

# PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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TUESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 1. **Annual Activity Report of the Standing Committee on Social Development for the 2022/23 financial year**

The strategic objectives of the WCPP linked to the Speaker's priorities, which have an impact on committees, are as follows:

Priority 1: Building a credible WCPP; and  
Priority 3: Strengthening the core business.

#### **Members:**

##### **Democratic Alliance**

Plato, D (Chairperson)  
Bosman, G  
Fry, C

##### **African National Congress**

Bakubaku-Vos, NG

##### **Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF)**

Cassiem, A

##### **Alternate Members**

Bans, AP (ANC)  
Bartman, D M (DA)  
Klaas, T M (EFF)  
Lekker, P Z (ANC)

Pretorius, G (DA)  
Windvogel, R (ANC)

## **Membership changes**

During the financial year under review, Member G Bosman replaced Member W Kaizer Philander as a permanent Member of the Committee. Member K Brinkhuis of Al Jama-ah was replaced by Member Makamba-Botya of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). In February 2023, the EFF replaced Member N Makamba-Botya, with Member A Cassiem as the Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament and permanent Member of the Standing Committee on Social Development.

### **1. Introduction**

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Maintain oversight over the Executive.
- 1.2 To keep the Department of Social Development accountable to it.
- 1.3 To consider and report on legislation and other matters referred to it by the Speaker.
- 1.4 To monitor the implementation of legislation.

In the fulfilment of its mandate, the Committee:

- 1.5 Facilitated public participation in the legislative and other processes of the Committee.
- 1.6 Conducted its business in a fair, open and transparent manner.
- 1.7 Promoted cooperative governance.
- 1.8 Reported regularly to the House.

### **2. Reporting department**

- 2.1 Department of Social Development

### **3. Overview of committee activities**

Number of committee activities	22
Number of public hearings	7
Number of oversight visits	3
Number of cluster visit weeks	2
Number of international study tours	1
Number of provincial bills considered	2
Number of NCOP visit weeks	0
Number of NCOP bills considered	1
Number of committee briefing meetings	6
Workshops or conferences attended	0

### **4. Committee activities**

In May 2022, the Standing Committee visited StellCARE in Stellenbosch as part of its oversight function. The purpose of the visit to StellCARE was to assess the programmes offered and the safety protocols in place at the NGO. The Committee also wanted to inspect how the

NGO was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in delivering quality services to the people of Stellenbosch and the surrounding areas.

In June 2022, the Standing Committee on Health and the Standing Committee on Social Development conducted a joint visit to various health facilities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Overberg District from 22 to 24 June 2022. The joint visit was scheduled after the cancellation of the Social Cluster Visit Week to the Overberg District in June 2022.

The purpose of the visits was to assess the quality of services offered by various health facilities and NGOs to the communities of the Overberg District. In addition, the committees visited the facilities to assess the high service pressure. During the joint visit, the delegation held discussions with the Cape Agulhas Health Subdistrict management, senior management of the Department of Social Development (DSD), and the management of NGOs visited. Members also conducted a walkabout of the facilities.

Also in June 2022, the Committee conducted an oversight visit to the Awendrus Old-age Home in Worcester. The visit to the old-age home followed a complaint received by the Committee in 2021, regarding the allegations of mismanagement at the Awendrus Old-age Home. The Committee also visited the NGO to assess the programmes offered and the safety protocols that were in place at the old age home. Furthermore, the Committee visited the old age home to inspect how it was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and to assess the quality of services offered to the elderly persons in Worcester and the surrounding areas post the pandemic.

During the financial year under review, the Standing Committee on Social Development and the Standing Committee on Education embarked on a study tour to Brazil. The two committees undertook a study visit to Brazil to assess the best practices in the portfolios of Education and Social Development.

In September 2022, the Committee was briefed by the national Department of Social Development on the Children's Amendment Bill [B 18B–2020] (S76). The Bill was drafted after the ruling by the North Gauteng High Court, which ordered the Department of Social Development to review the foster care system in 2017.

The Committee scheduled four public hearings on the Bill in places that were central in each region for the public participation process in line with section 118 of the Constitution and Standing Rule 72. The hearings were conducted in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for the stakeholders in the Cape metropolitan area and the West Coast, Worcester for the stakeholders in the Boland region, Caledon for the stakeholders in the Overberg region, and George for the Southern Cape and Karoo stakeholders.

During the financial year under review, the Committee deliberated on the Annual Report of the Department of Social Development, Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 3–2022], and deliberated on Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2023].

## **5. Legislation**

During the 2022/23 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following legislation:

## **5.1 Provincial bills**

- 5.1.1 Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 3–2022].
- 5.1.2 Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2023].

## **5.2 NCOP bill**

- 5.2.1 Children’s Amendment Bill [B 18B–2020] (S76).

