



CAYMAN ISLANDS
2020/2021 Session of the
PARLIAMENT

2019 - 2020

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

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

Laid on the Table of the Parliament on this day of 2021

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**2019-2020
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE
PERFORMANCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE
OMBUDSMAN**

1. REFERENCE

The Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman, established by Government Motion No 5 of 2017/2018, met regularly throughout the reporting period 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
- Review and discuss documents submitted by the Office of the Ombudsman.

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

2. CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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

Hon Tara Rivers, JP, MP - Chairperson

Hon Barbara Conolly, MP - Deputy Chairperson

Capt Eugene Ebanks, JP, MP - Member

Mr Alva Suckoo, MP - Member

Mr David Wight, MP - Member

3. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

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

- Monday, 13th July 2020
- Monday, 12th October 2020
- Monday, 23rd November 2020

4. PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE

The following persons were in attendance, via electronic means, at the meetings which were held in the Large Committee Room of the Parliament:

- Mrs. Sandy Hermiston - The Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman
- Ms. Tiffany Ebanks - The Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Ombudsman

5. REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Committee considered the following reports and documents:

5.1 Invoices Approved by the Committee

In accordance with the requirements under section 45 of the Public Management and Finance Law and section 6(3) of the Ombudsman Law the following invoices for Cabinet Billing, in the sums of \$189,916.00 each, were submitted and approved by the Committee:

- Invoices:
 - 2100002221 dated 15th January 2020
 - 2100002241 dated 12th February 2020
 - 2100002261 dated 4th March 2020
 - 2100002281 dated 2nd April 2020
 - 2100002301 dated 4th May 2020
 - 2100002321 dated 4th June 2020
 - 2100002341 dated 3rd July 2020
 - 2100002361 dated 31st August 2020
 - 2100002381 dated 8th September 2020
 - 2100002401 dated 1st October 2020
 - 2100002421 dated 2nd November 2020
 - 2100002441 dated 2nd December 2020

In addition the payment of CI\$11,575.42 was approved by Memo dated 12th December 2020 for Entity Equity Injection Funding for computers and work station dividers for the Office of the Ombudsman,.

5.2 Reports and Documents Received by the Committee for Information

In accordance with section 6(3) of the Ombudsman Law the following reports were submitted by the Ombudsman and noted by the Committee:

- The Select Committee to Oversee Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman 4th Quarterly Report 2019
- The Select Committee to Oversee Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman - 1st Quarterly Report 2020

- The Select Committee to Oversee Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman - 2nd Quarterly Report 2020
- The Select Committee to Oversee Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman - 3rd Quarter Report 2020

5.3 Reports for Consideration

The Committee reviewed the following Report:

- *OfReg Report – Disclosure under the Whistleblower Protection Law*

5.4 Reports for Tabling

The Committee reviewed the *Office of the Ombudsman Annual Report 2019* and agreed that it be Tabled by the Chairperson of the Committee in accordance with section 45 of the Public Management and Finance Law.

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 thanks the staff of the Parliament for the assistance provided.

7. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE HOUSE

The Committee agrees that this Report be the *Annual Report of the Select Committee to Oversee the Performance of the Office of the Ombudsman* to the House for the year **2019-2020**.

Hon Tara Rivers, JP, MP – Chairperson