



Ministry of Home Affairs
Cayman Islands Government

Statements to

The House of Parliament

Honourable Sabrina Turner, MP

Minister of Health, Wellness and Home Affairs

December 2023

Section 11(5) Exceptional Circumstance Appropriation Changes for the Ministry of Home Affairs

Mister Speaker, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to bring to the attention of this Honourable Parliament the details of two appropriation changes approved by Cabinet for the **Ministry of Home Affairs** in accordance with **Section 11 (5)** of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020) in 2023.

Mister Speaker, I would like to report on the following approvals made by Cabinet:

- 1) Supplementary funding for the **Cayman Islands Cadet Corps**
- 2) Supplementary funding for **The Bridge Foundation**

Cayman Islands Cadet Corps

Mister Speaker, Cabinet approved supplementary funding pursuant to the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision), Section 11(5), in the 2023 appropriations, to the Ministry of Home Affairs by increasing output group **NGS 90 – Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Committee** in the amount of **KYD\$75,000.00**.

This approval was for supplementary funding in accordance with Section 11(5) of the PMFA, to meet expenses incurred as a result of stipends for the essential volunteer staff within the Cadet Corps, which is facilitated through a Purchase Agreement between Cabinet and the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Committee (CICCC). This was to **increase NGS90** (Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Committee) in the amount of **KYD\$75,000.00**.

Mister Speaker, with very limited full-time staff, the Cadet Corps is dependent on volunteers for assistance with critical activities and supervision of Cadets. Since 2016, there has been a significant growth in the number of cadets enrolled in the programme. In this regard, the level of supervision required to ensure safe and efficient delivery of cadet activities has also increased.

However, Mister Speaker, the Purchase Agreement for the allocation of volunteer stipends, has remained at \$25,000.00 since its

implementation approximately 20 years ago. This allocation, Mister Speaker, is no longer sufficient to both attract and maintain adequate levels of volunteer staff in light of the government's policy to continuously grow the Cadet Corps and advance the strategic impact of the organisation.

Mister Speaker, as required for the essential operations of Cadet Corps and the management of increasing levels of cadets, Cabinet approved the supplementary funding as it is critically needed to ensure the Cadet Corps is able to meet costs associated with paying and retaining its volunteers for the remainder of 2023.

As previously stated, Mister Speaker, this request was made and approved pursuant to Section 11(5) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020).

Thank you, Mister Speaker.

The Bridge Foundation

This approval, Mister Speaker, was a supplementary funding request to transfer appropriations by reducing **HAF 1** (Advice and Support to the Minister of Home Affairs) in the amount of **\$100,000.00** and increasing TP 69 (Support for the Bridge Foundation) in the same amount of **\$100,000.00** (operating expenditure) in the **2023** appropriations.

Mister Speaker, the Bridge Foundation is a halfway house or “substance recovery centre” for those seeking to maintain or achieve sobriety from drug or alcohol abuse in a supportive residential facility. Substance recovery centres have a vital role in the criminal justice and public health systems.

For example, Mister Speaker, they provide critical services in conjunction with key government agencies. Their function is interlinked with the services of Judicial Administration, HM Cayman Islands Prison Service, Department of Community Rehabilitation and Department of Counselling Services, amongst others. Without the recovery centres, there would be a critical gap in services which would likely fall on Government to fill.

Mister Speaker, this request was made in order for The Bridge Foundation to remain operational. Without the transfer of funding, The Bridge Foundation would have been unable to continue operations past April 2023.

Should The Bridge Foundation not be in operation, Mister Speaker, there would be significant public health and safety concerns. The absence of this centre could contribute to continued substance abuse and crime, which has secondary financial and social effects for Government and the community.

In order to meet these additional costs, Cabinet approved the transfer of funds in the amount of **\$100,000.00** to TP 69 (Support for the Bridge Foundation) from HAF1 Advice and Support to the Minister of Home Affairs, pursuant to section 11 (5) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision).

Mister Speaker, the proposed appropriation change is not expected to impact the Government's forecasted financial results for the 2023 financial year as the appropriation change is merely a transfer of funds within the same Operating Expense appropriation category and do not increase overall planned expenditure.

As previously stated, Mister Speaker, all requests were made and approved pursuant to Section 11 (5) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020).

Thank you, Mister Speaker.