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

In line with the Committee’s mandate to facilitate public involvement in its activities, members of the public were invited to participate in the:

- 6.1 Discussion on the Annual Report of the Department of Social Development.
- 6.2 Public hearing on the deliberations on Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 3–2022].
- 6.3 Public hearing on the deliberations on Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2023].
- 6.4 Public hearing on the Children’s Amendment Bill [B 18B–2020] (S76).

## **7. Financial particulars**

The Standing Committee was allocated an amount of R63 176,00 and the adjusted budget amounted to R591 231,00. The Standing Committee spent R676 381,00 during the 2022/23 financial year an overspend of R85 150 (expenditure after the adjusted budget) was reported.

The budget was spent on the joint international study tour of the Standing Committee on Social Development and the Standing Committee on Education to São Paulo, Brazil. The budget was also spent on the publication of deliberations on Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 3–2022], and on the deliberations on Vote 7: Social Development in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2023], and the deliberation on the Annual Report of the Department of Social Development in October 2022. In addition, the Committee spent some funds during the public participation process on the Children’s Amendment Bill and during the oversight visits to the NGOs across the province. Furthermore, funds were spent during the Social Cluster Visit Week to the Kannaland district and municipal area from 29 January to 3 February 2023.

## **2. Report of the Standing Committee on Social Development on its oversight visit to the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home in Wolseley on Tuesday 22 August 2023**

The Standing Committee on Social Development, having conducted an oversight visit to the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home in Wolseley on 22 August 2023, reports as follows:

### **Delegation**

The delegation consisted of the following Members:

## **Democratic Alliance**

Plato, D (Chairperson)

Fry, C

## **African National Congress**

Bakubaku-Vos, NG

## **Economic Freedom Fighters**

Cassiem, A

### **1. Introduction**

The 2023/24 strategic objectives of the WCPP linked to the Speaker's priorities, which have an impact on committees, are as follows:

Priority 1: Building a credible WCPP; and

Priority 3: Strengthening the core business.

The Standing Committee on Social Development, as part of its oversight mandate, conducted an oversight visit to the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home in Wolseley. The purpose of the visit was to assess the services offered, the staffing structure, challenges and successes of the facility.

During the visit to the old-age home, the Committee was briefed on the services that the facility offers, the funding allocation, the challenges and successes followed by the walkabout of the facility.

### **2. Overview and background**

The Committee was welcomed by Mr W Terblanche from Badisa and officials from Huis Mostertshoek consisting of Ms K Klopper, Ms J van Wyk and Ms D Noble. In addition, Ms L Williams and Mr G Claasen from the Department of Social Development were in attendance. This report highlights the findings, key issues discussed and recommendations stemming from the oversight visit.

### **3. Background information**

Mr Terblanche from Badisa proceeded to brief the delegation on the programmes of the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home. He indicated that the NGO was affiliated with Badisa. He indicated that the purpose of Badisa is to implement and sustain programmes in the Western, Northern and Eastern Cape that provide social services and residential care to vulnerable people. This is done through collaboration with communities, churches, NGOs, the government and funders. Badisa's services are in line with the National Development Plan of South Africa, as well as the global sustainable development goals.

He indicated that Badisa provides an integrated service of residential care, community services, home-based care and assisted-living to older persons according to the Older Persons Act, 2006 (Act 13 of 2006). It was reported that the Badisa Management Board approved the Strategy for Older Persons in September 2020. The purpose and aim of the Badisa Strategy for Older

Persons 2030 is to promote active aging and to support the elderly to live a quality life with dignity. Badisa's approach is family-centred, community-based and church-centred. Their operational functions are delegated to the 145 governing bodies and programmes at the local level. These programmes are therefore self-regulating. This model promotes ownership at the local level, while providing stability and a uniform approach regarding strategy, policy, processes and systems in a shared identity. All Badisa's programmes operate within one legal entity. The main elements of the Badisa strategic plan focus on the need to provide services for the older population that will more than double in 30 years; that residential facilities should only be for Category 2 and 4 frail aged; increase provision for specialised services, namely the increase in dementia; increased need to shift services to be community-based and home-based care; make provision for social housing for independent older persons; make changes in the infrastructure of building accommodate frail aged; identify income generation opportunities to make services more sustainable; find a balance between accommodating economic and sub-economic residents; and make provision for the needs of the new generation of older persons.

#### **4. Key findings on the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home**

The Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home has been in existence for the past 29 years. The NGO is a residential facility for 63 aged and disabled residents inclusive of a Dementia Unit, of which 43 residents were in frail care and 20 residents in semi-dependable rooms. It was reported that the NGO was registered with the Department of Social Development for 43 residents and the other residents were private clients.

The Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home provides services to senior citizens and is a frail-care facility that provides services to those who are incapacitated through illness or old age. The facility also provides affordable and safe accommodation to those who can function independently. The facility comprises four departments, namely Frail Care, Assisted Self Care, Assisted Living and Private Flats. Some of the services provided by Huis Mostertshoek include a residential facility that is inclusive of a dementia unit for five residents. It was reported that because of the five residents with dementia, the NGO is registered with the Department of Health and Wellness there are requirements that the NGO needs to meet as set by the health standards although the NGO was not getting funding from the Department of Health and Wellness. It was reported that the NGO had 19 category 2 and 3 frail residents occupying their own rooms and the other 24 category 2 and 3 frail residents were sharing 18 rooms. In addition, the NGO provides services to 20 assisted-living residents in 21 rooms. Most residents fall into the age range of 80 and 90 years. The residents in assisted living are provided with two balanced meals daily in accordance with the service level agreement, with laundry and cleaning services once a week, transport for doctor visits, and shopping. In addition, the residents in assisted living are offered social programmes and activities, such as spiritual care, games, book reading library services and socialisation. It was reported that there was a waiting interest list of 55 persons for the residential facility and 19 for the apartments. It was reported that a doctor from the Department of Health and Wellness visits the old-age home twice a week.

The delegation was informed that the Department of Social Development was only funding 22 out of 43 frail residents and eight Sassa beneficiaries who are assisted living residents. The rest are paying out of their pockets. The residential fees at the Huis Mostertshoek Old-age Home are R9 550 for frail care residents; R7 960 for residents in their own rooms and R5 130 to R9 460 for residents in assisted-living apartments. In terms of the demographics of the residents, it was mentioned that 58 of the residents were white and five were coloured people.

Furthermore, the NGO reported that it also provides Category A service centre services to 40 old-age persons from various communities three days a week.

It was reported that the Huis Mostershoek Old-age Home provides safe and protected accommodation to its residents. Care services to all Category 2 and 3 residents include the development of individual care plans for all persons admitted and the care plans are reviewed every six months. In terms of nutritional services, the old-age home has a 21-day menu plan as well as winter and summer menus. The menus are approved by a dietician and are reviewed every three months. It was reported that the old-age home provides three meals per day as well as coffee and tea during the day. In addition, a special diet menu for diabetics and other health conditions is also provided. Other services that are provided at the old-age home include laundry, cleaning services and social programmes that include activities and development programmes for residents.

The old-age home has 41 staff members and no services are outsourced. There are gaps in meeting the norms and standards in respect of care staff for 42 frail residents. The facility should have seven staff on the day shift, eight and five staff on the night shift, and only three staff members. The shortfall in care staff includes one registered nurse, one staff nurse, and three assistant nurses. It was reported that it would cost an additional R574 per resident per month for care staff if the norms and standards had to be complied with.

In addition, Huis Mostershoek Old-age Home has a service centre for older persons that operates within the community. It was reported that during the 2020/21 financial year, the service centre received R143 873 subsidy for 57 members as Category B, and in the current financial year R73 523 subsidy was approved for 40 members as Category A, and 38 of the members receive social grants and falls into the 60 to 70 years age bracket. In terms of the staff complement for the service centre, the staff consists of one manager and one cook, and their duties include the provision of meals; clinic services; exercise; transport for members, religious and cultural activities. It was reported that the service centre's budget for the 2023/24 financial year projects a surplus of R3 660 and monthly contributions from members per month is R4 840.

It was reported that the Huis Mostertshoek strategic priorities for the future include the implementation of more affordable services in the facility; the implementation of the home-based care programme; the implementation of a daycare programme; residents to be more representative of the community; restructuring and maintenance of the building were reported as a high priority; encourage the involvement of families; increase income generation through fundraising; and increase the number of volunteers.

#### **4.1 Challenges**

- 4.1.1 Cost of maintenance was reported as a challenge due to the lack of maintenance funding.
- 4.1.2 Lack of funding, it was reported that Huis Mostertshoek receives government funding, but it has been reduced significantly over the past years, therefore the old-age home relies on fundraising events to fill the shortage in the budget. Some of the residents could not afford the full cost of the units and were paying reduced rates which was dependent on fundraising to cover the surplus.
- 4.1.3 Badisa reported that it closed three service centres last year due to financial challenges.

- 4.1.4 It was reported that due to competitive salaries, it was difficult for the old-age home to attract and retain clinical staff, mainly registered nurses, staff nurses and assistant nurses. As a result, the old-age home cannot comply with provincial and national norms and standards.
- 4.1.5 The delays in the implementation of the Social Living Policy by the Department of Human Settlements were reported as a challenge.
- 4.1.6 Inadequate transportation was also reported as a challenge. It was reported that the old-age home has no transport for the residents. Wolseley was reported to be a very small town and transport was essential for the old-age home to take residents to neighbouring towns for doctor's visitations, hospitals and shopping.

## **5. Acknowledgements**

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Mr Terblanche from Badisa, Huis Mostertshoek officials and officials from the Department of Social Development for their participation during the oversight visit.