



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Annual Report

Parliament Management Commission
2023 Annual Report with Financial Statements





PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



Presented to the Parliament of the Cayman Islands pursuant to Sections 29A(8), 44(1), and 44(6) of the **Public Management & Finance Act (2020)** and Sections 4(1)(c) and (f) of the **Parliament (Management) Act (2023)**.

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Introduction by the Honourable Speaker



Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin
KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP
Speaker

*Honourable Sir Alden McLaughlin
was elected by Members of
Parliament to be the 9th Speaker
on 23rd November 2023*

What an extraordinary year for the House of Parliament and the Parliament Management Commission.

The Parliament witnessed changes at the political level over the last year with a new Premier, Deputy Premier, Speaker, and Deputy Speaker among other changes to Committees and which side of the aisle elected Members chose their seats.

It was also the year I personally achieved one final milestone in my career, when on 23rd November 2023, I was nominated and elected as the 9th Speaker of the Cayman Islands Parliament during the Second Special Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session of Parliament.

I had the distinction of sitting for the first time as Speaker during the State Opening, Throne Speech & Budget Address on 8th December 2023. I felt immense pride for achieving this honour after my nearly 24 years in public office.

With my appointment to Speaker of this honourable House, I became the Chairperson for the Council of the Parliament Management Commission. In that capacity, I oversee the administrative functioning of the parliamentary staff and facilities. I am fortunate to have behind me a strong leadership of the Commission through the Clerk & Chief Officer, Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin and effective and competent parliamentary staff.



Throughout this momentous year we celebrated the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III which took place at Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6th May 2023, with some of our own Members in attendance. It was the first Coronation in nearly 70 years.

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I look forward now to the year ahead, notably to continue the efforts that my predecessor, Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, started in bringing Parliament into the future. With this upcoming year, I will lead the charge in revisiting and updating Parliament's Standing Orders, working closely with the Council of the Parliament Management Commission in an effort to improve the timeliness of House Meetings, the Tabling of Government Minutes and Annual Reports, and a number of other procedural areas.

The Parliament Management Commission welcomed its first Deputy Chief Officer in 2023, a post that will manage many of the operational tasks associated with bringing the Parliament building and team forward into an energy-efficient, resource-filled, and accessible future. This role will enable the Clerk & Chief Officer to focus on higher-level aspects of leading the administrative branches of Parliament into its autonomous era.

I applaud the former Speaker, Hon. Ebanks-Wilks, for identifying the key goals for the Parliament, and I look forward to this new year where we will continue to increase public engagement via social media and our website.

In 2023 the Commission welcomed its first Communications Officer, in an effort to broaden the reach and impact of the activities of the Parliament's Committees and Members.

This role will help to increase the public's engagement with and awareness of the important work that is done by MPs, as well as the work undertaken by staff and the Cayman Islands Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

My vision for the future of Parliament and the Commission can only be achieved by having capable and caring staff who stand with me, and who share the same desire that I have to meet our goal of being a modern and effective Parliament. The Parliament is upheld by a relatively small team of outstanding staff, whose dedication to the work of the Parliament is matched only by their integrity and belief in the value of our democracy.

It is indeed my honour and privilege to invite you to learn about the accomplishments and happenings of this distinguished House through our 2023 Annual Report.

Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin

KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP
Speaker



Message from the Clerk & Chief Officer



Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin

BSc, LLB
Clerk & Chief Officer

Mrs. Merren-Chin is the 5th Clerk of the Parliament of Cayman Islands (formerly Legislative Assembly), having served for nearly fifteen years. She is the Parliament's first Chief Officer.

The Parliament Management Commission (PMC) has managed the administration of the Parliament for three years now and has continued to strive to improve its service to the Parliament, the Executive and the general public.

As Clerk and Chief Officer, my main focus is on providing excellent service to the Members of Parliament and ensuring that the PMC staff is professional and employed in a respectful and inclusive environment.

The PMC had a busy year in 2023:

- The staff complement was increased with the employment of a Deputy Chief Officer, a Communications Officer, and a new Hansard Editor.
- There were a number of training sessions arranged for the staff, ranging from Unconscious Bias to the 8 Pillars of Wellness and Emotional Intelligence, to ensure that all staff members are fully equipped to fulfill their respective obligations at the PMC.
- This year there was also a focus on staff health and wellbeing, with the establishment of a staff-led committee to encourage their wellbeing.
- There were several social events throughout the year which created a more cohesive working environment for all staff.
- The PMC held a strong 90% participation rate in the Engagement Survey.
- There were seven Meetings of the House with nineteen Sittings, during which time ninety-three reports from the Ministries / Portfolios / Government - owned Companies / Authorities were laid on the Table.
- Members of the Opposition submitted several Parliamentary Questions, of which twenty-two were answered during House Sittings.
- There were eight Government Motions that were dealt with, along with twenty-one Private Members' Motions and twenty-four Bills were passed in addition to the Supplementary Appropriations.



- The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was kept busy with reviewing the Auditor General's Reports and having six PAC reports laid in the House.
- The Ombudsman Oversight Committee successfully held a meeting each quarter throughout 2023 in accordance with their Terms of Reference.
- As this was a budget year whereby the Government's two-year budget had to be approved by the 31st of December 2023, the House concluded its Sittings on the 15th of December 2023, just in time for the Christmas season.
- The Council of the PMC held five meetings for the year, whilst the Standing Order Working Group continued with the review of the Parliament Standing Orders.
- Members attended a number of events and workshops with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) including the Women in Trade Workshop, the Small Branches Disaster Risk Management Workshop, the Caribbean Atlantic and Americas Regional Conference and the flagship Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference.
- The Youth Parliament, which comes under the umbrella of the CPA, held a debate on Commonwealth Day, Monday 13th March 2023. The Youth Parliamentarians debated two Private Members' Motions and closed off the day with a Reception hosted by HE Governor Martyn Roper at the Governor's House.
- A new PMC website was launched under the auspices of the Communications Officer, Susan Burke. This will provide the public with access to the Business of the House in a timely manner.
- The Parliament underwent an assessment, facilitated by the CPA Secretariat in London, which evaluated how the Parliament measures up to the CPA's Benchmarks for excellence in Parliaments. This resulted in a number of

Recommendations for improvement of the Parliament's policies and procedures.

- Repairs to the exterior and interior walls of the House of Parliament Building commenced and are expected to be completed within the first quarter of 2024.

The end of 2023 saw changes once more in the Membership of the House and Committees following the Special Meeting held in November:

- Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks resigned as Speaker, and Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin was then elected as Speaker with effect from the 23rd November 2023.
- This was preceded by a reshuffle of Ministers and Backbench Members and as a direct result a change in Memberships of the PAC, PMC Council, and CPA Executive Committee.

The Commission's priorities for 2024 are:

- Review of the Recommendations of the Benchmark Assessment Report and determine what changes may be implemented;
- Completion of policies and procedures for staff;
- Completing the review of the Parliament Standing Orders.

A sincere note of appreciation to the staff of the PMC who have learned to adjust and adapt to the ever-changing dynamics of the Parliament Management Commission and the Parliament.

Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin

BSc, LLB
Clerk & Chief Officer



Mission, Vision & Values

Mission

The Parliament Management Commission safeguards democracy and promotes good governance by providing exceptional support services to Parliamentarians as they strive to serve their constituents and pass legislation for all the people of our Islands; keeping accurate historical records; nurturing the involvement of our youth in our democratic process through active participation.

Vision

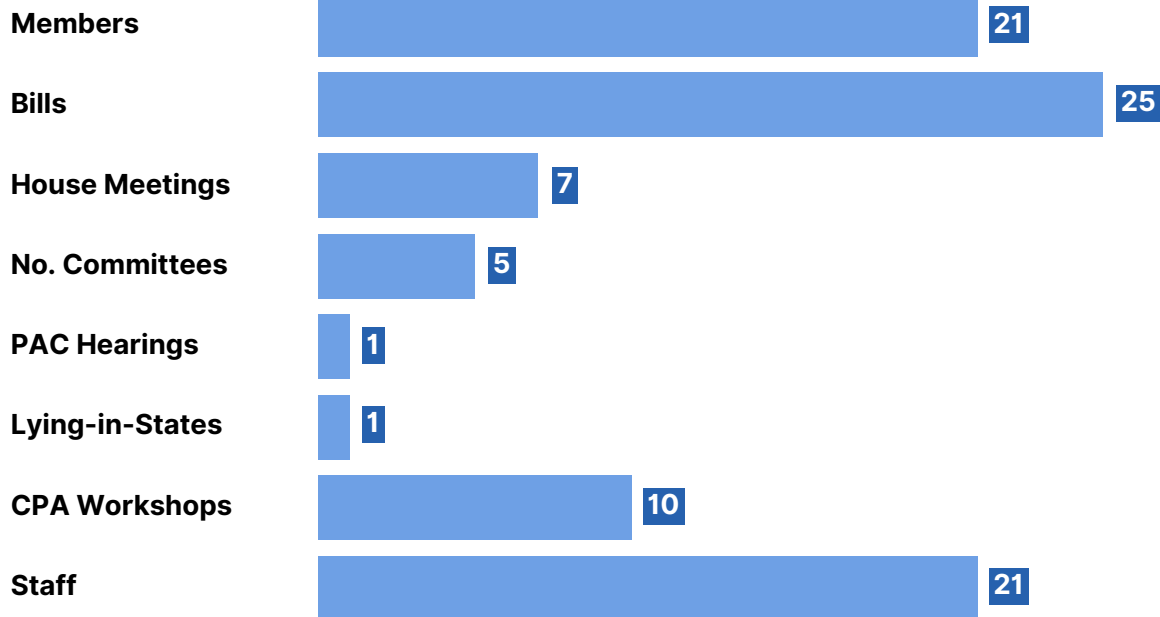
- Respect for diversity
- Happy, happy staff
- Excellent service delivery
- Knowledgeable and resourceful employees
- The forefront of world-class Parliamentary branches around the world

Values

- Integrity
- Trustworthiness
- Loyalty
- Transparency
- Justice, Unbiasedness, and Fairness
- Courtesy
- Democracy



Key Highlights 2023



↑ +4

New staff positions were filled, including a Deputy Chief Officer

↑ +1

One more Meeting of the House over the previous year

↓ -5

Five less PAC Hearings than the previous year



House of Parliament



The Heart of our Democracy

Enshrined in Part IV of our Constitution, the legislative body consists of 19 duly elected representatives from each constituency across the three Islands, as well as two non-elected ex-officio Members (the Hon. Deputy Governor and the Hon. Attorney General).

The legislature consists of the Government and the Opposition. The business of the Government comes to light through public Meetings of the House of Parliament, which are held in the Chamber of the Parliament building in George Town. Several Meetings of the House are held each year, in which laws are made or amended, bills are debated, and Government is held to account through Private Members Motions, Parliamentary Questions, and the scrutiny of annual reports and financial statements.

The procedures of Parliament are set out in the Standing Orders (2022 Consolidation), but there are many laws (now called Acts) which dictate which aspects of the country's governance and administration need to be brought to Parliament. For instance, this annual report is required to be Laid on the Table before Parliament under the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision).

Parliament is also made up of several standing committees, including but not limited to the Public Accounts Committee, which scrutinizes the accounts of Government to ensure value for money; the Finance Committee which reviews, debates, and authorizes the Government's expenditures; the Business Committee which sets the agenda for Meetings of Parliament; and the Standing Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman, which hears from the Ombudsman about the high level activities of the office.

There is to be at least one Session of the Parliament in every calendar year and the venue and time are appointed by a Proclamation by HE the Governor. At the conclusion of the Session the Parliament is prorogued by a Proclamation by HE the Governor and this must be done annually. The Parliament is dissolved prior to the expiration of four years from the first meeting of the House after the General Election.

Standing Orders 8(1) indicate that it is customary to have at least four Meetings of the House each Session, though this can change depending on each elected Government and the decisions of the Hon. Speaker to summon the House.



Members of Parliament

The Members of Parliament (MPs) represent each of Cayman's 19 constituencies across the islands plus the two ex-officio Members: the Deputy Governor and Attorney General.

Throughout 2023 several Members crossed the aisle and changed titles, resulting in changes to the administration of several Ministries and their respective Departments:

- **Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks**, MP for West Bay Central, resigned as the Speaker in November and became the Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency.
- **Mr. Christopher Saunders**, MP for Bodden Town West, resigned from his position in the Government in March and became an Independent Member of the Opposition.
- **Hon. G. Wayne Panton**, JP, MP for Newlands, served as the Premier and Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency until March, when he also took on the role of Minister of Finance & Economic Development. Hon. Panton became an Independent Member of the Opposition in November.
- **Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly**, JP, MP for Cayman Brac East, became the Deputy Premier in March, and then the Premier and Minister of Finance & Economic Development, Education and District Administration & Lands in November as a result of the Special Meeting held in November.
- **Hon. Dwayne Seymour**, JP, MP for Bodden Town East, was an Independent Member of the Opposition from September to December, then rejoined the Cabinet as the Minister of Border Control & Labour and Culture.
- **Hon. Dr. W. McKeever Bush**, JP, MP for West Bay West, returned to the Government in November and was appointed as Parliamentary Secretary after serving as an Independent Member of the Opposition the month prior.
- **Mr. Bernie Bush**, MP for West Bay North, served as the Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage until November, when he was appointed as a Parliamentary Secretary.

The following pages list the Members and their titles as of 31st December 2023.

Speakers



**Hon. Katherine E. Ebanks-Wilks
MP**

8TH SPEAKER

Hon. Ebanks-Wilks was the Speaker of Parliament throughout 2023 until her resignation on **15th November**, when she became the Minister of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency.



**Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin
KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP**

9TH SPEAKER

Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin was unanimously elected by the Members during the Second Special Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session on **23rd November**.



Ministers of the Cabinet



Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly
JP, MP

Cayman Brac East

Premier, Minister of Finance & Economic Development, Education and District Administration & Lands



Hon. André M. Ebanks
MP

West Bay South

Deputy Premier, Minister of Financial Services & Commerce and Investment, Innovation & Social Development



Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan
MP

George Town Central

Minister of Tourism & Ports



Hon. Sabrina T. Turner
MP

Prospect

Minister of Health & Wellness and Home Affairs



Hon. Johany S. Ebanks
MP

North Side

Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure and Transport & Development



Hon. Katherine E. Ebanks-Wilks
MP

West Bay Central

Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency



Hon. Isaac D. Rankine
JP, MP

East End

Minister of Youth, Sports & Heritage



Hon. Dwayne S. Seymour
OCI, JP, MP

Bodden Town East

Minister of Border Control & Labour and Culture

Ex-Officio Members of the Cabinet



Hon. Franz I. Manderson
MBE, Cert. Hon., JP

Deputy Governor,
Ex-Officio Member
Responsible for the
Portfolio of the Civil
Service



Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin
KC, JP

Attorney General,
Ex-Officio Member
Responsible for the
Portfolio of Legal
Affairs

Parliamentary Secretaries



Hon. Heather D. Bodden
MBE, Cert. Hon., JP

Savannah

Deputy Speaker,
Parliamentary Secretary to
Tourism *and* Community
Affairs



Hon. Dr. W. McKeeva Bush
JP, MP

West Bay West

Parliamentary Secretary to
Border Control & Culture
and Planning, Housing,
Infrastructure, Transport &
Development



Mr. Bernie A. Bush
MP

West Bay North

Parliamentary Secretary to
Commerce *and* Youth,
Sports & Heritage



Official Opposition



Hon. Roy M. McTaggart
JP, MP

George Town East

**Leader of the
Opposition**



Mr. Joseph X. Hew
MP

George Town North

**Deputy Leader of
the Opposition**



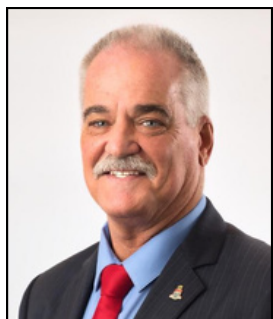
Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell
JP, MP

*Cayman Brac West &
Little Cayman*



Ms. Barbara E. Conolly
NP, JP, MP

George Town South



Mr. David C. Wight
JP, MP

George Town West

Independent Opposition



**Mr. Christopher S.
Saunders**
MP

Bodden Town West



Hon. G. Wayne Panton
JP, MP

Newlands



Scenes from the House













House Business

House Meetings are where Government business is scrutinised, laws are made and amended, and the democratic directions of the country are formalised. The Business of the House includes the tabling of reports, statements by Members, Parliamentary Questions to Ministers, and the debate and approval of the Government's budget.

 **7**

House
Meetings

 **19**

House
Sittings

 **6**

Finance
Committee
Meetings

 **24**

Bills dealt
with by the
House

 **93**

Reports
Tabled

 **22**

Parliamentary
Questions

 **21**

Private
Members'
Motions

 **8**

Government
Motions

 **42**

Statements
by Members

 **21**

Order Papers

 **10**

Daily
Journals



Meetings

- Third Special Meeting of 2022-2023 Session
- Third Meeting 2022-2023 Session
- Fourth Meeting 2022-2023 Session
- First Meeting of 2023-2024 Session
- Special Meeting of 2023-2024 Session
- Second Special Meeting 2023-2024 Session
- Second Meeting 2023-2024 Session

Sittings**Third Special Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session**

- 1st Sitting = 21 April

Third Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session

- 1st Sitting = 26 April
- 2nd Sitting = 27 April
- 3rd Sitting = 28 April

Fourth Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session

- 1st Sitting = 7 June
- 2nd Sitting = 8 June
- 3rd Sitting = 9 June

First Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session

- 1st Sitting = 19 September
- 2nd Sitting = 20 September
- 3rd Sitting = 21 September
- 4th Sitting = 22 September
- 5th Sitting = 26 September

Special Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session

- 1st Sitting = 14 November

Second Special Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session

- 1st Sitting = 23 November

Second Meeting of the 2023-2024 Session

- 1st Sitting = 8 December
- 2nd Sitting = 11 December
- 3rd Sitting = 12 December
- 4th Sitting = 13 December
- 5th Sitting = 15 December

**Finance
Committee
Meetings**

- FC Meeting in Chamber | 7 June
- FC Meeting in Committee Room | 8 June
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 26 September
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 13 December
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 14 December
- FC Meeting in Committee Room | 15 December

**Reports
Tabled**

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **27**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June: **18**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September: **23**
- Second Special Meeting | 23 November: **1**
- Second Meeting | 8-15 December: **24**

**Parliamentary
Questions**

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **9**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June: **4**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September: **9**

**Private
Members'
Motions**

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April | PMM Nos. 8-15: **8**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June | PMM Nos. 16-18: **3**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September | PMM Nos. 1-9: **9**
- Special Meeting | 14 November | PMM No. 10: **1**

**Government
Motions**

- Third Special Meeting | 21 April | GM Nos. 5&6: **2**
- Third Meeting | 26-28 April | GM Nos. 4&7: **2**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June | GM Nos. 8: **1**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September | GM No. 1 = **1**
- Second Special Meeting | 23 November | GM Nos. 3&4: **2**

**Statements to
the House**

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **2**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June: **5**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September: **15**
- Second Special Meeting | 23 November: **2**
- Second Meeting | 8-15 December: **18**

**Order
Papers**

- Third Special Meeting | 21 April: **1**
- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **3**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June: **3**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September: **6**
- Special Meeting | 14 November: **1**
- Second Special Meeting | 23 November: **2**
- Second Meeting | 8-15 December: **5**

Bills

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **8**
- First Meeting | 19-26 September: **4**
- Second Special Meeting | 23 November: **11**
- Second Meeting | 8-15 December: **1**

**Daily
Journals**

- Third Meeting | 26-28 April: **1**
- Fourth Meeting | 7-9 June: **3**
- Special Meeting | 14 November: **1**
- Second Meeting | 8-15 December: **5**

Private Members' Motions

The following Private Members' Motions were made and debated during the Meetings of the House in 2023:

In 2023 from the 2022-2023 Parliamentary Session:

- No. 8 of 2022-2023: Improving the Traffic Flow Congestion in the Eastern Districts
- No. 9 of 2022-2023: A High School in the District of West Bay
- No. 10 of 2022-2023: Taskforce for fair distribution of gratuities collected in the tourism industry
- No. 11 of 2022-2023: Implementing Traffic Calming and Safety Measures along Roads in Red Bay and Prospect
- No. 12 of 2022-2023: Requiring the Introduction of School Buses for Private Schools
- No. 13 of 2022-2023: Motion on Free Healthcare for Children and Seniors
- No. 14 of 2022-2023: Motion to establish a Fair Employment Commission
- No. 15 of 2022-2023: Motion for a Salary Increase in the Civil Service
- No. 16 of 2022-2023: Interest Rates
- No. 17 of 2022-2023: Pension and Employee Benefits Reform
- No. 18 of 2022-2023: Reduce duty on medicines, medical and surgical supplies

In 2023 from the 2023-2024 Parliamentary Session:

- No. 1 of 2023-2024: Cost of Electricity
- No. 2 of 2023-2024: Regulation of Grave Sites
- No. 3 of 2023-2024: CIG to Reintroduce the Government Guaranteed Home Assisted Mortgage Programme
- No. 4 of 2023-2024: Supporting Caymanians into Full-Time Employment
- No. 5 of 2023-2024: The sale of "Pepper Spray" for Self-defence and Personal Protection
- No. 6 of 2023-2024: Sister Islands Inflation Relief Initiatives
- No. 7 of 2023-2024: Cost of Living Adjustment for those receiving the Ex-Gratia Financial Assistance & The Civil Service Pensions Uplift
- No. 8 of 2023-2024: CIG programme to encourage private sector schemes for affordable homes
- No. 9 of 2023-2024: Motion to create a Select Committee to review fuel in the Cayman Islands
- No. 10 of 2023-2024: Lack of Confidence in the Government



Government Motions

The following Government Motions were made and debated during the Meetings of the House in 2023:

Government Motions

In 2023 from the 2022-2023 Parliamentary Session :

- No. 4 of 2022-2023: The Strategic Policy Statement for the 2024–2026 Financial Years
- No. 5 of 2022-2023: Change in Membership of the Standing Business Committee
- No. 6 of 2022-2023: Change in Membership of the Public Accounts Committee
- No. 7 of 2022-2023: Amendment to the Development Plan 1997 – Proposed Rezoning: George Town East, Block 20D Parcels 466 and 467 (now 471)
- No. 8 of 2022-2023: Amendment to the Development Plan 1997 – Proposed Rezoning: George Town South, Block 14E Parcel 31

In 2023 from the 2023-2024 Parliamentary Session :

- No. 1 of 2023-2024: Amendment to the Development Plan 1997, Proposed Rezoning: George Town East, Block 20D Parcels 447 (now 468 and 469), 448 and 451
- No. 3 of 2023-2024: Development and Planning Act (2021 Revision) – Development and Planning (Amendment) Regulations, 2023
- No. 4 of 2023-2024: Change in Membership of the Standing Business Committee

Bills

The following Bills were considered by the House in 2023 in the order in which they appeared in an Order Paper:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Bills | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Monetary Authority (Amendment) Bill, 20232. Companies Management (Amendment) Bill, 20233. Directors Registration and Licensing (Amendment) Bill, 20234. Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 20235. Money Services (Amendment) Bill, 20236. Securities Investment Business (Amendment) Bill, 20237. Virtual Asset (Service Providers) (Amendment) Bill, 20238. Cayman Islands National Attractions Authority Bill, 20239. Public Lands (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 202310. Plant Protection Bill, 202311. Terminal Charges (Validation) Bill, 202312. Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Bill, 202313. Appropriation (Financial Years 2024 and 2025) Bill, 202314. Beneficial Ownership Transparency Bill, 202315. Banks and Trust Companies (Amendment) Bill, 202316. Companies (Amendment) Bill, 202317. Companies Management (Amendment) (No. 2), Bill, 202318. Foundation Companies (Amendment) Bill, 202319. Insurance (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 202320. Limited Liability Companies (Amendment) Bill, 202321. Limited Liability Partnership (Amendment) Bill, 202322. Mutual Funds (Amendment) Bill, 202323. Virtual Asset (Service Providers) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 202324. National Pensions (Amendment) Bill, 2023 |
|--------------|--|



Standing & Select Committees

Committees can be either Standing Committees or Select Committees. Section 71 of the Cayman Islands Constitution Order (2009) establishes Standing Committees and grants them the powers to summon Government officials to answer questions and provide information about the conduct of business of the Government or the unit in question. Further provisions are granted in Section 87 of the Constitution for the Standing Public Accounts Committee.



The Standing Public Accounts Committee in an administrative meeting in July.

L-R: Hon. Isaac Rankine; Mr. Joseph Hew; Hon. Heather Bodden; Ms. Barbara Conolly; Hon. Roy McTaggart, Chair.



STANDING PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

The Standing Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is one of the few Standing Committees enshrined in the Constitution of the Cayman Islands (Section 87) and in Parliament Standing Orders (2024 Revision) No. 77.

The overall purpose of the PAC is to review reports and activities of the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), to ensure the government is held to account for its spending and financial management, with a view to safeguarding public money, and bringing about service improvements.

The Committee investigates matters arising from the Auditor General's reports and prepares its own report thereafter, which is Tabled in the House along with the Auditor General's report.

Its investigations can include holding public hearings, where Chief Officers are summoned to provide evidence to the Committee in support of its work. These public hearings can be viewed on the Cayman Islands Government's YouTube Channel and on CIGTV.

The Committee looks at how rather than why public money has been spent and does not examine the merits of Government policy. The Committee is therefore expected to operate in a politically neutral manner. In addition, the PAC can produce its own motion investigations if it wishes. The Financial Secretary and the Accountant General attend all public hearings per Standing Order 77(8).

All of the Committee's reports, transcripts, and OAG Reports can be found on the Parliament's website: <https://parliament.ky/business/committees/public-accounts-committee>

2023 Statistics

 **1**

Public
Hearing

 **6**

Administrative
Meetings

 **4**

OAG Reports
Received

 **11**

Reports
Tabled



Membership

Membership of the PAC is done through Government Motions dealt with during Meetings of the House. The Committee is comprised of six Members of Parliament, including the Chair.

The Membership of the PAC changed a few times in 2023 due to the appointments of Hon. Isaac Rankine and Hon. Dwayne Seymour to Ministerial roles. Below are the Members of the PAC as of 31st December 2023:

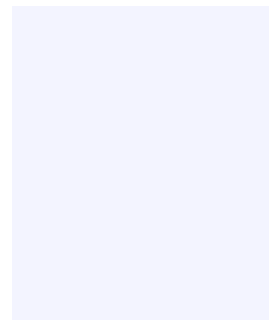
Top Row L-R:

- Hon. Roy McTaggart, *Chair*
- Hon. Heather Bodden
- Ms. Barbara Conolly



Lower Row L-R:

- Mr. Joseph Hew
- Hon. W. McKeever Bush
- Vacancy



OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

- **Mrs. Sue Winspear, Auditor General**
- Ms. Angela Cullen, Deputy Auditor General (Performance Audit)
- Mr. Winston Sobers, Deputy Auditor General (Financial Audit)
- Mr. Adrian Murenzi, Audit Manager (Performance Audit)
- Mr. Gabriel Ncube, Audit Manager (Financial Audit)
- Mr. Desmond Mutava, Audit Project Leader (Financial Audit)

Reports Received & Considered by the PAC from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) in 2023

- 1** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands – Follow-up on past PAC recommendations 2023 – Report 1 (March 2023)
- 2** Overview of the Cayman Islands’ performance against the Sustainable Development Goals focused on the environment (March 2023)
- 3** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands - Annual Report – 31 December 2022 – Providing Value to the People of the Cayman Islands (April 2023)
- 4** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands - Financial Reporting of the Cayman Islands Government: General report 31 December 2022 (October 2023)



Hon. Roy McTaggart, Chairman of the Standing Public Accounts Committee, addresses a witness in a public Hearing. PAC Hearings are aired on CIGTV and on the Cayman Islands Government’s YouTube channel.



Reports Tabled in the Parliament by the PAC in 2023

- 1** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands – The Government’s Shift to Online Services (June 2022)
- 2** Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on the Report of the Office of the Auditor General: Government’s Shift to Online Services (June 2022)
- 3** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands – Follow-up on past PAC recommendations 2022 – Report 3 (September 2022)
- 4** Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on the Report of the Office of the Auditor General: Follow-up on past PAC recommendations 2022 – Report 3 (September 2022)
- 5** 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee
- 6** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands - Overview of the Cayman Islands’ performance against the Sustainable Development Goals focused on the environment (March 2023)
- 7** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands – General Report 31 December 2021 – Financial Reporting of the Cayman Islands Government (October 2022)
- 8** Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on the Report of the Office of the Auditor General: Financial Reporting of the Cayman Islands Government - General Report 31 December 2021 (October 2022)
- 9** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands - Annual Report – 31 December 2022 – Providing Value to the People of the Cayman Islands (April 2023)
- 10** Office of the Auditor General Cayman Islands – Follow-up on past PAC recommendations 2023 – Report 1 (March 2023)
- 11** Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on the Report of the Office of the Auditor General: Follow-up on past PAC recommendations 2023 – Report 1 (March 2023)

STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 71 (6) of the Constitution establishes the Finance Committee, which is made up of all elected Members of Parliament and is chaired by the Minister responsible for finance. The Committee met throughout 2023 as follows:

- FC Meeting in Chamber | 7 June
- FC Meeting in Committee Room | 8 June
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 26 September
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 13 December
- FC Meeting in Chamber | 14 December
- FC Meeting in Committee Room | 15 December





THE STANDING SELECT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

The Standing Select Committee met quarterly to hear from the Ombudsman, Mrs. Sharon Roulstone, about the high-level activities of her office, review reports, and to consider and approve expenditures. The Committee is established at the start of each new Term after a general election.

The Oversight Committee met with the Ombudsman on the following dates throughout the 2023 calendar year:

- 8th February
- 24th April
- 6th September
- 15th November

The Oversight Committee received and discussed the following reports issued by the Office of the Ombudsman within the meetings held in 2023:

- Quarterly Reports
- Office of the Ombudsman Annual Report 2022
- Freedom of Information Statistics Report 2022

Below are the Members of the Committee as of 31st December 2023:

Top Row L-R:

- Mr. Bernie Bush, *Chair*
- Hon. Johnay Ebanks
- Mr. Joseph Hew



Lower Row L-R:

- Mr. Christopher Saunders
- Mr. David Wight



SELECT COMMITTEE (OF THE WHOLE HOUSE) ON THE GAMBLING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Select Committee was formed on 12th December 2022 during the 3rd Sitting of the 2nd Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session of Parliament. The debate on the Bill was deferred to the Select Committee in order to further examine the proposed legislation. The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel Bulgin, was the Chair to the Select Committee and led two meetings held in January 2023.

The creation of a Select Committee is made possible in a House Meeting pursuant to the following Parliament Standing Orders:

- **24 (9)(b):** The following motions may be made without notice —
(b) to refer a Bill or any other matter to a select committee;
- **49 (1)** When a Bill has been read a second time it shall stand committed to a committee of the whole House, *unless the House on motion made refers it to a select committee*. Such a motion shall be made immediately after the Bill has been read a second time, and may be moved by any Member.
- **70 (1):** The House may appoint any of its Members to be Members of a select committee to consider and report on a Bill or otherwise to assist it in exercising its function under Part IV of the Constitution.
- **71:** A select committee shall continue in being for the purpose for which it was established (notwithstanding any prorogation of the House during the period beginning on the day on which the select committee is established and ending on the day on which the House is next dissolved thereafter) until the day of that dissolution or (if sooner) the day on which the business of the select committee is finished.



Events

The Parliament holds several events each year in addition to Meetings of the House. While some of these events are somber, such as the formal Lying-in-States for former Members and Vestry, others are celebratory for historic milestones or new occasions.

Women of Parliament Luncheon | 30th March 2023

Hon. Ebanks-Wilks hosted the 2nd luncheon for current and former female Members and Clerks. Among those present were former members Mrs. Berna Cummins, Ms. Daphne Orrett, and Ms. Lucille Seymour, as well as former Speaker, Hon. Mary J. Lawrence. The Parliamentarians discussed the challenges they have experienced along their journey, and ways to encourage more women to run for public office.



Swearing-in of New Governor | 21st April 2023

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen, was sworn-in at the Parliament on 21st April 2023. (See photo on following pages)

Lying-in-State: Captain Eldon Kirkconnell | 30th June 2023

The Parliament hosted a formal Lying-in-State for the late Capt. Eldon Kirkconnell, OBE, JP, MLA, who passed on 8th June 2023.



New Deputy Speaker Elected | 26th September 2023

Hon. Heather Bodden was elected by the Members to be the new Deputy Speaker, following Hon. Isaac Rankine's appointment to a Ministry.

Special Meeting | 14th November 2023

Private Members' Motion No. 10 of 2023-2024 resulted in a change of Government and consequently would change the Speaker.

Second Special Meeting | 23rd November 2023

Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin, KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP, was unanimously elected by the House to be the 9th Speaker, with Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP serving as the Premier and adding the Ministry of Finance & Economic Development to her portfolio. See following pages for photos.

State Opening | 8th December 2023

The State Opening for the 2023-2024 Session of Parliament took place on 8th December with the Throne Speech & Budget Address. See following pages for photos.



Swearing-in of the Governor | 21st April



Photo credits: Taneos Ramsay /
Cayman Compass



Election of the Speaker | 23rd November





State Opening | 8th December



Photo credits: Keevon Douglas / HD
Digital Cayman





Parliament Management Commission



Council

The Council of the Parliament Management Commission (PMC) is responsible for carrying out the general function of the Parliament Management Commission. In accordance with the Parliament Management Act (2023 Revision), the Commission is responsible for the administration and management of the Parliament.

The Membership of the Council is comprised of the Hon. Speaker as Chair, the Hon. Deputy Speaker as Deputy Chair, the Hon. Premier, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and five Members appointed by the Hon. Speaker on the advice of the Hon. Premier and Hon. Leader of the Opposition. The Clerk & Chief Officer of the Parliament, Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin, is the non-voting ex-officio Clerk to the Council.

The Council held five meetings in 2023 during which time matters relating to the MP Code of Conduct, Constituency Office Assistants, PMC staff, amendment to the Parliament Management Act, PMC Annual Report and Budget, Council Membership, Parliamentary Pension and the work of the Standing Orders Working Group were discussed.

Council Membership as of 31st December 2023

The Membership of the Council changed a number of times due to the changes in the Speakership and Deputy Speakership of the House. At the end of 2023 the Members of the Council were:

- Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin, KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP | Chair
- Hon. Heather Boddan, OCl, Cert Hon, JP, MP | Deputy Chair
- Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP | Member
- Hon. Roy McTaggart, JP, MP | Member
- Hon. Sabrina Turner, MP | Member
- Hon. Kenneth Bryan, MP | Member
- Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, MP | Member
- Mr. Joseph Hew, MP | Member
- Ms. Barbara Conolly, NP, JP, MP | Member
- Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin | Non-voting ex-officio Clerk



Operations



Ms. Melissa Ebanks
Deputy Chief Officer

In 2023 a newly appointed Deputy Chief Officer (DCO), Melissa Ebanks, was on-boarded and took an in-depth immersive approach to ensure the continuation of a First-Class Parliament. Her responsibilities encompass the management, operations, and administration functions of the Parliament Management Commission (PMC) while supporting the Clerk & Chief Officer.

Within her portfolio, the DCO directly leads the Communications, Information Technology, and Security teams. Under her guidance each of these subject areas a forward-thinking strategy is applied. Taking a look ahead at the long-term goals and benefits of independence - as it is an intent to move Parliament towards greater autonomy.

Accomplishments implemented shortly after her appointment in May of 2023 include successes in infrastructure, sustainability, and broader public engagement.

While general maintenance of the House of Parliament is an ongoing task for the management and general upkeep of the facility, major infrastructure works are addressed, as required. In 2023, the House of Parliament underwent several stages of remediation works that took place both internally and externally to address concerns related to the structure of the precinct. The procurement and installation of a new and compatible generator for the House supports business continuity giving readiness to the Members of Parliament and staff. To improve the functionality of the internal offerings to Members of Parliament and staff, a newly outfitted Parliamentary Library was established.

The Parliament Management Commission partnered with the Ministry for Sustainability and Climate Resiliency through the European Union Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine (RESEMBID) programme with an objective to increase energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy by conducting an energy



audit of the House of Parliament. It was through this process that the House has since identified potential enhancements that, if adopted, overtime “could yield utility cost savings”. The collaboration with the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency and RESEMBID programme and its assessment continues into 2024.

In the spirit of autonomy, the creation and launch of the new website quickly became a key priority in the transition from the Legislative Assembly to the Parliament of the Cayman Islands.

Having our own parliament.ky website and domain meets the communication goals of supplying the Caymanian community with ease of access to Parliamentary information. PMC did not cease here and went on to introduce social media platforms, specifically an Instagram (IG) account parliament.ky, along with a Communication Strategy to govern annual PR plans. By way of these platforms, Parliament is fostering effective communication and broadens public engag-

ement as we meet our strategic objective of strengthening public services via transparency.

The past year also saw continued participation in our Employee Engagement Survey with a 90% response rate and results that showcased excellence and areas for reform. The Senior Management Team is already tackling areas of the Index with optimism in hopes that by linking employee involvement with administrative outcomes we underpin strategies that will yield impactful results.

With a focus on what is ahead, PMC will endeavour to continue to uplift employees, benefit the people of the Cayman Islands through informative public engagement and ensure the House of Parliament is a safe environment for all those who work and visit.



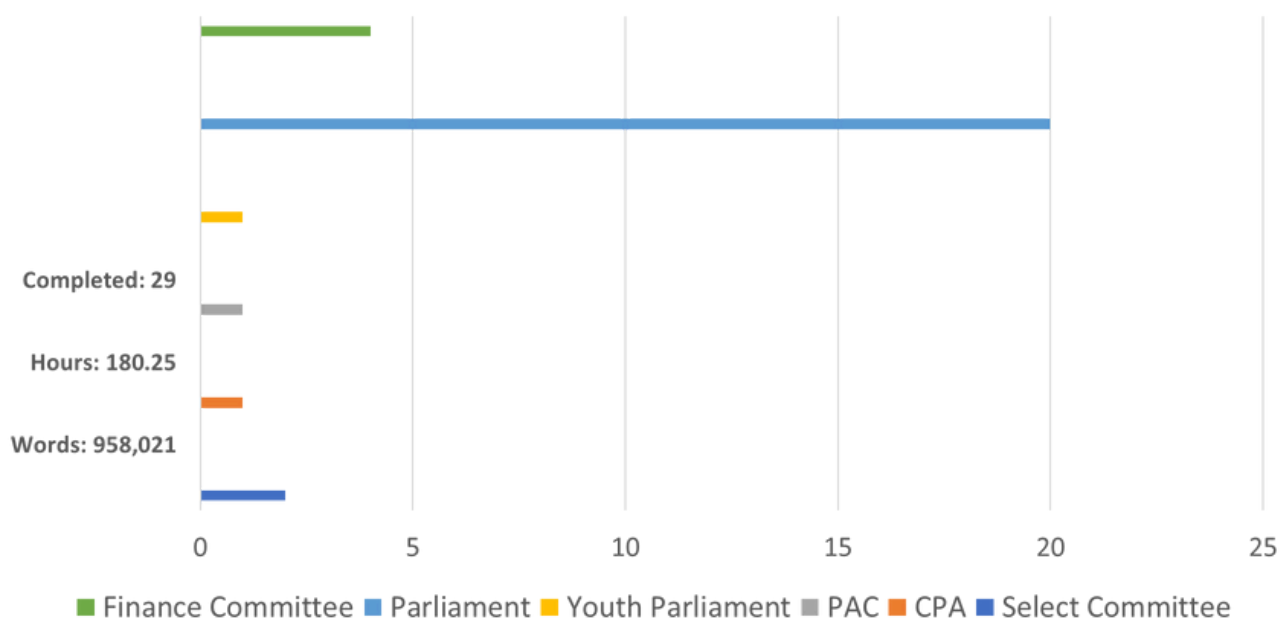
Hansard

Hansard is the name of the written record of what Members say in Parliament. It is the unbiased, reliable and detailed record of proceedings of the Parliament, providing an important chronicle of history. Hansard provides a full report on everything that happens in Parliament including:

- Reports laid on the Table of the House
- Debates on new legislation and amendments (Bills)
- Motions
- Parliamentary Questions
- Divisions, et cetera
- PAC and Finance Committee

The Official Report is a full report, in the first person, of all speakers alike, a full report being defined as one “which, though not strictly verbatim, is substantially the verbatim report, with repetitions and redundancies omitted and with obvious mistakes corrected, BUT which on the other hand leaves out nothing that adds meaning of the speech or illustrates the argument.” (Erskine May: Parliamentary Practice)

Whereas other jurisdictions have teams as small as six and as large as thirty, the jurisdiction’s Hansard department is comprised of two full-time editors under the supervision of the Assistant Clerks, one of whom also serves as proofreader. A third Hansard Editor joined the PMC on a temporary basis in late 2023 to assist in catching up with past Meetings. The Hansard team also provides research and ad hoc support to the House and its Committees.



Human Resources



Ms. Raquel Woolaver
Human Resources Manager

The PMC experienced significant growth in 2023, welcoming seven new talented individuals into its fold. These positions included Ms. Melissa Ebanks (Deputy Chief Officer); Ms. Susan Burke (Communications Officer); Ms. Imilsy Coello-Carbo (Human Resources Officer); Mrs. Lourdes Pacheco (Parliamentary Officer); Mrs. Tasha Porter (PA to the Speaker); Mr. Franklin Smith Jr. (Executive Driver), and Ms. Starri Smith (Hansard Officer). Additionally, we are pleased to share that there were no staff departures in 2023.

The PMC continues to celebrate its staff and was thrilled to award Susan Burke as Employee of the Year for 2023. Susan is undoubtedly an admirable employee who has successfully held two roles for a year (Procedural Clerk), carrying them both with pride and dedication. She also serves as the Chair of the PMC's Wellness Committee, executing all areas with pride and excellence. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan for her commitment and congratulate her on a job well done and her accomplishments!

As a customary and necessary tool, the PMC once again participated in the engagement survey. Achieving a 90% completion response rate, we were able to provide our staff with a voice to solicit their feedback. However, with most scores slightly down from 2002, the PMC's leaders proposed further interaction from employees via open forum meetings scheduled to start in the first quarter of the year.

From a strategic perspective, to address some of the more poignant scores of the survey results, our 2024 Organisational Goals were developed: Compliance with PMC Workplace Rules, Strengthening Organizational Accountability, Elevating Service Excellence through Collaboration, and Advancing Sustainability Leadership. Additionally, to ignite ingenuity among our staff, they have all been tasked with "Demonstrating an initiative...delivered to enhance overall improvement of the PMC."

An initiative recommended by our very own Patricia Priestley was well-received by the Chief Officer. The initiative proposed that all



staff be provided with dedicated time towards their Continued Professional Development once a month, which launched in the last half of 2022.

As a commitment to our staff's development, one half-day per month was carved out to allow for courses to be attended, provided they aligned with their performance agreements. As a result, a total of 66 courses/workshops were attended across 15 members of staff within the PMC; 22 mandatory training courses were completed, 24 courses were completed via LinkedIn Learning, and an additional 20 courses were administered through a combination of the CPA and the Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, the following training sessions were rolled out to all staff during the year:

- February 2023: Unconscious Bias and one-on-one my-VISTA user training sessions.
- March 2023: Job Description evaluation.
- July 2023: The 8 Pillars of Wellness and Emotional Intelligence (wellness Lunch and Learns).
- September 2023: Nutrition (wellness Lunch and Learn).

The PMC recognised that a strategic approach to Human Resources Management is essential for seeking sustainable growth and competitive career advancements.

By aligning Human Resource practices with organisational goals, focusing on talent management, fostering more employee development, and leveraging data-driven insights, the PMC aims to optimise its human capital and drive business success in today's ever-changing environment.



Staff

Clerk & Chief Officer

Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin

Assistant Clerk

Mrs. Patricia Priestley

Assistant Clerk

Ms. Nordra Walcott

Parliamentary Procedural Clerk

Ms. Susan Burke

Parliamentary Officer

Mrs. Lourdes Pacheco

Hansard Editors

Ms. Cynthia West

Mrs. Nikita Small

Ms. Starri Smith

Serjeant-at-Arms

Mr. J. Kim Evans

PA to the Hon. Speaker

Mrs. Tasha Porter

Clerical Officer

Ms. Marlyn Moxam

Parliamentary Page

Mr. Christopher Clarke

Executive Driver

Mr. Franklin Smith, Jr.

Parliamentary Interns

Ms. Gabriella King

Mr. Jelani Hanson

Mr. Christopher Sanchez

Deputy Chief Officer

Ms. Melissa Ebanks

Chief Financial Officer

Mrs. Nadisha Walters

Deputy Chief Financial Officer

Mrs. Headian Parchment

Finance Manager

Mr. Charles Bodden

Finance Officer

Ms. Kimberley Powell

Human Resources Manager

Ms. Raquel Woolaver

Human Resources Officer

Ms. Imilsy Coello-Carbo

Chief Parliamentary Advisor

Mr. Garfield Ellison

IT Administrator

Mr. John Bodden

Security Officers

Ms. Kimberley Rivers

Mr. Eric Ebanks

Messenger/Housekeeper

Mrs. Anita Salmon-Beezer



Staff Social Committee

The PMC Staff Social Committee organised several events for staff throughout 2023:

- 27th January: Staff Beach Fun Day Barbeque Social Smith Cove
- 14th February: Valentine's Staff Lunch Social
- 6th April: Easter Social, Bermuda House
- 29th September: Netflix and Chill Movie Social
- 10th November: Miss Vivienne's East End Staff Lunch & Crystal Caves Tour



Staff Health & Wellness Committee

The Staff Health & Wellness Committee was established in February 2023 to support Parliament staff in identifying and achieving their health and wellness goals, which in turn promotes a more productive and effective working environment.

The Committee hosted several monthly wellness challenges, such as a hydration challenge and a fruit & vegetable challenge, as well as larger events such as a Beach Walk, Lunch & Learns, and a walking challenge. On the last day prior to the Christmas break, the Committee organised a wellness day with a chair massage therapist and healthy smoothies. The Committee also covered the cost of staff registrations for the annual Deputy Governor's 5k walk to help inspire and motivate physical wellbeing.

Future events planned for 2024 include a visit to the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park, an outing to Pickleball Cayman, and another year of participation in the Deputy Governor's 5k.





Staff Gallery







Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Representing over 180 legislatures divided up between nine geographic regions around the world, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association works together to deepen the Commonwealth's commitment to the highest standards of democratic governance and parliamentary practice.

This year marked a significant accomplishment with Speaker Hon. Ebanks-Wilks' invitation to the CPA to conduct an independent assessment against benchmarks for democratic legislatures, which was conducted in October 2023.

The Cayman Islands Branch

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is an organisation which is made up of approximately 17,000 members from nine regions – Africa; Asia; Australia; British Islands and Mediterranean; Canada; Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic; India; Pacific, and South-East Asia.

The membership of the Executive Committee of the CPA Cayman Islands Branch was elected at the Annual General Meeting held 15th February 2023. A change was made to the President membership when Hon Sir Alden McLaughlin replaced Hon Katherine Ebanks-Wilks as Speaker of the House effective 23rd November 2023.



COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY
ASSOCIATION

Cayman Islands Branch

A further change was made when Hon Heather Bodden was elected as Deputy Speaker upon the resignation of Hon Isaac Rankine as Deputy Speaker.

For the period from 1st April 2021 to 31st December 2022 the Executive Committee held two meetings primarily to consider the various invitations received by the Branch to attend CPA Conferences, Seminars and Workshops. The Meetings were held on 19th May 2023 and 21st June 2023.



CPA Conferences, Seminars, & Workshops 2023

Several Members of Parliament and staff of the PMC attended and participated in CPA conferences throughout 2023, developing networks and gaining insights into parliamentary practices as a way of enhancing their roles and responsibilities to the Parliament of the Cayman Islands.

Trade Workshop | London | 7-9 February 2023

The Trade Workshop for Overseas Territories, Crown Dependencies, and Devolved Legislatures was hosted by the UK CPA Branch. The three-day Workshop will provide a unique platform for participants to: strengthen their knowledge of the trade and economic landscape across the UK and the Commonwealth; increase their awareness of mechanisms for parliamentary scrutiny of agreements; and familiarize themselves with parliamentary influence over trade negotiations and policy.

Small Branches Workshop – Disaster Risk Management | London | 24-26 May 2023

The Workshop was hosted by CPA Small Branches Network and the Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience, Durham University convened a Workshop for Parliamentarians from Small Jurisdictions on Disaster Risk Management in Small Jurisdictions in London 24-26 May 2023. The aim of the Workshop was to enhance understanding of disaster risk-management, learn best practices and case studies and discuss strategies and action plans for effective management. The Workshop was attended by the Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks and the Hon. Sir. Alden McLaughlin.

Women in Trade Workshop | London | 20 – 22 June 2023

The Women in Trade Workshop was hosted by CPA UK in London on 20-22 June 2023. The aim of the Workshop was to deepen technical knowledge of international trade and discuss the impact of trade agreements on gender equality, poverty alleviation and the economic empowerment of women of the Commonwealth.

45th Annual Conference of Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic Region of CPA | Turks and Caicos | 21-28 July

The Conference was held in the Turks and Caicos on 21-28 July 2023 and hosted by the Turks and Caicos CPA Branch. The theme of the Conference was 'Building A Resilient Region in the Face of Global Challenges.'

66th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) | Ghana | 30 September – 6 October

The Conference was held in Accra, Ghana on 30 September – 6 October 2023 and hosted by the Ghanaian CPA Branch. The theme of the Conference was 'The Commonwealth Chapter 10 years on: Values and Principles for Parliamentarians to Uphold.'

