

3rd MEETING (EXTRAORDINARY) OF 2018 THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION 7 JUNE 2018 COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

PRESENT:

Vaughan Carter

Chairman

Olivaire Watler

Member

Natalie Urquhart

Member

Secretariat members present:

Sheila Alvarez

Administrator/Analyst

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:54 pm. The Chairman thanked all for attending at such short notice and referred to the meeting as 'extraordinary' as it is held outside of the Commission's customary quarterly meeting schedule. The purpose of this meeting is to update members on the Chairman's recent meetings with the Honourable Premier and Leader of the Opposition and His Excellency the Governor ("Governor Choudhury").

2. Meeting with the Honourable Premier and Leader of the Opposition (28 May)

The Chairman was invited to discuss the constitutional concerns being proposed by the Honourable Premier and Leader of the Opposition arising from the actions of the UK Parliament in passing the EU Sanctions and Anti- Money Laundering Act. The Chairman advised that six constitutional changes were presently being considered and the Commission was invited to comment on these. The Commission was also invited to consider and recommend other minor revisions and referred to its 2014 review for this purpose

The following provisions having been the subject of some debate since the enactment of the Constitution, it was determined that these could benefit from come clarification:

- a) The role of Councillors
- b) Appointment of the Premier
- c) The National Security Council
- d) Qualifications for elected membership of the Legislative Assembly
- e) Disqualifications for elected membership
- f) Right to vote at elections
- g) The process by which the Constitution is to be amended in the future

3. Meeting with Governor Choudhury (5 June)

The Chairman, accompanied by the Manager, met with Governor Choudhury as part of the Governor's introduction to the work of the various Commissions.

In the course of this meeting, Governor Choudhury sought the Commission's opinion on the proposed constitutional changes and asked the Commission to provide any examples from other Overseas Territories ("OTs") where the proposed changes have been in operation.

4. Action List

The members were asked to:

 a. review and consider the six proposed constitutional changes; and make recommendations for any other constitutional amendments.

The Secretariat was asked to:

a. locate and circulate any copies of the Commission's previous minutes which reference 'Ministerial Councillors' and its recommendations to define this role in the constitution by 8 June.

5. Next Meeting

As agreed during the last quarterly meeting of the Commission, the next meeting is to take place the week of 23 July, with a specific date to be confirmed closer to the time.

6. Termination

The meeting was closed at 4:00 pm.

Vaughan Carter CHAIRMAN

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION