



**6<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF 2025**  
**THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION**  
**8 SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT**

**PRESENT:**

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| J. Lemuel Hurlston | Chairman |
| Annalisa Shibli    | Member   |

**APOLOGIES:**

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Hon. Alex Henderson KC | Member |
|------------------------|--------|

**SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Melanie McField | Manager          |
| Lise Hurlstone  | Research Analyst |

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 am. The Chairman thanked all for attending and noted apologies from Alex Henderson, who is away on vacation until 22 September.

**2. Minutes from Previous Meeting****a. Minutes of Meeting Held on 14 July 2025**

The meeting minutes were confirmed with no changes. The Secretariat was asked to upload these to the website.

**3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes****a. Article Calling for Constitutional Reform**

The Commission reviewed an article from the Cayman Compass on 27 August 2025 titled '[Lawyer vows to fight on for greater independence for Cayman](#)'. The article described local lawyer Kattina Anglin's challenge of the Governor's right to pass legislation locally via Section 81 of the Constitution in Privy Council. The legislation in question was a bill legalising civil partnerships which had previously been voted down by local Parliamentarians. The article was noted with no further comments.

**b. Presentation to Parliament**

Chairman gave an update that the Commission was invited by the Speaker of Parliament to give a presentation to Parliamentarians at the Post-Election Seminar (in collaboration with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association – UK Branch) on behaviour, ethics and standards. The seminar is to take place between 22 and 24 October 2025. In preparation for

this, the Secretariat prepared a PowerPoint for the Commission to review. Members noted that the presentation was very well assembled and thanked the Secretariat for its work on this. The Chairman noted that he would be giving the presentation and invited members to attend if they wished. The Secretariat was asked to circulate a meeting invitation for the Seminar.

**c. Quarterly report**

Members reviewed the draft Q2 2025 Report prepared by the Secretariat. The Report was approved and it was noted that these reports were not for publication. The Secretariat was asked to circulate the Q2 Report to the Governor, copying the Premier and Leader of the Opposition.

**4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**a. Reporting Procedures**

As previously requested a copy of the final version of the Reporting Procedures was added to the formal Policies & Procedures Manual and circulated for members' review. The Chairman thanked contributing parties, especially Member Annalisa Shibli. Members approved this final version.

**b. Constitutional Issues for Discussion**

**i. Entitlement to Legal Aid**

Members reviewed the correspondence sent to the Legal Aid Director on 1 August 2025 asking for a few more specific details, including the provision of legal aid in civil matters (e.g. family and landlord/tenant/eviction matters), and whether recipients of legal aid are receiving enough funds in general. The Director's response dated 1 September 2025 was also reviewed and noted.

**c. Email re Eligibility of Voters**

Members reviewed correspondence copied to the Commission's general e-mail address from a member of the public querying whether the requirement that one qualification of an elector is that they must have been resident in the Islands for not less than 2 of the 4 years immediately preceding registration. The correspondence was noted and it was agreed no reply was necessary.

**d. Schedule of Events**

Members thanked the Secretariat for the updated schedule of events, per the changes requested at the previous meeting. Member Shibli updated all that she is still awaiting a conversation with the relevant individual at Collas Crill to discuss details of the next Moot. She will advise once she has been in touch.

**e. Meeting with the Premier**

The Chairman provided an update that a meeting with the Premier took place on July 17, 2025, and offered a brief summary of what was discussed. The Chairman mentioned that during the discussion on Advisory District Councils, it was agreed that additional research into how similar entities operate in other jurisdictions, their structures, and risk mitigation

strategies would be beneficial. The Secretariat was asked to assist with this research.

It was additionally noted that the Constitutional Commission agreed to advise Government on the issue of a public Beneficial Ownership Register and has engaged a King's Council (KC) in the UK to do so. The Chairman nominated Member Alex Henderson to represent the Commission in discussions with the KC, but, unfortunately, Member Henderson is on leave and unavailable until 22 September 2025. Member Shibli therefore agreed to provide written comments on the topic in the meantime which could be shared with Member Henderson upon his return to develop further. These could subsequently be shared (via the Secretariat, as necessary) with the KC as he develops his report.

Chairman further noted that he had an informal discussion on his recent holiday to the UK with an individual who acted as a consultant to the British Virgin Islands (BVI) Government previously. In these discussions it was considered that it may be useful to raise the Beneficial Ownership Register topic with the Joint Ministerial Council at its next meeting later this year, to possibly create more of a coalition on the topic. The Secretariat was asked to add the preliminary note from the KC, the Secretariat's summary of that note, and the email from the former BVI consultant to Sharefile so all members have access to this.

## **5. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **6. Action Items**

### **Members were asked to:**

- a. Member Shibli to advise the Commission once she has further information regarding the Collas Crill Moot, as outlined in item 4.d. above; and
- b. Member Shibli and Member Henderson to provide comments on the Beneficial Ownership Register topic to share with the KC, as outlined in item 4.e. above.

### **The Secretariat was asked to:**

- a. Upload meeting minutes to the Commission website as outlined in item 2.a. above;
- b. Circulate a meeting invitation for the Parliament Post-Election Seminar, as outlined in item 3.b. above;
- c. Circulate the Q2 2025 Report, as outlined in item 3.c. above;
- d. Provide research on Advisory District Councils, as outlined in item 4.e. above;
- e. Continue to coordinate with the Commission and KC on the Beneficial Ownership Register matter as required, as outlined in item 4.e. above; and
- f. Add the preliminary note from the KC, the Secretariat's summary of that note, and the email from the former BVI consultant to Sharefile as outlined in item 4.e. above.

## **7. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting**

- a. Beneficial Ownership Register Report
- b. Presentation to Parliament
- c. Advisory District Councils Research

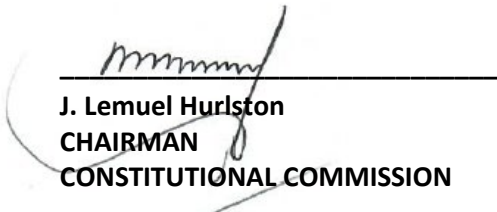
- d. Quarterly Report – Q2 2025
- e. Schedule of Events
  - i. Moot Competition
  - ii. National Curriculum

**8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 13 October 2025 at 11:30 am at the Commissions Secretariat offices.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 12:05 pm.



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**J. Lemuel Hurlston**  
**CHAIRMAN**  
**CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION**