PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 9
Answered on 26th June, 2025
First Meeting 2025-2026 Session - First Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

MR. ROY TATUM, MP – ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE CONSTITUENCY OF RED BAY

TO

THE HON. JOHANY S. EBANKS, MINISTER OF PLANNING, LANDS, AGRICULTURE, HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister advise whether there are formal agreements in place—including required timelines—between the National Roads Authority and utility companies particularly, the two water companies, to ensure the full reinstatement of roads that have been damaged because of repair works or other activities carried out beneath or along public roads?

ANSWER:

Yes, there is a formal policy and operating framework in place between the National Roads Authority (NRA) and all utility providers — including both water companies — governing road reinstatement following utility works.

Under Section 25 of the Roads Act, the NRA has legal authority to regulate the placement and maintenance of utility infrastructure in public roads. All statutory undertakers must apply for and receive a permit before carrying out any trenching or excavation on public roads, and are fully responsible for the cost and quality of reinstatement.

Standard procedure requires temporary reinstatement immediately after trenching to maintain access and safety. Final asphalt resurfacing is then carried out, typically within a few weeks, depending on contractor availability and coordination timelines. In some cases, works may be grouped to reduce repeated disruption in the same area.

The NRA meets regularly with utility providers to coordinate planned works, align timelines where possible, and minimise impact on road users. This includes reviewing major development projects in advance to anticipate required utility upgrades and integrate them with NRA schedules.

In cases of non-compliance or poor-quality reinstatement, the NRA has the authority to require corrective action or withhold future permits until issues are resolved. This approach ensures accountability without requiring formal penalties under current legislation.

The Ministry is satisfied that the current framework provides a structured and enforceable process for managing road reinstatement following utility activity.