



# **CPA BIMR**

# Election Observation Mission to the Cayman Islands

## APRIL 2025



# **PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**



"I am grateful for the warm and open reception our international team of observers have received in the Cayman Islands. On Election Day we were impressed at the high levels of transparency, organisation and efficiency we observed, as well as the personal commitment and civic duty on display by those involved. We saw particular attention being paid to include persons with disabilities, both in advance mobile voting and on Election Day. We hope these initial findings and the later report are of service to the people of the Cayman Islands in bolstering democracy in these islands."

#### Deputy Rob Ward (Jersey), Head of Mission

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On Wednesday 30 April, a team of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association British Islands and Mediterranean Region international election observers were present as the Cayman Islands went to the polls in a calm, peaceful and well-organised election process. Polling stations were well prepared; staff were trained and knowledgeable; and returning and presiding officers showed excellent leadership in dealing with any problems and ensuring eligible voters could cast their ballots. There was universal praise for the work of the Elections Office and the professionalism and dedication of the officials, led by the Supervisor of Elections.

The inclusion of persons with disabilities was exemplary. On Election Day, voters were assisted with dignity and respect, in accordance with the required procedures. Step-free access, accessible booths and wheelchairs were provided at polling stations. In addition, in the week prior to Election Day the opportunity for advance voting was provided, known as mobile voting, which included visiting voters in their own homes to enable them to exercise their democratic rights in a private and inclusive manner.

Eligible voters abroad were able to participate in this election through a postal vote. Over 1,000 postal ballots were issued, nearly double the number issued in the previous election. Voter turnout remained high, as with previous elections, at 74% and all districts were contested, with 58 candidates on the ballot paper in 2025.

Many international human rights standards apply to elections in the Cayman Islands, and the domestic legal framework, set out principally in the Constitution (as amended to 2020) and the Elections Act (2022 revision), provides a good basis for democratic elections.

Voters had the opportunity not only to choose their member of parliament, but to vote on three referendum questions covering cruise berthing infrastructure, a national lottery and the decriminalisation of the consumption and possession of small amounts of cannabis. This was enabled by the Referendum Act, 2025, that was passed only a few months prior to Election Day and is silent on many important matters such as campaign finance. Campaigning on the referendum issues was observed to be minimal, with activity being primarily limited to the cruise berthing infrastructure issue.



Among the Cayman Islands' 19 electoral districts, there is a significant difference in the number of voters per constituency. For example, there are 1,774 registered in Bodden Town West and only 899 in East End. Parliament rejected the latest Electoral Boundary Commission's proposals and boundary revision is overdue.

The right to vote, as set out in the Constitution and legislation, is subject to a number of conditions, including having Caymanian citizenship. A large number of long-term residents in the Cayman Islands are unable to vote.

Among the eligibility criteria to stand for election, the residency requirements are significant and arguably unreasonable. One must have resided in the Cayman Islands for at least seven years prior to Nomination Day, without an absence of more than 400 days during that period.

The election campaign was vibrant, competitive and peaceful. Parties and candidates held area meetings and rallies, and put up signs and billboards across the islands. A range of media outlets was used to promote campaign messaging, from more traditional outlets in radio and newspaper content, to social media activity. Campaign finance was one of the most frequent issues raised with the mission, including the level of campaign expenditure permitted and the absence of regulation of spending prior to the official campaign period.

Over a two-week period, the mission met a wide range of election stakeholders to hear their views on the electoral process. We are grateful for their time and engagement. Observers attended rallies and other campaign events, and saw mobile voting in action in four electoral districts. On Election Day, observations took place in all 19 electoral districts and of the count in four districts.

In addition to this statement, a longer final report, that may include recommendations, will be published within two months of election day. We hope that these will be of benefit to the people and institutions of the Cayman Islands and contribute to strengthening democracy in these islands.



### **INTRODUCTION TO THE MISSION**

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association British Islands and Mediterranean Region (CPA BIMR) conducted an international election observation mission to the Cayman Islands General Election on 30 April 2025. This is the fourth time CPA BIMR has observed general elections in the Cayman Islands, with previous missions in 2013, 2017 and 2021.

CPA BIMR was invited to facilitate this observation by the Governor and had cross-party support in the Cayman Islands, with all three political parties and a number of independent candidates engaging with the mission. The observers were present from 21 April to 2 May 2025.

The mission was composed of nine observers, including four Commonwealth parliamentarians. The head of mission was Deputy Rob Ward (Jersey) and the short-term observers were Evelyn Tweed MSP (Scotland), Tim Johnston MHK (Isle of Man) and Alun Davies MS (Wales). The election analysts were Sandi Gale and Anne Marlborough. Three CPA BIMR staff co-ordinated the mission.

The mission conducted an independent assessment of the Cayman Islands General Election against international legal standards, commitments and obligations, as well as domestic laws. The mission is independent in its composition, findings and conclusions, adhering to the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers.

Prior to Election Day, observers met a wide range of election stakeholders, attended campaign rallies and observed advance mobile voting in six districts. On Election Day the mission observed voting across Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac in all 19 districts, visiting 27 polling stations and observing five counting centres.

#### POLITICAL BACKGROUND

The Cayman Islands is a British Overseas Territory located in the Caribbean that consists of three islands: Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. They are an internally self-governing territory, with executive power vested in the British Crown through an appointed Governor. The Governor chairs the cabinet, which oversees the general direction of the government. The Parliament of the Cayman Islands consists of nineteen elected representatives and two non-voting ex-officio members: the deputy governor and the attorney general. General elections are held every four years.

This General Election follows a period of political change. In late 2024, the ruling United People's Movement lost its majority after four members, including the Deputy Premier and several Ministers, resigned.



In response, the Premier initiated a cabinet reshuffle to maintain government functions. However, recognising the challenges of sustaining a minority government, she announced the decision to hold early elections. Governor H.E. Jane Owen, in consultation with the Premier, officially set the election date for 30 April 2025. This allowed time for an update to the voter register, published on 1 April.

Parliament was officially dissolved on 1 March. In addition to an established party, the political landscape now includes two newly formed parties, along with independent candidates, who are fielding candidates in the 19 single-member constituencies. On the same day as the General Election, three non-binding referendums were held.

#### **LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

An extensive body of human rights standards applies to the conduct of elections in the Cayman Islands, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The Convention against Corruption, relevant to the regulation of political finance, is also applicable to the conduct of elections in the Cayman Islands. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has not yet been extended to this jurisdiction.

The electoral legal framework is set out principally within the Constitution (as amended to 2020) and the Elections Act (2022 revision), as well as in the jurisprudence of the courts. The Referendum (Cruise Berthing Infrastructure, Gambling and Cannabis) Act, 2025 [the Referendum Act] made minor amendments to election law, while the Data Protection Act (2021 revision) also applies.

The legal framework offers a good basis for the conduct of democratic elections, in accord with the international standards applicable to the Cayman Islands. The content of the law is clear and accessible to stakeholders. Political rights are established in the Constitution and by law, with rights of political participation, to vote, to stand for election and freedoms of expression, assembly and association all protected. There are particularly strong provisions in place, in law and in practice, to vindicate the voting rights of persons with disabilities.

International good practice counsels against a change in the fundamental elements of electoral law in close proximity to an election, with one year considered appropriate as a minimum to ensure stability in the law. The Referendum Act, assented to on 18 February, has modified the Elections Act, but without alteration to the fundamental elements of the legislation. Nonetheless, this was a less-than-optimal period within which to introduce such legislation.

The secrecy of the ballot, as in previous electoral processes, is not perfectly protected, as serial numbers are printed on both the ballot paper and counterfoil, and this serial number is recorded in



the poll book along with the registration number of the voter. Campaign finance regulation exists but it is narrow in scope and lacking in specific obligations for scrutiny of reports submitted, with a spending limit widely criticised as unreasonably low. International and local observers were again accredited for the electoral process but greater elaboration of their roles and responsibilities is required.

#### **ELECTORAL SYSTEM**

The electoral system in the Cayman Islands is defined by the Constitution (as amended to 2020) and the Electoral Act (2022 revision). It operates under a first-past-the-post system in single-member constituencies. Since the 2017 General Election, the Cayman Islands transitioned from multi-member districts to 19 single-member electoral districts, reinforcing the "one person, one vote" principle. Under the Elections Act, the candidate with the most votes wins the seat and there is no requirement for an absolute majority (more than 50% of votes).

The Cayman Islands is divided into 19 electoral districts and there are a total of 65 polling stations across these districts. To form a government, a political party or group must secure a simple majority of at least 10 out of the 19 elected seats.

While the electoral system seems to be generally well understood by voters, parties and candidates, some stakeholders have suggested revisiting the structure of constituencies. Some argue that single-member constituencies in a territory with a relatively small voting population of approximately 26,000 voters, can result in a candidate winning their seat with relatively few votes, particularly in less populated districts. Future electoral reform remains an open topic of debate among some candidates and election stakeholders.

#### REFERENDUMS

The Constitution provides that the Parliament may enact a law to hold a referendum "on a matter or matters of national importance." The decision to hold such a referendum may be initiated by a petition signed by 25% of the electorate, which would lead to a decision binding on the Government and the Parliament; or initiated by the Parliament itself, in which case the decision is advisory only, effectively a consultative referendum.

A petition from the electorate, requesting a referendum on the question of whether to approve a government plan to develop a cruise port terminal in Georgetown, alongside the enhancement of the cargo port, was initiated in 2018. This led to the enactment of the Referendum (People Initiated Referendum Regarding the Port) law, 2019. Challenged before the courts as a violation of the Constitution, the law was upheld by the Grand Court in 2020.



The Referendum (Cruise Berthing Infrastructure, Gambling and Cannabis) Act, 2025 follows the former law but provides for the holding of three consultative referendums simultaneously. The questions concerned approval or rejection of proposals to develop cruise berthing infrastructure; to legalise gambling in the form of a national lottery; and to decriminalise the consumption and possession of small amounts of cannabis. The form of law enacted has been a matter of controversy, as it is applicable to these three questions only, rather than to all referendums.

The Referendum Act, 2025, is very slight in content, setting out in minimal degree how the referendum will be managed concurrently with the parliamentary elections. The law is silent on important matters such as the formulation of the referendum questions; the regulation of campaign advocacy on the referendum questions; campaign finance; the provision of impartial information to explain both sides of the questions; the role of the media and of lobby groups; and other measures necessary to ensure equity and fairness in the conduct of the referendums. While there are no binding international standards on the conduct of referendums, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) has elaborated Guidelines on the Holding of Referendums that offer insight into good practice in this field of representative democracy.<sup>1</sup>

#### **BOUNDARY DELIMITATION**

International law establishes the principle of equal suffrage, of "one person, one vote", requiring that the vote of one elector should be equal to the vote of another.<sup>2</sup> This implies that the ratio of voters to elected representatives should be as near to equal as possible across constituencies. These principles are reflected in the Cayman Islands Constitution, which states that "there will be an equal ratio between the number of elected members of Parliament representing each electoral district and the number of persons qualified to be registered as electors ... in that district."

Current electoral boundaries are not in harmony with these rules, as there is a significant deviation between the numbers of voters in different electoral districts. Bodden Town West, for example, has 1,774 registered voters, while East End has only 899. Additional deviations are provided to ensure representation of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman in Parliament.

An Electoral Boundary Commission was appointed in January 2023, as constitutionally required (at least every eight years, with the last change in 2015). The Parliament rejected the Commission's report on 26 July 2024, with an amended report also rejected on 31 January 2025. Boundary revision is overdue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>2022 Revised Guidelines on the Holding of Referendums</u>, Venice Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), <u>General Comment 25</u>, paragraph 21.



#### **ELECTION ADMINISTRATION**

General elections are administered by the Elections Office, led by the Supervisor of Elections.<sup>3</sup> The Elections Office in the Cayman Islands is the sole institution responsible for voter registration, the conduct of the polls and the determination of the election results. They are also responsible for voter education along with other agencies and candidates.

Election staff, including all presiding officers, returning officers and poll clerks, received comprehensive training and manuals to ensure efficient conduct on Election Day. Election stakeholders, including those met by observers, praised the Elections Office's professionalism and impartiality.

The Elections Office successfully implemented the election calendar, meeting the legal deadlines. Despite only having a small number of permanent employees, it was found to be sufficiently resourced with temporary election workers during the election period. Stakeholders shared that the Elections Office and the Election Supervisor demonstrated professionalism, efficiency and transparency in preparing for the 2025 General Election.

#### THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The right to vote is regulated by the Constitution and by legislation. The fundamental requirements are that a voter is a Caymanian citizen and has attained 18 years of age. Exercise of the right to vote is subject to being registered to vote. Conditions precedent to registration are that the person is resident in the Cayman Islands at the time of registration and that they have been resident for at least two of the four years immediately before registration. Disqualifications from voting include: serving sentences exceeding twelve months in prison; conviction of an election offence; and certification of insanity.

The right to vote, as permitted under international law, is reserved to citizens. However, the rules on the attainment of citizenship, as set out in the British Nationality Act and immigration law, can result in periods in excess of fifteen years prior to being granted citizenship. The consequence of this is that, of a total population of around 90,000 people, approximately 45% are Caymanian, with the other 55% unable to participate in elections, despite lengthy residence in the jurisdiction.

Revision of the rules on the right to vote has been recommended by the Constitutional Commission. In 2018, in advance of negotiations leading to a measure of constitutional amendment in 2020, the Commission proposed changes to the disqualification of voters who are currently disenfranchised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This is governed under the Election Law (2022 revision) and the Constitution 2009 Section 3(1) Elections Act Revision 2022 (originally Election Act of 2013). "The Governor shall, in the Governor's discretion, appoint a person who holds a senior office in the public service to be Supervisor of Elections."



due to serving prison terms in excess of twelve months, as well as a change in the residency requirements precedent to voting.<sup>4</sup> These recommendations have not yet been acted upon.

### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

Voter registration in the Cayman Islands takes place on a passive and continuous basis and is voluntary; it requires citizens to actively register as a voter. As of 1 April 2025, the official Register of Electors recorded 25,643 eligible voters, an increase of 2,034 compared to the 2021 General Election.

The Register of Electors is a public document, available both in hard copy and online. It contains personal data on the voter, namely their address and their occupation. Section 24 of the Data Protection Act (2021 revision) exempts the Elections Office from data protection rules, due to their obligations under the Elections Act to collect and publish this information. In April 2022, the Ombudsman published a report that urged reform of the law to allow voters to opt out of the public list, as there is no such option at present<sup>5</sup>.

Despite a small number of discrepancies, the Elections Office and registering officers demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining an accurate and inclusive voter register under tight deadlines.<sup>6</sup>

### THE RIGHT TO STAND FOR ELECTION AND CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

Caymanian citizens, aged 21 years and above, domiciled and resident in the jurisdiction, are entitled to contest the election to Parliament. The residence requirements are quite onerous. Caymanians born in the territory must have resided in the jurisdiction for at least seven years prior to Nomination Day, while those born elsewhere, without Caymanian antecedents, must have resided in Cayman for at least 15 of the preceding 20 years. No candidate may have been abroad for more than 400 days in the seven years immediately before nomination. These are, arguably, unreasonable restrictions on the right to stand for election.<sup>7</sup>

Disqualifications from membership of Parliament include allegiance to a foreign state, effectively dual citizenship actively acquired by a Caymanian, bankruptcy and certification of insanity. Persons who have been sentenced to more than twelve months in prison or convicted of any offence involving dishonesty are also excluded.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Report of the Constitutional Commission</u>, 27 June 2018, the Constitutional Commission's response to requests for comments on potential revisions of the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Office of the Ombudsman, April 2022, <u>Report on Election Registration and Processing of Voter Data</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Minor discrepancies were observed, including outdated addresses and deceased individuals still listed. Stakeholders reported that candidates faced difficulties locating voters due to incomplete addresses (e.g., missing apartment numbers).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> General Comment 25 to the ICCPR, paragraph 15, states that "Persons who are otherwise eligible to stand for election should not be excluded by unreasonable or discriminatory requirements such as education, resident or descent..."



Fifty-eight candidates were registered to contest the election. The majority of these candidates were nominated by political parties, thirteen by the People's Progressive Movement, twelve by the Cayman Islands National Party and ten by The Caymanian Community Party. Twenty-five candidates were independent candidates.

### **ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

The election campaign is governed by the Elections Act (2022 revision). Campaigning officially commenced on Nomination Day (3 March) and ran until the day before Election Day (29 April).

A total of 59 candidates were nominated, including 14 incumbent members of Parliament. Candidates represented a mix of political parties and independent candidates. The campaign was vibrant, competitive and peaceful, characterised by area meetings, rallies, door-to-door canvassing, social gatherings and extensive use of posters and billboards. The eight-week campaign allowed voters to become acquainted with the competing candidates, parties and their policy priorities. At the same time, there were reports that the length led to voter apathy and candidate fatigue and expense.

Freedom of assembly and freedom of expression, as guaranteed by the Constitution (as amended to 2020) were broadly respected. Candidates used a range of platforms including social media, print and radio to communicate with voters. While minor complaints were noted, overall, candidates and voters engaged actively and peacefully in the democratic process.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Campaign finance was identified by the mission as one of the most controversial issues in the General Election. The Elections Act, 2022, regulates campaign finance during the official campaign period, which runs from Nomination Day to the day before Election Day. Each candidate is permitted to spend a maximum of CI\$40,000 on campaign-related activities during this 8-week period.<sup>8</sup>

The regulatory framework for campaign finance in the Cayman Islands covers the official election campaign period but remains limited in scope. The absence of regulation for pre-nomination spending and for referendum campaigns highlights vulnerabilities that could undermine transparency and fairness.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Election Act, Section V (67) "Election Expenses shall not exceed the sum stipulated in subsection 2, \$40,000).



#### **MEDIA**

The Constitution (as amended to 2020) guarantees freedom of opinion and expression. Despite the digital shift, radio and print media remain the primary forms of media expression and access for political parties and candidates during the campaign. The media landscape is competitive and lively, but the lack of a formal media code of conduct raises concerns about the regulation of political content.

Candidates made use of the media during the campaign period, both online and in traditional media. Overall, the media landscape is characterised by a blend of traditional outlets and a robust digital presence, catering to the electorate and playing an important role in the electoral campaigns by the candidates. The use of media influencers played a more significant role in the electoral campaign, compared to previous elections, attracting criticisms from some due to its unregulated legal frameworks specifically addressing political content on social media and influencer conduct during campaigns. While the Elections Act (2022 revision) regulates traditional advertising and campaign finance, its applicability to digital influencers remains limited.

#### THE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

There are no formal legal barriers restricting the political participation of women, but there is a significant under-representation of women in Parliament. Five women have been elected among the 19 members of the new Cayman Islands Parliament, representing just 26% of the membership, the same proportion as in the previous legislature. Although the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was extended to the Cayman Islands in 2016, the affirmative action provisions have not yet been utilised to advance the political participation of women.

The Caymanian Community Party has had two women elected among their four parliamentarians (50%); while the People's Progressive Movement has also two women, but among seven MPs (28%); and the Cayman Islands National Party (CNIP) has one among four (25%). There is no woman among the four independent parliamentarians.

The Bill of Rights in the Constitution, in section 16, prohibits discrimination on grounds that include disability. The Disabilities (Solomon Webster) Act, 2016, additionally specifies that persons with disabilities are entitled to the opportunity to vote, to be elected to public office and to participate fully in public life. Exemplary efforts were made to ensure that the right to vote was vindicated for this community. Extension of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to the Cayman Islands would further enhance the legal rights of persons with disabilities, mandating removal of discrimination on grounds of intellectual capacity.



#### POSTAL AND MOBILE VOTING

Postal voting is provided as an option for registered voters who are not in the Cayman Islands on Election Day. This election saw a significant increase in postal voting participation, with 1,037 postal ballots issued, nearly double the 582 issued in 2021.

Mobile voting is advance voting for registered voters who are unable to attend a polling station on Election Day. This includes those who are ill, hospitalised, elderly and physically incapacitated, as well as those who cannot attend due to their occupation. This takes place in each polling district, both in a static location and by going house-to-house.

Mobile voting was carried out over four days in the week prior to Election Day.<sup>9</sup> The mission observed mobile voting in six districts both visiting static mobile voting locations and being present for house-to-house voting. Mobile voting was carried out in a professional and consistent manner, reaching as many registered mobile voters as possible. Out of the 1,500 registered mobile voters, 1,345 had voted by 26 April 2025.

Nearly 10% of registered voters applied to vote by postal or mobile voting: 2,500 out of a total of 25,643 voters.

#### **ELECTION DAY**

Election Day in the Cayman Islands General Election took place in a calm, peaceful and orderly manner. Voting procedures and processes are regulated under the Elections Act (2022 revision), which mandates the conduct of polling across all electoral districts.

Each of the 19 electoral districts operated designated polling centres, with a total of 65 individual stations across the Cayman Islands, including Cayman Brac.

On Election Day, the members of the mission visited 27 polling stations across all 19 electoral districts across the islands, including Cayman Brac, visiting some on multiple occasions through Election Day. The overall conduct of the opening, voting, closing and count was assessed as very good.

Polling stations opened in a timely manner and closed at approximately 18:00h. Every station was fully staffed by the relevant election officials, with the presiding officer present in each. Polling staff acted in a professional, efficient and competent manner, with no major incidents reported to the mission. Procedures were followed in line with the election law and official procedures. Election

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The legal framework for mobile voting is outlined in Section 50 of the Elections Act (2022 revision).



observers were welcomed by polling staff and were able to observe the voting, closing and counting processes in a transparent manner.

The mission observed the count in five counting centres in four districts, including Cayman Brac. The process was assessed as very good. The national average turnout overall was 73.57%.

### **ELECTORAL JUSTICE**

Access to dispute resolution mechanisms is facilitated throughout the electoral process in an effective manner, with enhancements added since the last election. Judicial remedies are available for some matters, with administrative measures available for others. Investigatory powers for complaints of electoral offences are vested in the Police Service, while prosecutorial decisions lie within the jurisdiction of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Procedures for claims and objections within the process of voter registration are set out in the Elections Act (2022 revision). Familiar to stakeholders, these procedures are scrutinised by a magistrate as the revising officer and were used transparently during this electoral cycle.

The new Elections (Applications Under Section 29A) Rules, 2025 regulate the use by the Supervisor of Elections of the power to seek a declaration from the Grand Court that a person who has been nominated as a candidate does not qualify to be a candidate. Petitions must be presented within nine days after nomination, with ten days for the disputed candidate to respond. The case must be heard within 35 days from the nomination date. If there is no decision on the petition within 42 days of the nomination date, the case must be discontinued. The matter could be again brought before the courts after the election by means of an election petition.

Jurisdiction for election petitions, complaining of the undue election of a member of the Cayman Islands Parliament, lies with the Grand Court. Such a petition may be made by anyone who voted or had the right to vote at the election, a candidate, or someone who claims that they should themselves have been elected. The case must be initiated within 21 or 28 days after the election, depending upon the grounds for the application. If the judge finds the candidate guilty of corrupt or illegal practice, or of corruption in general, the election result will be set aside.

During the campaign period, complaints regarding electoral matters may be submitted to the Elections Office, with online forms facilitating this. Complaints alleging commission of election offences were referred by the Elections Office to the Police, with complaints about the size and location of billboards referred to the relevant administrative authorities. Fewer than ten complaints were received by the Elections Office and were largely trivial in nature. There had not been charges on allegations of election offences at the time of writing.



#### **FINAL REPORT**

This statement is the mission's initial findings, published two days after Election Day. Within two months of Election Day a further in-depth report will be published. This may include recommendations to enhance future elections.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

The CPA BIMR Election Observation Mission wishes to express its gratitude to all in the Cayman Islands who supported the work of the Mission, including election officials, candidates and civil society organisations. We are also grateful to our team of observers and analysts for taking part.

#### **CPA BIMR ELECTION OBSERVATION SERVICES:**

The first objective of the BIMR Strategy is to strengthen parliaments and the skills of their members. As part of this work, CPA BIMR facilitates election observations when invited to do so.

For more information about these services, please contact the CPA BIMR Secretariat at: cpabimr@parliament.uk









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