



Wes-Kaapse Provinciale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

WCPP11/1/10

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Tuesday, 10 September 2024 (13h00), Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

(Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department on how to use donor or investor funds to assist in the building of new schools, an idea to counteract the cuts to the education budget)

Democratic Alliance

Van Wyk, LD (Chairperson)
Kaizer-Philander, WF
Booysen, M
Walters, TCR

African National Congress

Sayed, MK

African Christians Democratic Party

Christians, FC

Patriotic Alliance

Stephens, DR

Alternate Members

Bryant, NP (Mr) (DA)
Cassiem, A (EFF)
Wessels, DJ (Mr) (DA)
Windvogel, R (ANC)

(See attached list of departmental officials and members of the public who were in attendance.)

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the Members of the Committee and the WCED's officials and the members of the public.

2. Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department on how to use donor or investor funds to assist in the building of new schools, an idea to counteract the cuts to the education budget. This issue also includes how the private sector can operate concession and independent schools that can relieve the WCED, as well as infrastructure that can be rented (possibly through a "rent to buy" model). This is

particularly relevant considering the need to reduce the infrastructure budget for 2024/2025.

Mr S Abrahams, the Deputy Director-General: Education Planning for the WCED, led the presentation.

The presentation focused on the significant challenges and strategies for financing education infrastructure in the Western Cape. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) highlighted the severe impact of the national fiscal emergency on its operations and fiscal sustainability, emphasizing the need for an estimated R15 billion to meet medium-term capital funding demands. To address this, the WCED is actively sourcing additional funding through various public and private channels, including the Budget Facility for Infrastructure (BFI), donor funding, and partnerships. Key initiatives include expanding the Collaboration Schools model and launching “Edu Invest” to attract private sector investment.

The presentation also detailed the allocation of the 2024/25 budget, with significant portions dedicated to new schools, maintenance, and upgrades. The WCED outlined critical priorities such as addressing overcrowding, replacing deteriorating infrastructure, and enabling skills-based learning pathways. Innovative approaches like the “Rent to Buy” model and hybrid education were discussed to reduce costs and improve quality. The WCED emphasized the importance of a blended finance ecosystem to mobilize investment and leverage private sector expertise, aiming to expand access to quality education while managing costs effectively.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation.

The Chairperson thanked the WCED officials for their contribution.

3. Information requested

The Committee REQUESTED the WCED to provide the following information:

- 3.1. A detailed list of all infrastructure development projects, including renovations and maintenance projects. This should include the BEE (Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment) rankings of the service providers.
- 3.2. Information on the number of new schools to be built each year from 2024 to 2027 and the number of temporary schools.
- 3.3. A report on the delays at Sir Lowry’s Pass High School in Sir Lowry’s Village, including whether the WCED intends to continue with the same plans.

4. Resolutions

The Committee RESOLVED that:

- 4.1. The WCED be regularly invited back to brief the Committee on the progress of their initiatives on how to use donor or investor funds to assist in the building of new schools, an idea to counteract the cuts to the education budget, given the importance of the future of Western Cape education.
- 4.2. The WCED should publicize its strategic planning and innovative models to make the broader public and potential investors more aware of the excellent work being done.

Having concluded the business of the day, the Chairperson thanked Members of the Committee.

The Committee adjourned at 15h12.



MPP, MR LD VAN WYK
CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

