



Cayman Islands Government

Statement to Parliament

Update on Workplace Health and Safety Across the Cayman Islands

By

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Minister for Health, Environment
& Sustainability

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Centralised HSE Management Software

Mister Speaker,

Today, I am pleased to update Honourable Members on the tangible progress made by the Ministry of Health, Environment and Sustainability in advancing Workplace Health and Safety.

The Ministry has completed the procurement of a centralised Health, Safety and Environment management software solution to support the broader HSE Management System.

The platform is now progressing through configuration, integration, training and implementation. The initial pilot will be conducted within the Ministry, beginning with the Department of Environmental Health. This will allow us to test the system in a demanding operational environment before considering wider implementation across the Cayman Islands Government.

The platform will support a more structured and consistent approach to:

1. Incident and case management, including incident investigation;
2. Hazard identification and near-miss reporting;
3. Audits, inspections and behavioural observations;
4. Corrective and preventive action tracking; and
5. Dashboards and analytics to support monitoring, accountability and decision-making.

This is an important step in accelerating our shift towards prevention, supported by more reliable data, clearer accountability and stronger follow-through.

Piloting the platform at the Department of Environmental Health will allow the Ministry to test workflows, training requirements and reporting arrangements in one of our most demanding operational environments. The lessons gathered there will help shape any subsequent expansion across the wider Civil Service.

Health, Safety and Environment Standard Operating Procedures

Mister Speaker,

A digital platform is an important tool, but safer workplaces are built through clear, practical and consistently applied procedures.

For that reason, the Ministry is advancing the development, stakeholder review and implementation of seven core HSE standard operating procedures covering:

1. Incident notification and escalation;
2. Respiratory protection;
3. The selection and use of personal protective equipment;
4. Risk management;
5. HSE performance measurement and reporting;
6. Safety and health roles and responsibilities; and
7. HSE inspections, monitoring and improvement.

Together, these procedures will provide a consistent foundation for managing key workplace risks, defining responsibilities and supporting the effective use of the new platform.

Over the coming months, civil servants will receive training on the procedures and the supporting system, with particular emphasis on leadership, accountability, risk management, incident reporting, workplace inspections and continuous improvement. This will help ensure that the new framework is understood, applied and embedded in day-to-day operations.

Building on Experience and Looking Ahead

Mister Speaker,

This work builds upon the progress already achieved at the Mosquito Research and Control Unit. As previously reported, we have strengthened our approach to health, safety and environmental management through improved induction and training, more consistent risk assessments and inspections, stronger employee engagement, and better systems for reporting and tracking corrective action. As a result, compliance with our HSE management system has increased significantly, from approximately 3 per cent to 40 per cent over the past two years.

That improvement demonstrates what can be achieved through sustained leadership, employee participation, clear systems and consistent follow-through. We will carry those lessons forward while tailoring the approach to the operational realities of the Department of Environmental Health and other entities within the Ministry's portfolio.

Our immediate focus is to establish an effective and practical system within the Ministry's own portfolio and demonstrate that it works in real operational settings. The longer-term intention remains to develop a documented,

evidence-based model that can inform wider adoption across the Cayman Islands Government.

At the same time, the Ministry remains committed to advancing work towards primary workplace health and safety legislation supported by a modern regulatory framework. Consultation with the CIG Employee Wellbeing and Safety Committee, employees, employers and other relevant stakeholders will remain an important part of that process.

Closing

Mister Speaker,

We are building strong momentum in this vitally important area. Since my last statement, 124 employees have contributed to the culture assessment, a comprehensive findings report has been completed, the centralised HSE software platform has been procured, and seven core procedures are being advanced to support implementation.

The next phase is about turning those foundations into everyday practice: configuring and piloting the platform, training our people, implementing the procedures, monitoring performance and ensuring that identified actions are followed through.

As I have said before, good health and safety is an investment in people, performance, productivity and national wellbeing. There is more work

ahead, but the Ministry has made tangible progress since June, and we will continue to build on it.

We will measure our progress by the improvements we see in our workplaces: hazards being identified earlier, near misses being reported, incidents being properly investigated, and corrective actions being completed in a timely manner.

Mister Speaker, at the heart of this work are our employees, the dedicated people who diligently serve their country through their work. We want every person who comes to work in our departments each day to feel safe, to be properly equipped to do their job, and to have confidence that health and safety is taken seriously.

That is the difference we are working to make, Mister Speaker, and the Ministry remains firmly committed to creating safer workplaces across the Cayman Islands Government, while supporting a stronger culture of health and safety throughout the Cayman Islands.

Thank you, Mister Speaker.