

Hon. Catherine Harris Cranfield
Deputy Speaker of Legislative Council, St Helena

The Hon. Catherine Harris Cranfield was appointed Deputy Speaker after the general election in October 2021. She has over 35 years public sector experience with both the St Helena and Ascension Island Government's and has a Diploma in Project Management.

Cathy gained her skills and experience from the age of 17 with the St Helena Government escalating from administrative to senior managerial roles in the Health, Audit and HM Customs. In 2001 she was seconded to the Administrator's Office (the Governor's representative) on Ascension Island during the imminent period of radical change when preparations were being made for the formation of the Ascension Island Government and tax to be levied for the very first time. She was appointed Acting Administrator on a number of occasions. In 2011 she led the Government into successfully receiving its ISO 9001 accreditation for the very first time. She was always interested in politics and during her thirteen year term on Ascension Island she was elected as an Island Councillor.

In 2014 Cathy and her family relocated to St Helena to allow her to take up her appointment as Procurement Manager with the St Helena Government but illness prevented her from continuing. She was appointed a Human Rights Commissioner in 2017 which she relinquished after her appointment as Deputy Speaker. She's a member of the St Helena Disabled Society that provides services and equipment for disabled clients. As a physically challenged person herself she encourages improvements for the disabled on St Helena. She is married with a daughter and grandson.