



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 11
Answered on 11th December, 2024
Second Meeting 2024-2025 Session – Second Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

MR. ANDRÉ EBANKS, MP - ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE
CONSTITUENCY OF WEST BAY SOUTH

TO

THE HON. KENNETH BRYAN, MP - MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR
TOURISM & PORTS, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

QUESTION:

Given that the primary legislation has been passed, the relevant technology aspects are in place, and operating regulations in final stages of drafting, can the Honourable Minister provide a timeline for commencement of the initial launch phase of the National E-ID?

ANSWER:

Mr. Speaker, thank you to the member for the question.

In terms of the commencement timeline Mr. Speaker, it is envisioned that the Department of eGovernment and the Ministry will officially launch the initiative on **13 January 2025**.

A **pilot program** is scheduled to commence on **24 February 2025**. This pilot will include key individuals in order to allow for feedback, with adjustments and refinements made as needed. The goal is for the pilot phase to run for no more than three months.

Final security testing is planned for late-February to ensure the system meets the highest standards of reliability and protection.

Initially, applications will be opened exclusively to **Civil Servants**. This phased approach allows for a controlled rollout, ensuring any technical or procedural issues can be addressed before expanding access. Civil Servants will serve as an initial user group due to their familiarity with government processes and to ensure the system is thoroughly tested under real-world conditions.

Applications for **other residents** are expected to open in the beginning of **Q3 of 2025**, following the successful completion of the pilot and any necessary adjustments.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to provide a brief update on the rollout of the eID programme.

Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member has alluded to, the Registrar of the Identification Register has been established as the Director of eGovernment, and the Office of the Registrar has been appointed with:

- a Deputy Registrar,
- an Information manager,
- and two Digital Identity and eServices Specialists.

As mentioned, the Identity Register and the capability to produce Cayman Islands Identification Cards are now complete and are going through the final quality assurance checks and balances, in preparation for the launch. The draft regulations for both Acts, namely the Identification Register Regulations, 2024 and the Cayman Islands Identification Card Regulations, 2024 are complete.

Subject to Cabinet approval this month, both regulations and the remaining sections of the Identification Register Act, 2022; and the entirety of the Cayman Islands Identification Card Act, 2022 will be commenced on the 13th of January, 2025.

Mr. Speaker, the Regulations strategically include a provision empowering the Registrar to implement a policy to manage the volume of applications. This policy will clearly inform the public about which categories of applications will be considered and processed.

We would like to remind the public that participation in this program is entirely voluntary.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.