



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

Ref Number: WCPP 11/6/2

Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on its engagement with GrandWest Casino on its Corporate Social Investment initiatives, on 12 August 2025, as follows:

Delegation

Members

Johnson, P (DA) (Chairperson)
Booyesen, M (DA)(Alternate)
Brinkhuis, K (Al Jama-ah)
Constable, N (PA)
Masipa, N (DA)
Mbombo, N (DA)
Nkondlo, N (ANC)

Apology

Wessels, D (DA)

Staff Members

Adams, Z (Procedural Officer)
Mrubata, M (Committee Assistant)
Van Niekerk, L (Logistics Official)

1. Introduction

The Standing Committee on Finance met with the stakeholders of GrandWest Casino to receive a briefing on their Corporate Social Investment (CSI) initiatives in the areas surrounding the casino. The Committee was also accompanied by Provincial Treasury officials, who had knowledge and experience of gambling and racing regulations. The Committee received information on GrandWest's CSI requirements and the projects they were involved with in surrounding communities. GrandWest then took the delegation on a tour of two of the CSI projects at Rocklands High School in Mitchell's Plain, and Nosapho Educare Centre in Khayelitsha.

In terms of the Strategic Objectives of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, linked to the Speaker's Priorities, the outcome of this report is linked to the following priorities:

- Priority 2: Expanding citizen service

- Priority 3: Strengthening the core business

This report highlights the Committee's observations stemming from the briefing and demonstration.

2. Briefing by GrandWest Casino on their Corporate Social Investment Initiatives

The day commenced with a briefing from GrandWest on their Corporate Social Investment requirements and initiatives:

- 2.1 In terms of GrandWest Casino's Corporate Social Investment (CSI) obligations, the establishment spent 2% of its net profit after tax on CSI projects in 2024. The total amount spent on CSI projects amounted to R8,03 million, of which R5,53 million was spent on Social Economic Development (SED) projects, and R2,5 million was spent on surrounding communities as part of GrandWest's Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programme.
- 2.2 GrandWest supported communities within a 75km radius of its operations. Many of the projects focused on education, sport, and arts and culture.
- 2.3 As part of its SED Programme, GrandWest donated R167 163 to the City of Cape Town when they sent out a call requesting assistance with addressing the impact of the recent inclement weather in the metro and surrounding communities. The money was used to purchase blankets, toiletries and non-perishable items. Other SED initiatives also included providing financial assistance with the revamping of consumer studies classes in 13 classrooms in Cape Town. This has been an ongoing project for the GrandWest Casino, which started in 2014.
- 2.4 Besides monetary donations in respect of consumer studies, GrandWest has also provided further investment to schools for the supply of kitchen equipment (pots, pans, stoves, stainless steel tables, microwaves etc.). GrandWest indicated that it was their belief that every child deserved a dignified meal, and has donated approximately R1,29 million towards kitchen and dining refurbishments at various schools. Monetary support has also been given to schools for library refurbishments, new classrooms, plumbing, installation of cupboards and doors, and initiatives that offer children the educational and therapeutic programmes needed to thrive.
- 2.5 In terms of support for sport in surrounding communities, GrandWest has donated R 124 982 to the Be The Difference (BTD) Foundation in Kraaifontein, which provides a platform for the youth in the community to show off their athletic talents and to provide them with opportunities to become better players and great future leaders. GrandWest supported BTD with netball and rugby sports apparel and training equipment.
- 2.6 Since 2018, GrandWest has spent R36 million on surrounding communities as part of its Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programme. This programme provides small businesses with financial support that is part-loan part-grant that needs to be applied for. Small businesses may apply for the loan-grant support as long as they partake in community initiatives and are able to create some form of employment. GrandWest has assisted small businesses who provide printing services, fire equipment services, window cleaning, maintenance, telecommunication services, candle making, transport services, car washing, construction, catering, medical services, social media services etc.

2.7 GrandWest's ESD programme support to small businesses resulted in the creation of 76 new jobs created in 2019, 35 new jobs created in 2020, 24 new jobs in 2022, 83 new jobs in 2023, and 11 new jobs in 2024. No new jobs were created in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

3. Tour of the refurbished Consumer Studies Classroom at Rocklands High School in Mitchell's Plain

GrandWest donated R420 600 to Rocklands High School as part of its SED Programme, which was used to revamp its consumer studies classroom. Previously, learners were using an older consumer studies practical room that had outdated stoves and fridges.

According to GrandWest, the school was situated in an area that was exposed to poverty, illegal drug trading, gangsterism and violent crimes, yet the learners always strove for excellence. There was great interest from the community and learners in the service industry; therefore, the school accommodated 246 learners for consumer studies. The school has also achieved a 100% pass rate in consumer studies for a number of years.

GrandWest has assisted the school with a fully renovated and equipped consumer studies classroom. The classroom was completely stripped and rebuilt with state-of-the-art equipment, stoves, fridges, cooking equipment and utensils. The learners were also offered the opportunity to participate in a "cook-off", where they received trophies and prizes.

4. Tour of the refurbished Nosapho Educare Centre in Khayelitsha

GrandWest donated R824 480 to the Nosapho Educare Centre as part of its SED Programme. GrandWest partnered with Breadline Africa to provide a new classroom and infrastructure that was needed at the Centre.

One of the key focus areas for GrandWest in terms of their SED programme was to enhance academic achievement for learners. They were able to do this for Nosapho Educare Centre by improving the quality of the learning environment for the young learners at the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre.

Nosapho Educare Centre was founded in 1989; however, demand from the community in recent years resulted in the need for additional classrooms. GrandWest supported the ECD centre by providing them with a new 30 square metre prefabricated classroom in 2023, and another 60 square metre modular classroom in 2024. The prefabricated classroom was fitted with daffodil chairs, nursery tables and educational toys. The modular classroom was equipped with wooden chairs and tables, educational resources and a jungle gym.

5. Resolutions/Actions

The Committee REQUESTED the following information from GrandWest Casino:

- 5.1 Any evaluation or impact assessment done on its Corporate Social Investment projects so far, and if this has not been done, GrandWest should provide the reasons for not doing so;
- 5.2 The total amount and breakdown of the money GrandWest has paid to the industry organisation that has dealt with driving responsible gambling, and how this contribution has dealt directly with matters emanating from the GrandWest casino; and
- 5.3 A list of businesses/organisations that received the loan-grant allocation from the GrandWest Casino in the past five years, including a brief profile of each recipient.

6. Acknowledgements

The Committee expressed its gratitude to the GrandWest Casino, Rocklands High School and Nozapho Educare Centre for their willingness to meet with the Committee and to share critical information with the Committee pertaining to the establishment's Corporate Social Investment initiatives. The Committee was especially appreciative of the efforts made by GrandWest to organise the engagement, and the efforts made by the recipients to showcase the support provided by GrandWest.



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MR P JOHNSON, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
DATE: 12 August 2025