



The Cayman Islands Government

The Government Minute

**Government's response to the Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee (PAC)
On the Report of The Auditor General: "The Government's Approach to Sustainable Economic
Development (November 2024)".**

Government Minute
Report of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on
The Government’s Approach to Sustainable Economic
Development (November 2024)

Table of Contents

1.0 Background 3

2.0 Introduction 3

3.0 Government response to the Committee..... 3

Government Minute
Report of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on
The Government's Approach to Sustainable Economic
Development (November 2024)

1.0 Background

Section 97(6) of the Parliament Standing Orders, 2025 states that a Government Minute shall be laid on the Table of the House within three months of the laying of the report of the Committee and of the report of the Auditor General to which it relates.

2.0 Introduction

This Government Minute is the formal written response of the Government to the Report of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on:

The Report of the Office of the Auditor General:

"The Government's Approach to Sustainable Economic Development (November 2024)".

which was tabled in Parliament on 5 February 2025.

Responses are structured to directly address each PAC recommendation, confirm the Government's acceptance status, provide details on the specific actions taken or to be taken, and provide realistic and reasonable timelines for implementation, where appropriate.

3.0 Government response to the Committee

The Government has carefully considered the Committee's report and provides its responses accordingly.

PAC Recommendation 1

Responsible Officer: Financial Secretary

The PAC noted that currently the Economics and Statistics Office (ESO) in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development does not report on the economic contribution from the tourism sector separately (references pages 5 and paragraph 45, page 30 OAG report). The PAC felt that economic reporting would be significantly enhanced if this could be done and heard that the ESO was working with staff in the Department of Tourism to achieve this during 2025.

The Committee recommends that the economic performance of Tourism in the Cayman Islands be separately reported in economic reports as soon as possible during 2025.

The Government accepts the Committee's recommendation.

Recommendation Status: In Progress

Government Minute
Report of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on
The Government's Approach to Sustainable Economic
Development (November 2024)

Government Response:

In 2026, the Economic Statistics Office (ESO) launched a Tourism Satellite Accounting project which will provide the economic impact of tourism to the economy. Currently, the Department of Tourism is responsible for collecting the Visitor Exit Survey statistics, however due to human resource challenges, they are unable to do so. The ESO is exploring collecting the data itself, however this will require amending the Statistics Act to empower the ESO to do so. The proposed amendments to the Statistics Act are expected to be submitted to Cabinet by the end of 2026. If this timeline is achieved, the first report would be issued by the end of 2028, as 2027 would be the first data collection year for the Visitor Exit Survey.

PAC Recommendation 2

Responsible Officer: Financial Secretary

The PAC heard that the ESO started measuring and reporting the quality of life (reference 12, page 19 OAG report) and that November data would be published soon.

The Committee recommends the continuation of the routine publishing of Cayman's quality of life index.

The Government accepts the Committee's recommendation.

Recommendation Status: Completed

Government Response:

The Economic Statistics Office (ESO) published the Cayman Islands' Quality of Life Index Report (Spring 2024) on 15 November 2024, the Fall 2024 Report on 4 July 2025 and the Fall 2025 Report on 20 March 2026. A survey for Spring 2025 was not conducted as this coincided with the campaign period for the 2025 General Elections. The ESO routinely conducts these surveys and publishes the Reports annually. The Reports can be accessed at: www.eso.ky.

Government Minute
Report of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on
The Government's Approach to Sustainable Economic
Development (November 2024)

PAC Recommendation 3

Responsible Officer: Financial Secretary

The PAC heard that the ESO had calculated and published the United Nations Human Development Index (UN HDI) for 2021 (page 3 and paragraph 22, page 21 of the OAG report) and plans to publish the UN HDI for 2022 and 2023 during 2025. **The Committee recommends that the ESO publishes the Cayman Islands' HDI annually.**

The Government accepts the Committee's recommendation.

Recommendation Status: Completed

Government Response:

The Economic Statistics Office (ESO) published the 2021 Cayman Islands' Human Development Index (HDI) Report on 22 March 2023, the 2022 and 2023 Reports on 4 July 2025 and the 2024 Report on 20 March 2026. The ESO intends to publish the 2025 Report during the first-quarter of 2027. The ESO routinely conducts these surveys and publishes the Reports annually. The Reports can be accessed at: www.eso.ky.