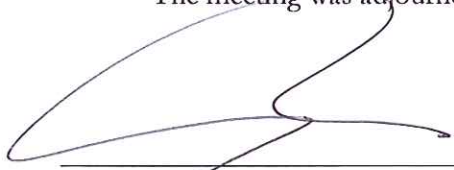
- e. Chairman's Meeting with His Excellency (and the Standards in Public Life (SPL) Regulations/Legislation);
- f. Register of Interests – Response from the ROI Committee;
- g. Gender Equality Tribunal Report/Findings;
- h. Response from Honourable Opposition Leader and Chairman of the PAC Re: CO Ahearn; and
- i. 2019 CCAICACB Conference.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 4 July at 2:30pm.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.



Rosie Whittaker-Myles

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE

