



# Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands

## STANDING PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

#### **1. Establishment of PAC**

The Standing Public Accounts Committee of the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly, established under Standing Order 77. The following Members of the Legislative Assembly were elected as Members of the Standing Public Accounts Committee on 27 May 2009.

Mr. D Ezzard Miller, MLA – Chairman  
Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell, MLA  
Mr Cline A Glidden, Jr., MLA  
Mr. Ellio A Solomon, MLA  
Mr. Dwayne S Seymour, MLA

#### **2. Meetings of the PAC**

The PAC agreed to hold at least one meeting per month in order to achieve its objectives and fulfil its responsibilities under the Standing Order of the Legislative Assembly. It was resolved to meet on the third Wednesday of each month.

Meetings were held on the following dates:

10 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2009
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2009
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2009
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2009
27 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2009
28 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	17 <sup>th</sup> November 2009
29 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2009
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2009	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2009

Unfortunately although meetings were scheduled on the following dates those meetings could not be called to order because a quorum was not present mainly due to other commitments of the members.

29<sup>th</sup> September 2009

28<sup>th</sup> October 2009

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009

10<sup>th</sup> November 2009

27<sup>th</sup> January 2010

The Government may therefore wish to restructure the PAC membership due to the additional duties and responsibilities placed on certain current members.

### **3. Outstanding Reports**

There were 10 outstanding reports before the PAC when it was established in various stages of the review process done by the PAC. The PAC resolved to complete the review process of these outstanding reports by September 2009.

The PAC has achieved the following:

- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report on the Caribbean Utilities Co. Ltd – **tabled 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on the Royal Watler Cruise Terminal Capital Project – **tabled 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on the Cayman Islands Government's Property Insurance Settlement – Post Ivan – **tabled 25 February 2010**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on Review of the Debt Financing Arrangements for Boatswain's Beach – **tabled 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on the Purchase of a Helicopter by the Royal Cayman Islands Police – **tabled 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on the Gasoline Charges – Pedro St James and Policies and Procedures in Place for Period July 2003 to April 2007 – **to be tabled at 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the 2009/2010 Session of the House.**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on the Scrap Metal Tender and Contract with Matrix International Inc. – **to be tabled at 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of 2009/2010 Session of the House**
  
- Public Accounts Committee Report on the Report of the Auditor General on Financial Statements of the Government of the Cayman Islands for the year

ended 30 June 2004 – **to be tabled at 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the 2009/2010 Session of the House.**

- Special Forensic Report of the Auditor General on The Affordable Housing Initiative – **not reviewed by the PAC**
- Special Report of the Auditor General on the State of Financial Accountability Reporting – **not reviewed by the PAC.**

In addition the PAC received the following reports to review:

- Special Report of the Auditor General on the Loans and Expenditures of Funds at Boatswain Beach.
- Special Report of the Auditor General on the Review of Expenditure for Operations Tempura and Cealt.

Examination of witnesses took place on 25<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009. The PAC reports are in the process of being prepared to be tabled during next session of the House.

There was also the urgent matter of the Audited Report on Central Government not being done since 2004 and the PAC at its first meeting expressed its grave concern and resolved to do all in its power to have these accounts reported on.

The PAC invited the Financial Secretary and his supporting staff to its meetings on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and it was agreed to suspend certain requirement of the PMFL, specifically those sections requiring quarterly reports and output auditing until 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 to facilitate expediting the auditing of the dollars to complete the process by 30 April 2010.

The Financial Secretary agreed that he would prepare and submit the appropriate paper to Cabinet requesting the suspension of the relevant sections of the PMFL. However the PAC is not aware that this was actually done nor have we had any update on the progress of the outstanding audited reports of core Government.

It would therefore appear that these accounts will not be completed by 30 April 2010.

#### **4. Government Minute**

The PAC wishes to remind the Government of its obligation under Standing Orders to respond to the PAC report within ninety (90) days of the Tabling of the Report.

#### **5. Amendment to Standing Orders**

The PAC reviewed the process under the Standing Orders that deal with the way reports are handled and made a recommendation to this Honourable House to make some changes to Standing Orders that would facilitate a much clearer and timelier handling of reports received by the PAC.

The PAC respectfully requests that these changes be made as soon as possible.

## **6. Thanks and Appreciation**

The Chairman wishes to express his gratitude to all members of the PAC for their hard work and support in completing the reports.

The Committee is most appreciative of the efforts of the Auditor General and his staff in the Summary Reports and for the support, assistance and constructive advice given throughout its deliberations.

Finally we wish to thank the staff of the Legislative Assembly for the assistance provided.

Chairman  
Public Accounts Committee

24<sup>th</sup> March 2010