

# EASTERN CARIBBEAN - CPA UK STUDY VISIT

## REPORT SUMMARY

17 - 21 FEBRUARY 2020



### PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

**From 17-21 February 2020, a six-member Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK (CPA UK) cross-party delegation of members and officials from the UK Houses of Parliament, visited the Eastern Caribbean.**

At the 2018 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London, the UK Government announced it would reopen smaller diplomatic posts as part of the UK's "Global Britain" foreign policy after Brexit, with three new posts in the Caribbean, headed by Resident British Commissioners: Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. This means **the UK now has the largest diplomatic network in the Caribbean** of any country in the world. Additionally, Foreign Office Minister Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon launched the "New Caribbean Strategy" in 2019, committing £500 million to the Caribbean. Therefore, it was an excellent time for a parliamentary delegation to visit the region to learn more about UK relations with, and interests in, the region.

Their programme of meetings and visits addressed topical issues such as **international trade, security, climate change and disaster resilience**. During their time in Barbados and Grenada, the delegation met with key parliamentary stakeholders, officials and leading civil society members.

### IMPACT & OUTCOMES

**Impact.** Contribute to the sharing of knowledge between UK, Barbados and Grenada parliamentarians on issues of common interest and concern.

**Outcomes.** The programme delivered the following outcomes:

- **Outcome 1.** A strengthened relationship between the UK and Barbados and Grenada legislatures based upon cooperation, mutual respect and shared learning
- **Outcome 2.** Delegates will strengthen and widen their networks through opportunities for knowledge exchange, peer support, and sharing of good practice

### CPA UK DELEGATION

**Andrew Percy MP**  
(Conservative) - *Delegation Leader*

**Philip Hollobone MP**  
(Conservative)

**Kerry McCarthy MP** (Labour)

**Naz Shah MP** (Labour)

**Lord Mann** (Non-affiliated)

**Fleur ten Hacken**, Programme Manager, CPA UK



The CPA UK delegation in front of the Parliament of Grenada

### SUPPORTED BY:



British  
High Commission  
Bridgetown



Grenada  
Houses of Parliament



The  
Barbados  
Parliament



British High Commission St George's

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION UK - CPA UK

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# EASTERN CARIBBEAN - CPA UK STUDY VISIT

## FULL REPORT

17 - 21 FEBRUARY 2020

### CPA UK & EASTERN CARIBBEAN

In the last few years, CPA UK has regularly engaged with the Parliament of Barbados and the Parliament of Grenada on a multilateral basis. Parliamentarians from both countries attend CPA UK's annual Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure in London, and there has been collaboration through projects such as the International Parliamentary Project on Sustainability, Energy and Development. In January 2020, both parliaments participated in a workshop on Public Accounts Committees hosted in Port of Spain in Trinidad.

This bilateral visit to the region was the first CPA UK visit in several years. The programme provided an excellent opportunity to strengthen relations with the region, particularly on areas such as trade, climate change, security and social issues.



The delegation was welcomed by the Prime Minister of Grenada, H.E. Keith Mitchell

### POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

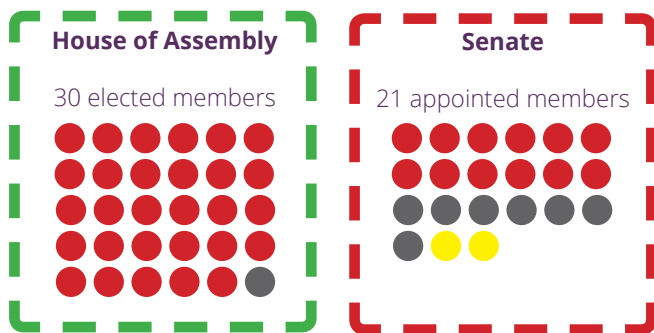
There is a unique political landscape in both Barbados and Grenada. As the result of democratic elections in 2018, the lower Houses in both countries were left without representation of an official opposition party. This poses a significant challenge to politics in both countries, with a **large number of voters unrepresented in the democratic institutions**. Additionally, most parliamentarians of the governing parties were appointed as government ministers. There are only very few backbenchers left that are able to focus all their attention on parliamentary business. This has had a significant effect on both parliaments, with parliamentary committees having effectively been shut down.

### ECONOMY

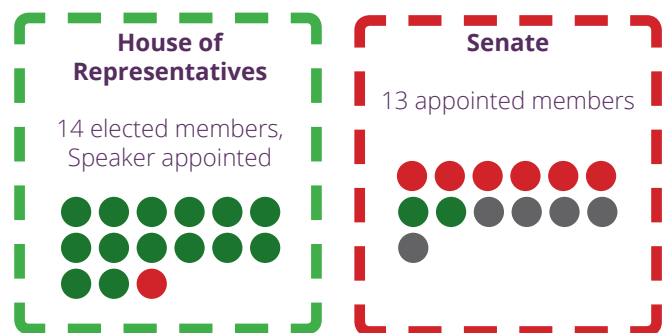
Agriculture has traditionally been an important source of income for the Eastern Caribbean, exporting sugar, rum and spices. Unfortunately, the region has been hit hard by natural disasters. In September 2004, hurricane Ivan hit Grenada and destroyed 90% of all agriculture on the island. A year later, hurricane Emily followed, and the island is still recovering from these disasters. Grenada's nutmeg industry is still recovering, as nutmeg trees need to grow for 7 years before they grow fruit and large fields of agricultural land are still inaccessible. However, Grenada remains the second largest exporter of nutmeg in the world, after Indonesia.

Natural disasters are not the only challenge

### PARLIAMENT OF BARBADOS



### PARLIAMENT OF GRENADA



to the economies in the Eastern Caribbean. **As small island developing states, economy of scale is often impossible.** Energy costs, including electricity and fuel, have skyrocketed, and for industries like the sugar industry in Barbados it has become increasingly hard to compete with countries that can produce sugar at a much larger scale. **Moreover, nearly all food is imported from abroad which means living costs are incredibly high.** Barbados was recently named as the 12th most expensive country in the world.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, youth unemployment in the region is high, which has led to brain drain.<sup>2</sup> Nonetheless, the agricultural sector is trying to innovate by producing high quality produce in smaller batches, for example in the sugar and rum industry.

**Tourism has become increasingly important for small island states in the region.** About 200,000 British tourists visit Barbados each year, compared to 22,000 to Grenada. Grenada, unlike Barbados, is an Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient country under OECD rules, which means it is eligible for international development aid. The Department for International Development (DFID) has a £33 million fund to support Grenada in its development. DFID funding has helped to increase tourism to Grenada by 30% in recent years.

### TRADE WITH THE REGION

As the UK has left the European Union, the trading relationships that were previously covered by EU agreements will have to be revisited. There is a “European Partnership Agreement” (EPA) with the Caribbean region, but the UK will have to wait until the transition period of leaving the EU is over before they decide what they will do with the EPA. So there is still uncertainty on what the relationship will look like in the future. The UK recently proposed keeping trade tariffs in place for importing goods, but this might give a greater advantage to larger countries that are able to produce on a larger scale.

Barbados has seen a huge amount of reform in the last two years. The day after the 2018 general elections, the new government went to the IMF

and were put under a strict IMF regime. Since then, the government led by Prime Minister Mia Mottley QC has worked incredibly hard to reach the targets that were set for them. Barbados has had to completely revise its business laws, and has had to take difficult decisions, for example to cut the public sector. The painful exercise has paid off so far, as all targets have been hit. Barbados is also compliant with OECD and EU rules and regulations. Additionally, Barbados has a low tax – but not zero tax – regime, it has a lot of local highly educated talent and entrepreneurship is thriving. It is an attractive jurisdiction for foreign investment, particularly in “hot button” emerging opportunities like renewable energy. At the moment, UK investment in Barbados is mostly in property.

**“As a country, Barbados is at a crossroads, just like the UK. Now is a great time to revisit our trading relationship.”**  
*Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

### CLIMATE CHANGE

As small island developing states, countries in the Eastern Caribbean are incredibly vulnerable to climate change. For example, in Grenada, 80% of the population lives on the coast. Due to rising sea levels, many of these communities will have to be relocated. The capital city St George’s is the economic engine of the county, but most parts of the city are at risk, and so is the key touristic attraction of the island, Grande Anse beach. The weather patterns in the region are also noticeably changing. Drier periods last much longer, while rainy periods are shorter and much more intense, which impacts agriculture, fresh water supply, infrastructure and biodiversity.

The region has embraced the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for instance by creating new “blue economy” policies which relate to SDG 14 on protecting life under water. The region is also taking action to reduce the emission of greenhouse gasses. Grenada aims to reduce 40% of greenhouse gasses by 2030

Meeting with the Barbados Minister for Foreign Trade, Hon. Sandra Husbands MP



### COUNTRY PROFILE: BARBADOS



**Population:** 285,000

**Area:** 430 sq km  
(166 sq miles)

**Capital:** Bridgetown

**Major languages:**  
English (Bajan, an English-African dialect, is widely used)

**Major religion:** Christianity

**Life expectancy:** 73 years  
(men), 78 years (women)

**Currency:** Bajan Dollar

**Joined Commonwealth:**  
1966

**Prime Minister:**  
Mia Amor Mottley QC MP  
(since May 2018)

### UK-BARBADOS TRADE

In the year to March 2019, the total UK exports to Barbados amounted to £541 million, an increase of 400.9%, compared to the previous year.<sup>1</sup> The top goods exported from the UK to Barbados were manufactures, road vehicles (excluding cars) and railway equipment.

Barbados also imported significant levels of pharmaceutical products, beverages and mineral fuels or oils from the rest of the world.

<sup>1</sup> UK Department for International Trade (2019). Available on: <https://www.great.gov.uk/markets/barbados/>

## COUNTRY PROFILE: GRENADA



**Population:** 105,000

**Area:** 344 sq km  
(133 sq miles)

**Capital:** St George's

**Major languages:**  
English (official), French patois

**Major religion:** Christianity

**Life expectancy:** 74 years  
(men), 78 years (women)

**Currency:** Eastern Caribbean  
Dollar

**Joined Commonwealth:**  
1974

**Prime Minister:**  
Dr The Right Hon. Keith  
Claudius Mitchell

### UK-GRENADA TRADE

In the year to June 2019, the total trade in goods and services between the UK and Grenada was £47 million.<sup>1</sup> In the same period, total UK exports to Grenada amounted to £18 million (an increase of 12.5% compared with the previous year).

Of all UK exports to Grenada 47.8% (£14 million) were goods. The top goods exported were electrical goods, consumer manufactures, industrial machinery and pharmaceutical products. However, new legislation has been passed in the Caribbean which makes it cheaper to import from Caribbean Countries nearby. Four million pounds (22.2%) of UK export to Grenada were services. Several UK investors have invested in Grenada, for example in tourism and in the rum industry.

<sup>1</sup> UK Department for International Trade (2019). Available on: <https://www.great.gov.uk/markets/grenada/>



Delegation Leader Andrew Percy MP with Colonel Glyne Grannum, Chief of Staff at the Barbados Defence Force

and Barbados aims to be carbon-neutral by 2030. SDG 14.1 on reducing marine pollution is also taken seriously. Both Barbados and Grenada have put in place bans on single use plastic, such as plastic bags and plastic cutlery.

However, the region struggles with a number of other SDGs, particularly as its small economies are suffering from brain drain. On top of the threat posed by climate change, the region is prone to natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis. It is not a question of "if" natural disasters will strike, but "when". Infrastructure built on the islands has to be resilient to climate change and disasters, and existing infrastructure has to be improved. Additionally, it is key to build a strong economy that can withstand potential hits.

***"To have parliamentarians from the UK come to hear first-hand about the experiences of fellow Commonwealth members was very valuable. The visiting British delegation will be able to take home constructive ideas for joint activity which will contribute to our strong relationship with Barbados."***

*H.E. Janet Douglas, British High Commissioner to Barbados*

**A huge amount of investment is needed to protect the population and the environment from the effects of climate change and natural disasters.** For instance, Grenada would need approximately 1 billion USD to ensure it becomes resilient to climate change.

**Access to funding to prevent the effects of climate change is a serious challenge.** The Caribbean is seen as a "donor orphanage" as many donors left the region as the countries were deemed wealthy enough. The UK and the US are some of the few countries that have continued to support the region. Accessing international funds is also problematic. The **Green Climate Fund** was established in 2010 as part of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and is one of the most important international funds for climate finance. The Green Climate Fund is only available for large scale projects that require a large amount of funding. Preparing bids to access the fund is a long and complicated process which

requires significant investment, which small island developing states are unable to commit to due to a lack of resources as well as a lack of expertise. The **Global Environment Facility** was established at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and provides funding that is easier to access. However, they only provide small amounts of funding that is proportional to the size of the country, based on a four to five year cycle.

### COP 26

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 26), originally planned for November 2020. **To small island states in the Caribbean region, the concept of "loss and damage" is vitally important.** This concept encapsulates the idea that larger,

developed nations are the key contributors towards climate change, but the smaller, less developed nations, which are most vulnerable to climate change, are paying the cost.

While there is widespread, global acceptance of this concept, there is a disconnect between this acceptance and practical support that is being offered. The verbal support offered by developed countries does not translate into concrete action, even though this action is urgently needed. Small island developing states in the Eastern Caribbean hope that developing countries will commit to taking extensive, concrete measures to support the region.

### SECURITY

**The UK works closely with the Eastern Caribbean on security issues.** The British Armed Forces have a good relation with the Barbados Defence Force. For example, Barbadian military staff visit the UK to undertake military training, and British staff visit Barbados

for attachments. The Barbadian Coast Guard also welcomes colleagues from across the Eastern Caribbean for training purposes.

The Barbadian Defence Force is a small but well-connected and outward looking force. It works on four types of threats:

1. Climate change and natural disasters, such as hurricanes. These pose the greatest security risk to Barbados;
2. Drugs trafficking;
3. Arms trafficking, whereby the weapons are trafficked from North America;
4. Seismic activity leading to potential earthquakes, this is of increasing concern.

All these threats require close cooperation with interagency, multinational, public and private sector partners, so this is a key focus of their work. They are part of the Regional Security System, which is a collaboration between seven nations in the Eastern Caribbean on defence, security and intelligence. These countries work together on drug trafficking, disaster relief and

***"I am very grateful to the MPs from the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for their valuable visit to Grenada. Not only for strengthening the parliamentary and commonwealth links but also for supporting the newly established British High Commission."***

*Wendy Freeman, British Resident Commissioner to Grenada*

human recovery, and they assist vessels in distress. The Barbados Defence Force also works with local stakeholders, including with schools to deliver character-building programmes.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

While Barbados and Grenada are relatively safe compared to other islands in the Caribbean, they still face challenges. Legislation dating back to British colonisation has not been updated. The death penalty is still embedded in legislation in both countries, and although it has not been used for years, little effort is being made to change the law as it remains a sensitive topic in society. **Homosexuality is also still criminalised.** In 2016, Grenada held a referendum on a bill that would prohibit discrimination based on sex. Even though the bill did not say anything about LGBT rights, unfounded fears that this would

be a step towards same sex marriage led to the referendum being defeated.<sup>3</sup>

Justice systems also struggle with a lack of capacity and weak administration. In Barbados, there is a backlog of cases in the courts, which means it could take 3 to 4 years before a case is brought to trial.

During the course of the programme, **several stakeholders criticised the UK for sending back convicted criminals to the Caribbean.** Even though the UK only sends back a relatively small number of criminals, these returning individuals have a large impact on the communities on these small islands. Often, the criminals have lost ties in their country of origin and end up struggling and causing disruption in the communities they arrive in. The UK is regularly portrayed negatively in the media because of this policy, which has a negative impact on the UK's reputation in the region.

## WINDRUSH SCANDAL

Another issue that has affected the UK's reputation in the region is the Windrush scandal. The Windrush generation refers to the immigrants that were invited to the UK between 1948 and 1971 from Caribbean countries. They were invited as the UK was facing a labour shortage due to the destruction caused by World War II. Many of the Windrush generation arrived as children on their parents' passports and never formally became British citizens, even though they have lived in the UK for many decades, paying taxes and insurance. In 2018, reports came out about mostly elderly people being denied services, losing their jobs and even facing deportation.<sup>4</sup> **The UK delegation was urged to intervene on the Windrush scandal to ensure the rights of the Caribbean's diaspora in the UK are**

With Grenada's Minister for Climate Resilience and Disaster Management, Senator Simon Stiehl



## ABOUT CPA UK

The international Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is the professional association of all Commonwealth parliamentarians, an active network of over 17,000 parliamentarians from 185 national, state, provincial and territorial Parliaments and Legislatures.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK Branch (CPA UK)<sup>7</sup> is one of the largest and most active branches in the CPA community and delivers a unique annual programme both in Westminster and overseas. Overseen by the Houses of Parliament and governed by an Executive Committee of cross-party bicameral parliamentarians, CPA UK undertakes international parliamentary outreach on behalf of the UK Parliament and the wider CPA.

With a specific focus on parliamentary diplomacy and parliamentary strengthening activities, CPA UK seeks to foster co-operation and understanding between parliaments, promote good parliamentary practice and advance parliamentary democracy through a variety of international outreach activities and multilateral programmes. Its work is divided into three regions, which include national, regional and provincial legislatures and the legislatures of Overseas Territories:

- Americas, Caribbean, and Europe
- Africa
- Asia-Pacific

Working closely with parliamentarians and parliamentary officials, CPA UK focuses its bilateral and multilateral outreach activities on a number of areas, including parliamentary practice and procedure, and themes including human rights, public financial scrutiny, sustainable development, equal access to political and economic empowerment and democratic strengthening through election observation.

## ABOUT CPA UK (CONT.)

CPA UK is also the secretariat for the CPA British Islands and Mediterranean Region, organising activities in support of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians network. CPA UK also works to strengthen the Commonwealth Association of Public Accounts Committees in its core objectives.

CPA UK continues to work in partnership with a multitude of national and international organisations for mutual benefit; including the Commonwealth Secretariat, World Bank, UNDP, UNEP, OAS and many others. CPA UK has, and continues to work alongside the UK Government. Over the last five years, CPA UK has leveraged close to £3 million of government funds to achieve its strategic aims in strengthening parliamentary democracy across the Commonwealth.

## CPA UK'S STRATEGIC GOALS

1. To strengthen parliamentary democracy by undertaking international parliamentary outreach work on behalf of the Houses of Parliament and the wider CPA

2. To contribute to sustainable development, poverty reduction, trade, investment and business development opportunities through parliamentary strengthening work that supports democracy, good governance, human rights, environmental protection and the rule of law

3. To further co-operation between Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth Parliaments and legislatures, and other democratically elected institutions

4. To communicate the work of CPA UK and the Commonwealth within Westminster, across UK and internationally to enhance the profile of the Houses of Parliament, the Commonwealth, the CPA and CPA UK.



Meeting with representatives of the Barbados International Business Association

**protected.** There is a great concern in the region that their diaspora's rights are being violated, even though the diaspora migrated to the UK upon the UK government's request and contributed to rebuilding the country after World War II. The UK delegation reiterated their support for the Windrush generation.

## SOCIAL ISSUES

**Grenada has been struggling with an increase in the number of reported child abuse cases.** Although this has been an issue for much longer, people are more open in sharing their experiences and reporting them. There are alarming figures on incest as well as on adolescent pregnancies. In response, a Special Victims Unit consisting of female police officers was created in 2018 to address child abuse, sexual abuse and domestic violence. A special hotline was also launched which victims of sexual abuse can call for help. The Unit receives support from the British High Commission.

## CRICKET

Cricket is one of the most popular sports in the Eastern Caribbean and is widely played. **Professional players used to come to the UK to play for professional teams, until the British Home Office tightened immigration rules for professional cricket players in recent years.** A South-Asian visa scam was discovered and as a response, the Home Office stopped issuing visas for paid professional cricketers from the Commonwealth to play for British clubs. The Barbados Cricket Board highlighted that, while only a small number of individuals have been affected by this, it has had a devastating effect on cricket in the West Indies. Playing for a British club gives Caribbean players a huge amount of professional experience, which they now miss out on, and it shows in the level of

cricket being played. If the Home Office were to change this legislation, it would provide a huge input into the standard of cricket in the region and create a huge amount of goodwill towards the UK. When the UK delegation learned of this issue, they committed to raising it upon their return to the UK.

***"It was an incredible experience to visit Barbados and Grenada as part of a cross-party delegation. We touched on a range of issues, including trade, climate change and the fight against crime, all of which are important issues for both the UK and the region. Strengthening our economic, environmental and security partnerships will be of benefit to both sides."***

*Lord Mann of Holbeck Moor*

## NEXT STEPS

This delegation visit marked an increased cooperation between the UK Parliament and the Eastern Caribbean. The Parliaments in Barbados and Grenada have expressed a desire for continued cooperation in the future. Parliamentarians expressed their wish for further training programmes by CPA UK to learn from experienced Commonwealth colleagues on a number of issues, including legislative scrutiny and financial scrutiny.

CPA UK looks forward to working closely with the parliaments in the region and to assist in strengthening their parliamentary democracy, via bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

## ENDNOTES

1 CEO World (February 2020). Available on: <https://ceoworld.biz/2020/02/03/most-expensive-countries-in-the-world-to-live-in-2020/>

2 Youth unemployment in Barbados was 27.9% in 2019. Source: World Bank Data (2019). Available on: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.1524.ZS>

3 Human Rights Watch (2018). Available on: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2018/03/21/i-have-leave-be-me/discriminatory-laws-against-lgbt-people-eastern-caribbean>

4 Al Jazeera (2018). Available on: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/04/uk-windrush-generation-scandal-180418074648878.html>

# Full Programme - Monday 17 February 2020

Bridgetown, Barbados

## TIME SESSION

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0930 - 1045 **Political Briefing by British High Commissioner**

H.E. Mrs Janet Douglas CMG, *British High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean*  
Edward Munn, *Head of Political and Public Affairs*  
Gilly Metzgen, *Political Officer*

*British High Commission*

1130 - 1230 **Meeting with Minister of Foreign Trade, The Hon. C. Sandra V. Husbands MP**

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*

1300 - 1400 **Meeting with Deputy Speaker and Leader of the Opposition**

His Honour Mr Gline A. Clarke, *Deputy Speaker of The Honourable The House of Assembly*  
Bishop Joseph J.S. Atherley, *Leader of the Opposition*  
Mr Jingel Jones, *Deputy Clerk*

*Parliament of Barbados*

1500 - 1530 **Tour of Both Houses of Parliament**

1600 - 1630 **Field Visit to Marine Conservation Project**

*Folkestone Marine Park & Visitor Centre, Holetown*

# Tuesday 18 February 2020

Bridgetown, Barbados

## TIME SESSION

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0900 - 1000 **Meeting with Barbados International Business Association (BIBA)**

Julia Hope, *President*  
Carmel Haynes, *Executive Director*  
and others, accompanied by Sherry-Ann Blackett, *UK Department of International Trade*

*British High Commission*

1030 - 1100 **Meeting with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

Mr Magdy Martinez Soliman, *UNDP Resident Representative*  
Danielle Evanson, *UNDP Cluster Lead on Sustainable Solutions and Energy*

*United Nations House*

# Tuesday 18 February 2020 (cont.)

Bridgetown, Barbados

## TIME SESSION

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1300 - 1400 **Meeting with Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Trisha Tannis, *President*  
Misha Lobban Clarke, *Executive Director*

*BCCI Office, Braemar Court*

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1430 - 1530 **Briefing by Barbados Defence Force Chief of Staff, Colonel Glyne Grannum**

*St Ann's Fort, Garrison*

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1600 - 1700 **Meeting with Minister of Home Affairs, The Hon. Edmund G. Hinkson MP**

*Parliament of Barbados*

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1930 - 2130 **Reception on the Occasion of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM**

*Prime Minister's Residence*

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# Wednesday 19 February 2020

St George's, Grenada

## TIME SESSION

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AM *Flight from Barbados to Grenada*

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1300 - 1415 **Briefing by Resident British Commissioner**

Wendy Freeman, *Resident British Commissioner*  
Deborah Cudjoe, *Political and Projects Officer, British High Commission Grenada*

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1430 - 1700 **Tour of the island and historical sites, organised by the Parliament of Grenada**

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1900 - 2100 **Dinner hosted by the Resident British Commissioner Wendy Freeman**

Guests in attendance:

- Pathifa Lewis, *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
  - Ali Dowden, *Member of National Democratic Congress*
  - Kinna Marrast, *Chevening Alumni President/Lawyer*
  - Ajani Benoit, *Director of Programmes GrenChap*
  - Richie Maitland, *Human Rights Lawyer and Chevening Alumni*
  - Aria St Louis, *Senior Official, Ministry of Climate Resilience*
  - Lorraine Pascal, *Coordinator Task Force to End Child Sexual Abuse*
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# Thursday 20 February 2020

St George's, Grenada

## TIME SESSION

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0900 - 0930 **Meeting with Speaker of the House of Representatives, The Hon. Michael Pierre**

*Parliament of Grenada*

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1000 - 1130 **Meeting with Minister for Climate Resilience and the Environment, Senator Simon Stiel**

*Ministerial Complex, Botanical Gardens*

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1330 - 1400 **Meeting with the President of the Senate, The Hon. Chester Humphrey**

*Parliament of Grenada*

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1400 - 1430 **Meeting with Opposition Senators, Senator Kerryne James and Senator Ron Redhead**

1430 - 1500 **Meeting with Senator Christopher Diali and Senator Winston Campbell**

1600 - 1700 **Meeting with the Governor-General, Dame Cécile La Grenade GCMG OBE**

*Governor-General's Residence*

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# Friday 21 February 2020

St George's, Grenada

## TIME SESSION

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0930 - 1000 **Courtesy on the Prime Minister, Dr The Right Honourable Keith Mitchell**

*Ministerial Complex, Botanical Gardens*

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1000 - 1045 **Meeting with Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Peter David MP**

*Ministerial Complex, Botanical Gardens*

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1100 - 1130 **Tour of the Parliament of Grenada**

*Parliament of Grenada*

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1130 - 1215 **Meeting with Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN), Kerricia Hobson**

*Parliament of Grenada*

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1215 - 1300 **Meeting with Business Representatives**

*End of Programme*

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## CPA UK DELEGATION

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### **Andrew Percy MP - Delegation Leader**

*Conservative*

Andrew Percy has been the Conservative and Unionist Member of Parliament for Brigg & Goole and the Isle of Axholme since 2010 when he won the seat from the Labour Party for the first time. Andrew's constituency covers parts of both East Yorkshire, where he was born and grew up, and North Lincolnshire, where he has strong ties to both work and family.

Prior to getting elected to Parliament, Andrew attended the University of York, followed by Leeds Law School. He re-trained as a school teacher and taught in a number of local schools across East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire, where he specialised in history. Moreover, he was elected four times as a Councillor to Hull City Council, serving as Chairman of the Licensing Authority for a number of years.

On becoming a Member of Parliament, Andrew served on the Health Select Committee, Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and the Regulatory Reform Committee. He was also appointed by the previous Commons' Speaker to the Speaker's Panel of Chairs whose members chair certain committees and debates.

Andrew was Minister for the Northern Powerhouse and Local Growth at the Department for Communities and Local Government from July 2016 until June 2017. His ministerial responsibilities included: the Northern Powerhouse, devolution deals, local growth, coastal communities, community rights (including pubs), local enterprise partnership (LEP) policy, enterprise zones, high streets, inward investment and infrastructure, European Regional Development Fund, and resilience and emergencies.

Andrew has also served as the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Canada from 2016 to 2019. His role included working across Government and with businesses to try to secure more Canadian investment in the UK and to help facilitate UK businesses who wish to invest in Canada. Andrew is currently active on a number of All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPG), including the APPG on Surrogacy, which he chairs, and the APPG Against Antisemitism, in which he is a co-chair.

In his spare time, Andrew is a Community First Responder with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service having established a first responder scheme for the Goole, Hook and Airmyn area in his constituency. He spends weekends volunteering on this scheme, responding to emergency calls such as strokes, heart attacks and cardiac arrests.



### **Philip Hollobone MP**

*Conservative*

Philip is the Conservative MP for Kettering. Having studied Modern History and Economics at Oxford University, Philip became an industry research analyst examining the performance of water, gas and electricity companies across the UK. Philip served over eight years in the Territorial Army, latterly as a paratrooper. In 1984, Philip spent eight months working as a volunteer teaching assistant in Honduras.

First elected as an MP in 2005, Philip continues to serve as a councillor on Kettering Borough Council. Philip serves on the Panel of Chairs chosen by Mr Speaker to chair Commons committees and Parliamentary debates outside the main chamber.

Philip is the first MP to have completed all stages of the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme (serving time with the Royal Air Force, the Royal Navy, the British Army and the Royal College of Defence Studies), the Police Parliamentary Scheme (including six years as a Special Constable) and the Fire Service Parliamentary Scheme.



### **Kerry McCarthy MP**

*Labour*

Kerry was elected the Member of Parliament for Bristol East in May 2005. Since then she has served as Parliamentary Private Secretary in the Department for International Development, Shadow Treasury Minister, Shadow Foreign Office Minister and Shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Prior to the 2019 election, Kerry served on both the House of Commons environmental select committees. In addition to these roles, she has been actively involved in the All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Agroecology, Food Waste and Agriculture for Development.



## Naz Shah MP

*Labour*

Born and raised in Bradford, Naz Shah is a progressive and dynamic Labour MP and Shadow Minister for Women and Equality.

Elected at the 2015 General Election after a monumental and much publicised struggle to win the seat from George Galloway. She successfully defended the seat in 2017 achieving the best result for the Labour Party in Yorkshire and the Humber and raised her majority in the recent 2019 election.

Since taking her seat in Parliament Naz has led the way on Muslim issues. When a member of the Home Affairs Select Committee, Naz used the platform to raise the agenda of immigration, race, representation and in particular hate crime. She worked closely with the police around issues of extremism, terrorism and race.

Naz was also the Chair of APPG (all party parliamentary group) for Islamic finance, Chair of APPG for Islamophobia & vice Chair on the APPG for British Muslims, and APPG for Integration.



## Lord Mann of Holbeck Moor

*Non-affiliated*

John Mann was appointed to the House of Lords in 2019. Previously, he was the Labour Member of Parliament for Bassetlaw from 2001-2019.

Before entering Parliament, he worked for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AEEU), the TUC and TULO. He is a former Chair of Labour Students and just prior to his election he was involved in running the family business.

As an MP, John was a member of the Treasury Select Committee and Chair of the Treasury Sub-Committee. John has also been Parliamentary Private Secretary to Minister for the Olympics Tessa Jowell, and for Richard Caborn, then Minister for Sport.

He also served as Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group Against Antisemitism, supported by the Antisemitism Policy Trust. John commissioned two major All-Party Inquiries into Antisemitism and a further inquiry into Electoral Conduct. In 2010, he Chaired the Football Association's Task Force on antisemitism and Islamophobia in football. In May 2009, John received the American Jewish Committee's (AJC's) Jan Karski Award in recognition of his commitment and work in fighting antisemitism. In 2008, John established the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism (ICCA) which he chaired until 2019.



## CPA UK STAFF

### Fleur ten Hacken

*Americas, Caribbean and Europe Programme Manager, CPA UK*

As Programme Manager for the Americas, Caribbean and Europe, Fleur is responsible for designing and delivering bilateral programmes with parliaments in the region. She is also the CPA UK lead on Election Observation Missions in the UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, having previously coordinated election observation missions in the UK, Jersey and Montserrat.

Fleur was previously Programme Officer, where she worked across all regions of the Commonwealth. Prior to joining CPA UK in early 2017, Fleur worked at various organisations including a political monitoring company, a non-profit diplomatic advisory group, and the Dutch Embassy in London. She holds a BA (Hons) in Politics from the University of Nottingham, and an MA in International Peace and Security from King's College London.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CPA UK would like to thank the Parliament of Barbados for welcoming the UK delegation. In particular, we would like to thank Mr Pedro Eastmond and Ms Beverley Gibbons for their organisational support. CPA UK also thanks the British High Commission in Bridgetown for their significant support to this programme. We would like to thank H.E. Janet Douglas and her staff, particularly Gilly Metzgen, Ed Munn, Michelle Callus, Malissa Brathwaite and Sherry-Ann Blackett.

CPA UK would also like to thank the Parliament of Grenada for their organisational support and warm welcome, in particular Mr Andrew Augustine. The brand new British High Commission in Grenada was very supportive, we would like to extend a special thanks to Wendy Freeman and Deborah Cudjoe.



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