



SENATE

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A SITTING OF THE SENATE HELD AT THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, MT. WHELDALE, ST. GEORGE ON FRIDAY 10TH JULY, 2026

PRESENT

Madam President

Senator the Honourable Dr. Dessima Williams

in the Chair

Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas

Minister for Tourism, Creative
Economy and Culture

(Leader of Government's
Business)

Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew

Minister for Education

Senator the Honourable Seville Francis

Parliamentary Secretary within
the Ministry for Youth and Sports

Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas

Minister for Social & Community
Development, Housing and
Gender Affairs (Social Security)

Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph	Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis	Member of the Senate (Labour Representative)
Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair	Member of the Senate (Farmers' and Fishers' Representative)

ABSENT

Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton	Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Norland Cox	Opposition Member of the Senate (Deputy President) (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Dr. Myanna Charles	Opposition Member of the Senate (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Dwight Horsford	Opposition Member of the Senate (Excuse tendered)

Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman

Member of the Senate (Business Representative)

(Excuse tendered)

The Sitting of the Senate began at 9:06 a.m.

PRAYERS

Prayers were led by Madam President.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR AFFIRMATION OF A NEW SENATOR

There was no Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a new Senator.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

There were no Messages from the Governor-General.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MADAM PRESIDENT

Madam President made announcements.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sittings of the Senate held at the Parliament Building, Mt. Wheldale, St. George, on Thursday 11th June, 2026 at 09:00 a.m., be taken as read.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes taken as read.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sittings of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George on Thursday 11th June, 2026 at 09:00 a.m., be confirmed.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes confirmed.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There were no Petitions.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no Papers and Reports laid.

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, recommended that the questions in the name of Senator Cox be deferred to the next Sitting due to his absence.

Questions deferred to the next Sitting.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

The under-mentioned Ministers made statements:

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas, Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)

Madam President made remarks.

The under-mentioned Member made remarks:

- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate (Labour Representative)

Madam President made remarks.

- ❖ Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew, Minister for Education

Madam President made remarks.

The under-mentioned Members made remarks:

- Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Member of the Senate (Farmers' and Fishers' Representative)
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate (Labour Representative)

Madam President made remarks.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

There were no Personal Explanations.

MOTIONS

There were no Motions.

BILLS

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AGENCY BILL, 2026

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the relevant Standing Order of the Senate be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Relevant Standing Order suspended.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the second reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Members spoke on the Bill:

- ❖ The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture

- ❖ Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Member of the Senate (Farmers' and Fishers' Representative)
- ❖ Senator the Honourable David Evelyn Andrew, Minister for Education
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member of the Senate (Labour Representative)
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas, Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Seville Francis, Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry for Youth and Sports
- ❖ Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph, Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, thanked all Senators for their contribution and commended the Bill for its second reading.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Senate to consider the Bill Part by Part.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate in Committee.

Part II	-	Establishment of the Agency		
		6 (1) Alphabetical Letters should read "a – q".	-	agreed to
Part III	-	Governance and Administration	-	agreed to
First Schedule	-	Board of the Agency – Constitution and Proceedings of Meetings	-	agreed to
Second Schedule	-	Financial Provisions and Accountability	-	agreed to
Part 1	-	Preliminary	-	agreed to

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Senate resume and that the Chair of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Senate resumed and the Chair of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the Whole Senate and passed with typographical amendments.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved that the Chair's Report be adopted.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Chair's Report adopted.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

There was no Public Business.

ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, Minister for Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, moved the adjournment of the Senate ***sine die***.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned *sine die* at 1:22 p.m.

Submitted to the President for her signature in accordance with Standing Order No. 7(2) of the Revised Standing Orders of the Senate.



Finley Jeffery
CLERK OF PARLIAMENT

Signed by me pursuant to the provisions of the Revised Standing Order No. 7(2).



Dessima Williams
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE