



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

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WCPP 11/4/12

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Annual Committee Activity Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism for the 2024/25 financial year as follows:

## Members

The Committee comprised of the following members:

Brinkhuis, G (Al Jama-ah)  
Bryant, DW (DA)  
Constable, N (PA)  
Masipa, NP (DA) (Chairperson)  
Mbombo, N (DA)  
Nkondlo, ND (ANC)  
Wessels, DJ (DA)

## Alternate Members

Booyesen, M (DA)  
Bosman, G (DA)  
Kaizer-Philander, WF (DA)  
Stoffels, BN (ANC)  
Van Wyk, LD (DA)  
Walters, TCR (DA)

## 1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee was to -

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive Members and the Departments and its Entities, of the way in which they perform their responsibilities including the implementation of legislation and to hold them accountable to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament; and
- 1.2 consider and report on legislation, other matters and the Annual Reports referred to it by the Speaker.

In fulfillment of its mandate the Committee -

- 1.3 facilitated public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee;
- 1.4 conducted its business in a fair, open and transparent manner;
- 1.5 promoted co-operative governance; and
- 1.6 reported regularly to the House.

## **2. Reporting department(s) and entities**

- 2.1 Department of Agriculture
- 2.2 Department of Economic Development and Tourism
- 2.3 Cape Agency for Sustainable Integrated Development (Casidra)
- 2.4 Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)
- 2.5 Freeport Saldanha Industrial Development Zone Licencing Company (FSIDZ)
- 2.6 Western Cape Destination Marketing, Investment and Trade Promotion Agency (WESGRO)

## **3. Overview of Committee's activities**

No of Committee Meetings	11
No of Public Hearings	6
No of Oversight Visits	3
No of Cluster Visit Weeks	1

## **4. Oversight activities**

- 4.1 The 2024/25 year marked the beginning of the 7th Parliamentary Term and commenced in July 2025. It was considered a productive year in which interactions with the Departments and Entities and the many stakeholders consulted were both cordial and beneficial and ensured that Committee members could approach their oversight function with objectivity and insight.

The financial year was a challenging year that was exacerbated by limited fiscal resources. The Committee continued with its mandate and embarked on several initiatives having resulted in follow-up activities and meetings. The Committee focused on Money Bills, current and regulatory matters as well as overseeing the implementation of policies and programmes related to the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and its Entities. The following is a summary of the Committee's activities during the 2024/25 financial year.

In terms of Money Bills, the Committee considered Vote 11: Agriculture and Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism, in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 2–2024]. Similarly, the main appropriated budget for the 2025/26 financial year for Vote 11: Agriculture and Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism, in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2025] was also considered.

- 4.2 With the start of the financial year coinciding with the beginning of the new parliamentary term, and the induction of new members, the Committee prioritised introductory briefings. These sessions were aimed at equipping members with a foundational understanding of the various departmental and entity programmes. The Departments and Entities presented overviews of their respective mandates, core functions, and the legislation guiding their work. They also provided insights into their organisational structures, highlighted key programmes, outlined achievements and challenges, and shared upcoming legislative developments.
- 4.3 The Committee also received regular updates, in writing, from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and its respective Entities on its quarterly performance where non-financial performance targets were evaluated and where performance indicators that were not achieved and/or partly achieved were highlighted.

- 4.4 The Committee conducted three oversight visits: one to Elsenburg, another to the Atlantis Special Economic Zone and the Freeport Saldanha Industrial Development Zone, and a third to the Port of Cape Town.

The purpose of the visit to Elsenburg was to focus on the Department's key activities and infrastructure, including the Agricultural Training Institute, winemaking, the equine farm, and the agri-processing hub with the aim to gain insight into how these initiatives contributed to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's Growth for Jobs Strategy. The Committee discussed the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme funding (CASP) and Ilima/Letsema funding provided by Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development to support small-scale and emerging farmers. However, the Department faced challenges in managing these funds effectively, particularly due to delays in disbursement that led to missed planting seasons. A key concern was the reclassification of CASP funding for the Western Cape from Schedule 4 (more flexible) to Schedule 5 (more restrictive), which limited the Department's ability to plan and implement projects efficiently, causing administrative burdens and delays in execution.

To this end, the Committee has written to the national Minister of Agriculture seeking to understand the reasoning behind changing the initial grant allocation from Schedule 4 to Schedule 5 and the requirements and procedures to revert the allocation back to Schedule 4. After numerous attempts the Committee has not received a response from the national Ministry and will continue to follow up on this important matter in the next financial year.

The purpose of the visit to the Atlantis Special Economic Zone and the Freeport Saldanha Industrial Development Zone was to focus on economic impact and growth; infrastructure and development; regulatory compliance and governance; social impact; innovation and technology; operational challenges and risk management; partnerships and collaboration; and long-term sustainability. The Committee recognised the hard work, success stories as well as the challenges faced by the ASEZ, and in particular the FSIDZ, and undertook to continue its oversight role to assist in this capacity.

The purpose of the visit to the Port of Cape Town was to assess progress on challenges that were identified in the previous parliamentary term, particularly regarding the impact of port conditions on operations and infrastructure readiness for imports and exports. The Committee emphasised the importance of integrated planning between port authorities, transporters, cold storage operators, and exporters to create a more synchronised and efficient logistics network. The Committee called upon Transnet and the relevant authorities to urgently address port congestion and logistical inefficiencies through better planning, infrastructure upgrades, and stakeholder collaboration and undertook to conduct a follow up visit in the next financial year.

- 4.5 The Committee, as part of the Cluster B Visit Week, participated in a Provincial Visit Week to Beaufort West to consult and interact with private stakeholders and provincial and local government projects and programmes in outlying areas as part of its oversight mandate. The project visited was Vaalkuil Boerdery. The purpose of the visit was to gain an understanding of the sectoral issues in agriculture, including employment and the structure of the business; the challenges in legislation that the farmer or the Department of Agriculture considered necessary to address their plight or to be amended to improve service delivery; the role of the farmer in the food system; expansion plans of the operation; the blending finance opportunity

between the state grants and private sector credit finance; and the type of extension services being provided.

- 4.6 Annual reports were the key instruments for departments to report on performance measured against their performance targets and budgets as outlined in their Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans. To this end, the Committee deliberated on the Annual Reports of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism as well as their respective entities for the 2023/24 financial year.

## **5. Legislation**

In the 2024/25 Financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

### **5.1 Provincial bills**

- 5.1.1 Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 2—2024]: Vote 11 - Agriculture  
5.1.2 Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 2—2024]: Vote 12 - Economic Development and Tourism  
5.1.3 Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2—2025]: Vote 11 - Agriculture  
5.1.4 Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2—2025]: Vote 12 - Economic Development and Tourism

### **5.2 NCOP bills (Section 76)**

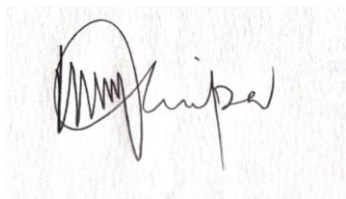
There were no NCOP Bills referred to the Committee.

## **6. Facilitation of public involvement and participation**

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee created awareness and opportunity for the public to participate in the legislative process by advertising in print media, using social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

## **7. Financial particulars**

The Committee's actual expenditure for the 2024/25 financial year as at 31 March 2025 was R78 285.69 against an adjusted budget of R92 252.00.



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**NP MASIPA, MPP**

**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

**DATE: 18 June 2025**