CPA Parliamentary Development Residency Programme | Edinburgh | 15-21 October

The Advanced Parliamentary Development Residency Programme was hosted by the CPA UK Branch in Edinburgh from 15-21 October 2023. The Coarse was a 5-day programme designed to enable Members to be better-performing legislators, representatives and scrutineers.

CPA Benchmark Assessment | Cayman Islands | 23-27 October

In October 2023, the Parliament became the 16th Commonwealth legislature to conduct an assessment. The overall objective was for local stakeholders to measure the progress of their legislature in achieving democratic and good governance standards. One official from the CPA Headquarters Secretariat, Clive Barker, Programmes Manager, and a consultant, Shannon Dean, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, facilitated the Assessment and met with stakeholders, including the former Speaker, Government Ministers, Leader of the Opposition, Members of the Parliament, Governor, Attorney General, civil servants, civil society and the media.

**Overseas Territories' Clerk's Leadership Group Workshop | London | 16-21 October**

The Workshop was hosted by the UK CPA and attended by Clerks of the Overseas Territories including BVI, Anguilla, Turks & Caicos, Monserrant, St Helena, Falkland Islands and Cayman Islands. The Programme at the House of Commons consisted of the following Sessions:

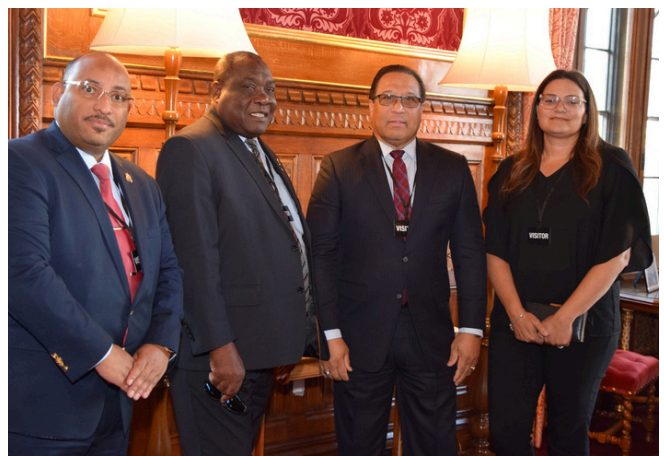
1. Parliamentary Processes and Procedures,
2. Standing Orders Workshop,
3. Legislative Scrutiny Workshop,
4. Hansard Workshop,
5. Parliamentary Oversight of the Committee,
6. Working in Small Jurisdictions,
7. Long-term Planning and Workforce Development Roundtable,
8. Working Relations with MPs/MLAs.

The programme included a tour of the Education Centre. The second portion of the programme took place at the House of Keys on the Isle of Man. Sessions were on Hansard in a Small Jurisdiction, Standing Orders, and Undertaking Smart Research. A Clerk's Handbook is being drafted to assist the OT Clerks.



CPA Events 2023







16th Youth Parliament

Youth Parliament is a programme in which young people aged 15-25 assume the role of Members of Parliament for a day, debating solutions to real issues that they themselves have created. In the process, Youth Parliamentarians learn about Parliament, the legislative process, and the Cayman Islands, all while building teamwork, speech-writing and public speaking skills.

The live debate took place in the Chamber on Commonwealth Day, Monday, 13 March, 2023 and can be seen on [YouTube](#). The Youth Parliamentarians debated two Private Members' Motions:

- *Implementation of a Progressive Income Tax System*
- *Implementing a New Public Transport System in the Cayman Islands*

On 17th November, former YP Miss Lili Anne Aleria provided an address to the UK Youth Parliament on behalf of the Cayman Islands. Speaking on the floor of the the House of Commons, Lili Anne addressed the issues affecting Caymanians.



In July 2023, former YP Mr. Jelani Hanson served as an intern with the PMC and established a new logo for the Cayman Islands Youth Parliament.





MEMBERS OF THE 16TH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

SPEAKER

Hon. Shanell Martinez

MINISTERS OF THE CABINET

Hon. Lili Anne Aleria, MP

Premier, Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency, Elected Member for George Town East

Hon. Amani Ebanks, MP

Minister of Tourism & Transport, Elected Member for George Town North

Hon. Ashley Ebanks, MP

Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing & Infrastructure, Elected Member for West Bay South

Hon. Jelani Hanson, MP

Minister of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, Elected Member for George Town West

Hon. Alexander Harris, MP

Deputy Premier, Minister of Finance & Economic Development, and Border Control & Labour, Elected Member for Prospect

Hon. Keira Bodden, MP

Minister of Health & Wellness, and Home Affairs, Elected Member for Savannah

Hon. Chloe Reid, MP

Minister of Financial Services & Commerce, and Investment, Innovation & Social Development, Elected Member for West Bay East

Hon. Chad Powell, Jr., MP

Minister of Education, and District Administration & Lands, Elected Member for North Side

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Hon. Jordan McDonald

Deputy Governor, ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of the Civil Service

Hon. Alicia Faulknor

Attorney General, ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of Legal Affairs

GOVERNMENT BACKBENCH

Miss Elizabeth Thomas, MP

Elected Member for George Town Central

Miss Mia Groves, MP

Elected Member for Bodden Town East

Mr. Pranav Anu, MP

Elected Member for Cayman Brac East

OPPOSITION MEMBERS

Hon. Jhenelle Colquhoun, MP

Leader of the Opposition, Elected Member for Newlands

Miss Mia Groves, MP

Elected Member for Bodden Town East

Mr. Raldayne Thomas, MP

Elected Member for Bodden Town Central

Miss Raeann Matute-Scott, MP

Elected Member for Cayman Brac West & Little Cayman

Hon. Bethany Mitchell, MP

Deputy Speaker, Elected Member for East End

Miss Lorlie Bryan, MP

Elected Member for West Bay Central

Miss Abbey Walton, MP

Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Elected Member for West Bay West

Mr. Christian Campbell, MP

Elected Member for Red Bay

Miss Abygale Elliott, MP

Elected Member for George Town South

Mr. Christopher Sanchez, MP

Elected Member for Bodden Town West

Mr. Zachary Allen, MP

Elected Member for West Bay North

OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

Miss Brittania Rowe

Clerk

Miss Madison Chin

Serjeant-at-Arms



Looking Ahead



Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin
Clerk & Chief Officer

The Parliament Management Commission is looking forward to another productive year in 2024. We are going to focus on ensuring that all policies and procedures are completed. This will allow the PMC to engage in regular cross-training of staff and ensure that consistent protocols are followed.

The PMC staff have agreed on the following strategic goals for 2024:

- Strengthening Organizational Accountability;
- Elevating Service Excellence through Collaboration;
- Advancing Suitability Leadership.

Each staff member will concentrate on these goals to ensure that the PMC continues to offer excellent service to the Members of Parliament, Civil Servants, the general public and to each other.

We are also working towards implementing some of the recommendations made as a result of the Benchmark Assessment Report.

The Parliament has started a holistic review of the Standing Orders and we are hopeful that this will result in a review by the Standing Orders Committee which will update the Orders and ensure an improved method of conducting business in the House.

Another focus will be on the PMC Council meeting regularly and completing the drafting of Rules and Regulations to govern the operation of the Council.



Financial Statements



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

