



7th MEETING OF 2025
THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION
27 OCTOBER 2025
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

PRESENT:

J. Lemuel Hurlston	Chairman
Annalisa Shibli	Member (Via Zoom, in part)
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 11:30 am. The Chairman thanked all for attending and noted member Annalisa Shibli's message that she will be delayed in joining via Zoom.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting**a. Minutes of Meeting Held on 8 September 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**1. Legal Advice**

The Chairman noted the legal advice received from the King's Counsel engaged on the matter of Cayman's Beneficial Ownership Register this morning, and while it had been circulated to members there had not yet been sufficient time to consider it properly. He requested that members take time this week to review the advice and provide feedback via email as needed. Further, he requested that a meeting be arranged between Constitutional Commission representatives and Human Rights Commission representatives, with whom this matter was jointly being considered, to determine next steps. Additionally, the Secretariat was asked to seek feedback from CIG on any potential changes to its position on this issue. The Secretariat would proceed accordingly.

It was noted that if further clarification was needed the legal advisor had offered to meet for discussion.

2. Advisory District Councils

The Chairman noted that he has been aware of various informal conversations with stakeholders on the issue of Advisory District Councils. Additionally, the topic came up in the question and answer session after his presentation for the Post-Election Seminar in Parliament last week. The general gist of feedback so far seems to be questioning the need for implementing Advisory District Councils if the Islands have managed without them thus far. The legislation that was passed in 2011 was drafted for a political system that no longer exists, since single-member constituencies were implemented in 2017.

The Chairman thanked the Secretariat for providing an update on the research conducted on this matter so far, and noted that he looks forward to considering the full result once available.

3. Presentation to Parliament

The Chairman noted that his presentation to Parliament at the Post-Election Seminar took place last week Wednesday, 22 October; it was noted that it was obvious a lot of time and effort was invested by the Speaker and his staff in arranging the Seminar. The presentation was given during the same session as a presentation by Sir Alden McLaughlin, who spoke on a similar topic. He shared a copy of the seminar programme, and thanked the Secretariat for drafting the presentation on his behalf. Member Alex Henderson, who was present in the audience along with Secretariat staff, noted that he thought the presentation went very well.

4. Any Other Business

a. Quarterly Report – Q3 2025

The Research Analyst noted that the next draft quarterly report would be provided for members' review at the next meeting. The Chairman commented on the importance of the quarterly reports in maintaining lines of communication with the Governor, Premier and Leader of the Opposition.

b. Constitutional Issues for Discussion – Entitlement to Legal Aid

The issue of the constitutional entitlement to legal aid, which the Commission had been corresponding with the Director of Legal Aid on, was raised again. The Chairman noted that it would be helpful to have some statistics from the Legal Aid Department on the proportion of civil cases approved for legal aid as compared to applications made. Members additionally agreed that it would be helpful for the Director of Legal Aid to attend a meeting in person for an informal discussion on the topic. The Secretariat was asked to arrange this for the next meeting.

5. Action Items

Members were asked to:

- a. Consider the legal advice received, as outlined in item 3.a. above; and
- b. Meet with the Human Rights Commission Chair to discuss the legal advice received, as

outlined in item 3.a. above.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Upload meeting minutes to the Commission website as outlined in item 2.a. above;
- b. Upload a copy of the Presentation made to the Post-Election Seminar;
- c. Arrange a meeting between representatives of the Constitutional Commission and Human Rights Commission, as outlined in item 3.a. above;
- d. Seek feedback from CIG on Cayman's Beneficial Ownership Register, as outlined in item 3.a. above;
- e. Continue research on Advisory District Councils, as outlined in item 3.b. above;
- f. Draft the Q3 2025 Report for members' review, as outlined in item 4.a. above;
- g. Request statistics from Director of Legal Aid, as outlined in item 4.e. above; and
- h. Invite Director of Legal Aid to next Commission meeting, as outlined in item 4.e. above.

6. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Beneficial Ownership Register Report
- b. Advisory District Councils Research
- c. Quarterly Report – Q3 2025
- d. Schedule of Events
 - i. Moot Competition
 - ii. National Curriculum

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 24 November 2025 at 11:30 am at the Commissions Secretariat offices.

8. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 12:20 pm.



J. Lemuel Hurlston
CHAIRMAN
CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION