

# Information Notice

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*Publication Number 02/19*

*STRUCTURAL REVIEW OF THE  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION*

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25 March 2019

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1. During the Clauses stage and the Third Reading of the Communications Bill 2018 there was a debate surrounding the appropriate governance structures of the Communications Commission (the Commission) – specifically in relation to the Chair of the Commission being the sitting Minister for Home Affairs. The Commission acknowledges that this is a discussion that has been ongoing for some time in certain quarters.
2. The Commission also notes that there is a recommendation in the Government’s National Telecommunications Strategy that urges the Commission to “*review its processes, procedures, and structure on enactment of the Communications Bill*”.
3. The Chairman of the Commission provided an overview of the Commission’s position on this matter in the House of Keys, specifically that the Commission is not averse to changing its governance structures. The Commission’s only concern is that the decision on its future governance structure is ultimately informed by a consultation process that considers the available options in an objective manner and takes into account the views of all stakeholders.
4. In light of the abovementioned recommendation, and a proposal in the House of Keys that the Commission commit to consulting on its structure within 12 months, the Commission can confirm that commencing a consultation process to elicit the views of all stakeholders on its future structure has been included as an action in its Work Plan for the coming operating year. This is also an acknowledgement on the part of the Commission of the importance of ensuring it is best positioned to effectively regulate what is one of the most important sectors on the Island in both economic and social terms, i.e. telecommunications.
5. The Commission will be in a position to provide further details and timelines once the Communications Bill has passed through the Legislative Branches; however, the Bill’s passage through the Legislative Branches is currently a priority as is the current round of market reviews.