

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19

Friday, 22 May 2020 (14h00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

GOVERNMENT BUDGET AND FINANCES, AND COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Allen, R America, D Baartman, D Bosman, G Mitchell, D Philander, W Van der Westhuizen, A Wenger, M (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Lekker, P Windvogel, R

African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, F

GOOD

Herron, B

Alternate Members

MacKenzie, R (DA) Nkondlo, N (ANC) Sayed, K (ANC)

Apology

Smith, D (ANC)(Alternate)

Absent

Dugmore, C (ANC) Marais, P (FFP) Xego, M (EFF)

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry: Finance and Economic Opportunities

Mr D Maynier, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities Ms C Green, Head of Ministry Mr R Botha, Strategic Analyst

Provincial Treasury

Mr D Savage, Head of Department Ms J Gantana, Deputy Director-General: Governance and Asset Management Ms A Pick, Acting Chief Director: Public Finance Mr A Phillips, Acting Deputy Director-General: Fiscal and Economic Services Mr I Smith, COVID-19 Lead for Finance and Supply Chain Management Mr M Booysen, Acting Chief Director: Public Policy Sector Mr P Pienaar, Director: Business Information and Data Management Ms T van de Rheede, Acting Director: Provincial Government – Budget Office

Department of the Premier

Mr A Winde, Premier of the Western Cape Dr H Malila, Provincial Director-General Mr R Shaw, Office of the Director-General

Members of the Public

Ms S Payne, Journalist: Daily Maverick Ms J Kassen, Journalist: EWN

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Ms Z Adams, Procedural Officer Ms L Cloete, Senior Procedural Officer Mr W Matthews, Procedural Officer

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed the Members, the Provincial Minister, the officials from the Provincial and National Departments and members of the media and public. The Chairperson noted an apology from Mr D Smith (ANC)(Alternate). The Chairperson explained the rules of engagement to Members and officials in respect of virtual meetings and then proceeded to the presentations.

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee would proceed with the briefing from the Minister and Provincial Treasury first, and then the Premier and Provincial Director-General would join the meeting later at 16h00.

2. Briefing by the Provincial Minister and the Provincial Treasury on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the finances and budgets of the Province, the plan to adjust and allocate budgets, the financial support provided by National Government, funding for COVID-19 allocated to municipalities and spending by municipalities during the lockdown period, provincial reserve funds, goods and services procured under emergency procurement regulations, procurement of Personal Protective Equipment, actions taken by Provincial Treasury to manage relevant departments, the impact of the lockdown on predominantly tourist economies and the relief packages available to these areas, and an update on the Public Private Partnership framework for the Province

Minister Maynier, Mr Savage, Ms Pick and Mr Smith briefed the Committee on the subject at hand.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation.

3. Briefing by the Premier and the Provincial Director-General on the Whole of Society Approach to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the aspects of legislation that assisted or hindered the efforts of various levels of government to fight the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic

The Premier and Dr Malila briefed the Committee on the subject at hand.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation.

4. **Resolutions/Actions**

- 4.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Provincial Treasury provide the Committee with the following information:
- 4.1.1 An updated presentation that clarifies the costs associated with the Western Cape Government procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for essential workers (slide 19 of the presentation); and
- 4.1.2 In respect of the PPE procured by the Province to the value of R350 million, more detailed information on the companies providing the PPE, the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment status and criteria used for companies supplying PPE, whether the procurement was part of a tender process, and what criteria was used for this;

- 4.1.3 In terms of PPE procurement for schools in preparation for them to open, the amount of money spent so far, the details of the companies providing the PPE, and a breakdown of the quantities of PPE procured for each school;
- 4.1.4 A report on how Small, Medium and Micro-sized Enterprises get access to the procurement process for PPE;
- 4.1.5 Based on Slide 4 and 24, when Provincial Treasury stated that "[t]he economy will shed 240,000 jobs of which 104,505 jobs are in the tourism sector", that "[t]ourism accounts for 43% of all employment losses"; and that "50% of all tourism business will close down" (a) how does the Department determine what subsectors fall within the 'tourism sector' and/or what type of business activity falls within 'tourism business'; (b) If hairdressers and barbers fall within this sector and if not, (c) what is the (i) economic impact, and (ii) estimate of job losses in the following sectors or subsectors within the Western Cape (aa) hairdressers and barbers; (bb) informal car washes; (cc) Spaza Shops; (dd) Informal shoemakers or repairs; and (ee) informal tailors; and
- 4.1.6 The amount in Rand value and in terms of Gross Domestic Product that the Western Cape economy has lost to products being sold in the black market which, if not for the various national COVID-19 lockdown regulations, would not have been illegal to purchase otherwise.
- 4.2 The Committee also RESOLVED that any additional questions, resolutions and requests for information stemming from the meeting to the Procedural Officer by 12h00 on Monday, 25 May 2020, which will then be forwarded to the relevant department.

The meeting adjourned at 17h03.

MS M WENGER, MPP CHAIRPERSON: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 DATE: 3 JUNE 2020