



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 83
Answered on 6th March, 2026
Fourth Meeting 2025-2026 Session – Third Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

MR. DWAYNE S. SEYMOUR
ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE CONSTITUENCY OF BODDEN TOWN EAST

TO

THE PREMIER, HON. ANDRE M. EBANKS
MINISTER OF FINANCIAL SERVICE & COMMERCE

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Premier say when will an Artificial Intelligence Act be put in place to ensure the health, safety and fundamental rights of every Caymanian citizen is safeguarded?

ANSWER:

Mister Speaker, I sincerely thank the Honourable Member for this crucial question.

In short, based on the following, I hereby set forth an earnest and determined aim to have a draft Artificial Intelligence legislative framework for consideration by Q2 2027.

By way of background, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is developing at a phenomenal pace.

Mister Speaker, we must therefore act in a way that both safeguards the health, safety, and fundamental rights of Caymanians and enables responsible innovation that improves public services and strengthens our economy.

Madam Speaker, work is already underway. Government has appointed the National Digital Transformation Taskforce to provide expert advice and coordinated leadership on the opportunities and challenges as we approach digital transformation in the country, including the responsible use of AI across Government and the wider economy.

The Taskforce is under the joint remit of my office and the Ministry of Social Development and Innovation, and it is comprised of:

1. Cristina Spratt, as Chair along with
2. Jeff Goddard
3. Kaitlyn Elphinstone
4. Jason Nehra
5. Dr Alexandra Forsell
6. Lucy Frew
7. Tamsin Deasey
8. Lucia Gallardo and
9. James McFee

The Taskforce is expected to submit its report of AI policy recommendations by end of May of this year (2026), and that report will be central to informing the decisions we take on the suitable AI governance approach and legal framework for our Islands.

In the meantime, we are not standing still. A great deal of effective AI governance can and is being put in place immediately through policy, standards, and regulator guidance under existing legislation and regulations.

As of March 2026, the Cayman Islands Civil Service has formally developed its first Artificial Intelligence Policy (Version 1.0). This policy is in its final stages of signoff with the Office of the Deputy Governor with the aim to be deployed across the breath of CI Government.

This Policy establishes mandatory governance, risk management, transparency, accountability, and oversight requirements across the entire Civil Service. There are also specific efforts being made on the use of AI in the areas of Education and Health where teams doing deep dives into how AI applies to these subject areas.

Under the AI Policy framework, AI systems cannot be procured, piloted, or deployed without coordinated review for cybersecurity, legal compliance, data protection, risk assessment, and architectural alignment.

The Policy expressly prohibits unauthorised deployment, the misuse of sensitive data, unlawful or harmful use of AI, and the use high-risk applications without proper approvals. Enforcement mechanisms from are built in.

Importantly, AI within the Civil Service is already subject to existing Cayman Islands legislation, including the Data Protection Act (2021 Revision), the Freedom of Information Act (2021 Revision), and the Procurement Act (2023 Revision). It is also subject to the Government's Risk Management Framework and AI does not operate outside these parameters; it operates within it.

Mister Speaker, there are—however—pivotal issues and decisions to be made, and it is prudent that we make them carefully and in the full collaboration with the Opposition.

These include whether the Cayman Islands should pursue targeted amendments to existing Acts, such as data protection and sector specific legislation, or whether a comprehensive, overarching AI Act is preferable.

We must determine how we will classify and manage AI systems by risk type, how we will ensure accountability and auditability, how we will strengthen privacy, cyber resilience, and data governance, and how regulators, including in financial services, will be coordinated so standards are clear and enforceable.

In healthcare, for instance, where AI-enabled systems may influence clinical decisions and touch the most sensitive personal data, the Ministry of Health, Environment and Sustainability is already developing legislative proposals to ensure safety, equity, informed consent, and accountable care in the use of AI and advanced technologies. That work is at an early stage and will need careful design to be effective in practice.

For those reasons, Mister Speaker, it would be premature to give this House a guaranteed commencement date today for AI legislation.

Once we receive the Taskforce's recommendations, complete consultation, and settle key policy choices, any guaranteed date would risk being either unrealistic or not aligned with the best protections for the country.

That said, we must work purposefully towards an expressed target timeframe so our minds remain focused and driven. Because, Mister Speaker, this matter will not wait on us; instead AI will continue to impact us (and the rest of the world).

I therefore give this Honourable House an undertaking that the NCFC Government will keep Members updated as the Taskforce reports, as consultation proceeds, and as the legislative and administrative pathway is finalised.

In fact, I extend an invitation to the Member for Bodden Town East, that should he wish to be in attendance when the TaskForce presents its report of AI policy recommendations by end of May of this year (2026), I would be delighted if he would join that presentation.