

MINUTES
12th MEETING OF 2018
THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION
14 NOVEMBER 2018
CONFERENCE ROOM, COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Coles	Chairman
Kenrick Hall	Member
Sophia Harris	Member
Kadi Pentney	Member
Timothy Ridley	Member

APOLOGIES: N/A

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden	Manager
Richard Oliver	Senior Investigator

1. Meeting called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of 7 September and 11 October 2018 were confirmed as presented.

3. Operational Update

a. New Corruption Reports/Complaints

The Commission received a copy of one new report which has been received by the Manager a day prior to this meeting. After some discussion, Members agreed to consider the matter and provide a response by 19 November 2018.

In addition, Members reviewed additional information submitted by a complainant in a matter which has since been closed. The report was still not accepted as the additional information continues to fail to give rise to a reasonable suspicion on the part of the Commission that a criminal offence or an attempt to commit an offence or a conspiracy to commit an offence under the Anti-Corruption Law ("ACL") had been committed (see Sec 4 (1)(c) of the ACL). The complainant will so be advised.

b. Existing Corruption Reports/Complaints

The Commission was informed that since inception (1st Jan. 2010) there have been 165 reports registered by the Commission, of which:

- a. 8 are 'pending' awaiting further or sufficient information which may make it appropriate to make further investigations;
- b. 116 have been concluded;
- c. 16 have not met the threshold or fallen under the remit of the Commission;
- d. 10 have been transferred to other investigative units for action;
- e. 14 are now under current active investigation; and
- f. 1 is currently being considered.

4. Any Other Business

a. Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Law 2018

The Amendment Law was passed by the Legislative Assembly and signed into law on 12 September 2018. Arrangements are currently being made to:

- i. obtain permission from His Excellency the Governor to allow the Chairman to issue the protective equipment to investigative staff;
- ii. purchase the equipment through the RCIPS (with the permission of the Commissioner of Police);
- iii. draft a policy governing the use, storage, etc. of the equipment; and
- iv. ensure all staff are trained/re-trained in the use, storage, etc. of the equipment.

b. Memorandum of Understanding with Auditor General

An MOU with the Auditor General was signed on 2 November 2018. The Commission will now, in accordance with s.5(a) of the Anti-Corruption Law ask the Attorney General to designate both the Auditor General and the Ombudsman as other local authorities that the Commission may enter into agreements with.

c. Proposed Amendments to the ACL

Members agreed to consider the revised document (when it is recirculated) detailing those desirable amendments to the Law that have been identified in order to recommend the same to the Attorney General for inclusion in an additional amendment to the Law.

d. Data Protection Presentation

Members attended, on 13 November 2018, an awareness session facilitated by the Ombudsman's Office on the rights of individuals and the obligations of public authorities, private businesses and organisations as it relates to the Data Protection Law 2017. This session was organised by the Secretariat due to the upcoming commencement of the Law.

5. Action Items

The Secretariat will

- a. continue to progress securing the protective equipment;
- b. draft correspondence to the Attorney General as outlined in 4.b. above.
- c. recirculate the revised document re: ACL amendments to Members; and
- d. draft letters in operational matters.

6. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Operational Update
- b. Proposed Amendments to the ACL

7. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is 15 January 2019 at 9:30am.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.



Richard Coles
CHAIRMAN
ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION