



**PARLIAMENT OF THE  
CAYMAN ISLANDS  
2025-2026 Session**

**2025-2026**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

*of the*

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

*Laid on the Table of the Parliament on this      day of      2026*

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# 2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

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

### 1. REFERENCE

The Standing Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman, established by Government Motion No. 3 of 2025/2026, met regularly throughout the 2025-2026 Session for the **Parliamentary reporting period (25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026)**, and also held meetings while the Parliament was prorogued, to consider and deal with the following matters:

- Review and approve monthly invoices submitted for payment by the Office of the Ombudsman;
- Consider Reports of the Office of the Ombudsman that were prepared and submitted by the Ombudsman and her office;
- Review and approve the Annual Budget Statement and Annual Plan and Estimates of the Office of the Ombudsman; and

Details of all matters brought before the Committee for consideration are disclosed in the Minutes of Proceedings.

### 2. CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The following Members of the Parliament are the present duly elected Members of the Standing Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman:

- Hon. Johany S. Ebanks, JP, MP, *Chairman*
- Mrs. Julie J. T. Hunter, JP, MP, *Member*
- Hon. Pearlina L. McGaw-Lumsden, JP, MP, *Member*
- Hon. Gary B. Ruddy, MP, *Member*
- Mr. Christopher S. Saunders, JP, MP, *Member*

Ms. Tishel McLean served as the Clerk to the Committee.

### 3. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee met on the following dates during the reporting period:

- Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (*Administrative Meeting*)
- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (*Administrative Meeting*)

### 4. PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE:

The following persons were in attendance, either in person or via electronic means, at the Administrative meetings which were held in the Large Committee Room of the Parliament on the dates recorded in the disclosed Minutes of Proceedings:

- Ms. Sharon Roulstone – *Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman*
- Ms. Tiffany Ebanks – *Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Ombudsman*
- Mrs. Kenisha Christian – *Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Ombudsman*
- Hon. D. Ezzard Miller – *Hon. Speaker, Parliament of the Cayman Islands*
- Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin – *Chief Officer & Clerk, Parliament of the Cayman Islands*
- Ms. Natasja Levy – *Attorney*
- Ms. Natasha Bodden – *Attorney*
- Mr. Richard Barton – *Attorney*
- Ms. Rebecca Hilsenrath – *Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman UK (Zoom)*
- Sir. Jeffrey Jowell, KCMG, KC (Hon.) – *Attorney (Zoom)*

### 5. REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

The Committee considered the following reports and documents:

#### a. Invoices approved by the Committee:

In accordance with the requirements under section 45 of the Public Management and Finance Law (2026 Revision) and section 6 (3) of the Ombudsman Act (2021 Revision), the following invoices for Cabinet Billing were submitted and approved by the Committee:

- Invoice No. 2100003401 dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 for KYD\$213,736.00
- Invoice No. 2100003421 dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 for KYD\$213,736.00
- Invoice No. 2100003482 dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025 for KYD\$259,402.66
- Invoice No. 2100003501 dated 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 for KYD\$259,402.66
- Invoice No. 2100003542 dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 for KYD\$259,402.66

- Invoice No. 2100003561 dated 31<sup>st</sup> October for KYD\$259,402.66
- Memorandum re: Capital Purchases dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 – KYD \$8,585.94
- Invoice No. 2100003581 dated 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 for KYD\$259,402.66
- 2026/27 Budget Statements for the Office of the Ombudsman dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025
- Memorandum re: Entity Equity Injection Funding dated 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – KYD \$10,918.43
- Invoice No. 2100003601 dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 for KYD\$239,063.50
- Invoice No. 2100003621 dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026 for KYD\$239,063.50

The following adjustments to appropriations for the Office of the Ombudsman were approved by the Committee for submission to the Cabinet in accordance with the requirements under section 11 (5) and 11 (6) of the Public Management and Finance Law (2020 Revision) and section 6 (3) of the Ombudsman Act (2021 Revision).

- Increase OBM 1 Independent Public Complaints and Information Rights by KYD\$150,000 dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

**b. Reports and Documents Received by the Committee for Information:**

In accordance with section 6 (3) of the Ombudsman Act (2021 Revision) the following reports were submitted by the Ombudsman and noted by the Committee during the reporting period:

- Quarterly Report: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025
- Quarterly Report: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025
- Quarterly Report: 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025
- Office of the Ombudsman Annual Report 2024
- Office of the Ombudsman Own Motion Investigation of the Cayman Islands Detention Centre (March 2026)
- Office of the Ombudsman 2026 Special Report -Ex Gratia Seafarers Benefits (April 2026)

**c. Reports for Tabling in the Parliament:**

The Committee considered the **Office of the Ombudsman Annual Report 2024** on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 and agreed that it be Tabled in Parliament by the Chair in accordance with section 102 of the Parliament Standing Orders (2025).

The Committee considered the **Office of the Ombudsman 2026 Special Report - Ex Gratia Seafarers Benefits (April 2026)** on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and agreed that it be Tabled in Parliament by the Chair in accordance with section 102 of the Parliament Standing Orders (2025).

The Committee considered the **Office of the Ombudsman Own Motion Investigation of the Cayman Islands Detention Centre (March 2026)** on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and agreed that it be Tabled in Parliament by the Chair in accordance with section 102 of the Parliament Standing Orders (2025).

The Committee considered the **2024-2025 Annual Report of the Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman** on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and agreed that it be Tabled in Parliament by the Chair in accordance with section 102 of the Parliament Standing Orders (2025).

The Committee considered the **2025-2026 Annual Report of the Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman** on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and agreed that it be Tabled in Parliament by the Chair in accordance with section 102 of the Parliament Standing Orders (2025).

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The Committee is most appreciative of the efforts of the Ombudsman and her staff in presenting detailed and informative reports. The Committee also thanked the Clerk of Parliament and the Parliamentary Procedural Clerk for the assistance provided.

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**7. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE HOUSE:**

The Committee hereby agrees that this Report be the Annual Report of the Standing Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman for the year 2025-2026 and the Report is to be laid on the Table of the House of Parliament.

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**Hon. Johany Ebanks, JP, MP**

Chairman of the Ombudsman Oversight Committee