

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

THURSDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

COMMITTEEE REPORTS

1. **Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Community Safety for the 2015/2016 financial year as follows:**

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Wenger MM (DA) (Chairperson)
Christians FC (ACDP)
Kivedo B (DA)
Lekker PZ (ANC)
Mitchell DG (DA)

Alternate Members

Botha LJ (DA)
Dijana TM (ANC)
Mackenzie RD (DA)
Wiley MGE (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to –

- 1.1 maintain oversight of the Executive Member and the Department of Community Safety, and the manner in which the Executive Member and Department exercise their responsibilities including the implementation of legislation and budgets and to hold them accountable to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament;

- 1.2 require the Provincial Police Commissioner to appear before the Committee to answer questions
- 1.3 consider and report on legislation, other matters and the Annual Reports referred to it by the Speaker.

In fulfilment of its mandate, the Committee—

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

2. Reporting Department and Entity

- 2.1 Department of Community Safety
- 2.2 South African Police Service: Western Cape

3. Overview of committees activities

Number of Committee meetings	18
Number of Public Hearings	3
Number of Oversight Visits	7
Number of Provincial Bills considered	0
Number of Social Cluster Committees Visit Weeks	1

(The number of Committee Meetings held includes the number of public hearings, as a public hearing, although serving a different function, is still considered to be a meeting of the Committee).

4. Oversight activities

National Council of Provinces, Taking Parliament to the People

- 4.1 During April 2015, the Standing Committee on Community Safety formed part of the National Council of Provinces' Taking Parliament to the People programme in the Eden district. The Committee members were allocated to different groups that conducted oversight visits to various sites in the district, which included schools, police stations and housing developments.

Highlights of engagements with the Department of Community Safety and stakeholders

- 4.2 During June 2015, the Department of Community Safety (the Department) briefed the Committee on the Western Cape Community Safety Act (3 of 2013), with a particular focus on the role of the Provincial Police Ombudsman. Following this briefing the Committee conducted an oversight visit to the Office of the Provincial Police Ombudsman. The discussion with the Provincial Police Ombudsman focused on the initial challenges and successes experienced by this newly established office and which is a first of its kind in South Africa.

- 4.3 The Department of Community Safety presented its Annual Performance Plan for 2016/2017, relevant Quarterly Performance Reports and briefed the Committee on its Security Risk Management Programme. The Committee considered the Department's Annual Report for 2015/2016 as well as Vote 4 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015].
- 4.4 The Committee conducted a successful oversight visit to the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrade (VPUU) Khayelitsha Safety Node Area. The visit included a detailed presentation and a tour of the commercial hub, mobile early childhood centre, as well as the well-resourced library.

South African Police Service Station oversight visits for 2015/2016

- 4.5 The Committee conducted oversight visits to Worcester SAPS and Steenberg SAPS Stations during May 2015, Pacaltsdorp SAPS, Stilbaai SAPS and Swellendam SAPS Stations during the 1 to 5 June 2015 Social Cluster Visit Week and visited the Grassy Park SAPS Station during February 2016. The briefings by the relevant station commanders and senior South African Police Service (SAPS) officials were based on specific criteria requested by the Committee in advance. Each presentation therefore included information on domestic violence related crimes; drug and gang related crimes; victim support; and the staffing structure and resourcing of the specific police stations. These criteria are currently standardised for the Committee's oversight visits to police stations. After presentations, the Committee used the National Secretariat's Station Oversight Tool for site inspections of each station, which included Community Service Centres, Store Rooms, Victim Support Rooms, inspection of Domestic Violence Registers and Cells.
 - 4.5.1 In terms of domestic violence related crimes, alcohol abuse and strained interpersonal relationships were highlighted as major contributing factors. As such, there were generally a high number of protection orders served, many of which were withdrawn in cases where mediation proved effective. Several police stations reported that social crime prevention programmes were aimed at domestic violence related matters, women and children empowerment and, alcohol and substance abuse.
 - 4.5.2 In terms of drug and gang related crime, police stations in rural and areas outside the Metropole experienced little to no gang activity. However, the drug trade is rife as these areas are often used to transport drugs. There is a spill-over from the Metropole into these towns; hence relevant police stations conduct more Vehicle Check Points in order to clamp down on the transportation of drugs.

At the oversight visit to Worcester SAPS, the Committee was informed of the police station's success in destabilising and deconstructing the gang activity and gang groupings in the area. Steenberg SAPS and Grassy Park SAPS however are police gang hotspot areas and experience a high volume of gang activity, which is strongly linked to the drug trade. Both these stations are equipped as 'gang stations', meaning that the respective station commanders are allowed to request specialised resources to assist during increased volatility of gang related crime. It was highlighted that it is difficult to arrest gang and drug high flyers. Instead, intense operations are conducted to build strong cases against these high flyers in terms of the *Prevention of Organised Crime Act* (POCA), 121 of 1998.

- 4.5.3 The Committee also addressed victim support at all the stations visited. Stations complied with victim support structures however; there were not significant numbers of qualified volunteers. SAPS staff also received varying degrees of training to deal with cases pertaining to victim support and domestic violence.
- 4.5.4 In terms of staffing structure at police stations visited, there was a consistent decrease in the staff allocation at stations between the 2010/2011 financial year and present. The majority of the stations indicated that the number of actual posts in relation to the number of granted posts were not equal. This shortage contributed to the strain placed on the Visible Policing (VISPOL) Unit, the Crime Detection Unit and Support Staff. In terms of VISPOL, the number of sector patrols was minimal. One of the effects of this shortage is the slow response time which impacts on secure crime scene management as officers arrive at a scene long after the crime was perpetrated. The Committee noted that the detective-to-docket ratio consistently exceeded a reasonable work load per detective. The staffing complement also often included student officers allocated across all three staff categories. The Committee made several recommendations to the Office of the Provincial Police Commissioner to increase the staff complement at stations experiencing strain due to insufficient resource allocation.
- 4.5.5 The Committee also noted that a number of the police stations experienced difficulty with vehicle repair timeframes. In order to evaluate the vehicle fleet status of a particular station, the Committee considered the number of vehicles per station, the condition and functionality of these vehicles, the turn-around time for vehicle repairs, the impact of the vehicle status on sector policing and, the correlation to staff establishment per station. Stations, that had a full or sufficient complement of reliable vehicles could not maximise the use of these vehicles due to staff shortages.
- 4.6 The Committee requested that the relevant Community Police Forum (CPF) chairperson or representative be present at the oversight visits. CPF representatives provided input regarding the working relationship between the relevant SAPS and CPF as well as the challenges and successes of the respective CPF. The Department of Community Safety was also invited to send relevant officials to provide input on its oversight over the police stations as well as comment on the contributions made by the CPF representatives.

Other highlights pertaining to engagements with SAPS

During August 2015, the Committee was briefed by SAPS and the Cape Town Metropolitan Police on their respective strategies to combat gang violence in the province. The Committee conducted oversight visits to the SAPS Rapid Response Call Centre, i.e. the 10111 centre, based in Pinelands. The Committee also visited the SAPS Provincial K9 Unit located in the same complex as the 10111 centre.

After the release of the SAPS 2015/16 crime statistics, the Committee requested a briefing on the statistics pertaining to the Western Cape. In November 2015, the National SAPS office briefed the Committee on the SAPS Reservist Policy. The Committee welcomed the SAPS, the Cape Town Metropolitan Police Department (CTMPD) and the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) to present its respective Annual Reports for 2015/2016. The CTMPD annual police plan was presented.

5. Legislation

5.1 The National Council of Provinces Section 75 Bill, *Criminal Matters Amendment Bill* [B 20–2015], was referred to the Committee for comment and consideration.

5.2 Provincial Bills

The Committee deliberated and reported on its consideration of the following pieces of legislation referred to it:

5.2.1 Vote 4 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.2.2 Vote 4 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

5.2.3 Vote 4 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Additional Appropriation Bill* [B 3–2016]

5.3 NCOP Bills (Section 76)

No section 76 Bill was referred to the Committee during the period under review.

6. Facilitation of public involvement and participation

There were several Committee meetings attended by members of the public as well as the media. During the Annual Report discussion as well as the Appropriations discussion, members of the public were asked if they had any contributions to submit. There was public input at the meeting on gang strategy of 26 August 2015 as well as the SAPS Western Cape Crime Statistics 2015/2016 of 14 October 2015. The Committee requested, as a standard, that the Department of Community Safety invite relevant Community Police Forum representatives to announced oversight visits to police stations.

7 Co-operative governance

The Committee maintains a good working relationship with the Independent Police Investigative Directorate as well as the Cape Town Metropolitan Police Department.

8. Financial particulars

The Standing Committee was allocated an amount of R129 000 before adjustments.

At the close of the 2015/2016 Financial Year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Standing Committee on Community Safety accumulated to an amount of R63 284, 48.

2. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Environmental Affairs and Development Planning for the 2015/2016 financial year, dated 23 August 2016, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Beerwinkel, CF (ANC)

Dijana, TM (ANC)
 Lentit, RB (Chairperson) (DA)
 Max, LH (DA)
 Mnqasela, M (until 5 October 2015) (DA)
 Schäfer, BA (since 6 October 2015) (DA)

Alternate Members

Hinana, NE (DA)
 Maseko, LM (DA)
 Mnqasela, M (since 6 October 2015) (DA)
 Olivier, RT (ANC)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to -

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, 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 to 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 Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
- 2.2 CapeNature

3. Overview of Committees Activities

No of Committee Meetings	21
No of Public Hearings	3
No of International Study Tours	1
No of Oversight Visits	3
No of Provincial Bills considered	2

4. Oversight activities

The 2015/2016 year was considered a productive year in which interactions with the Department and Entity and the many stakeholders consulted were both cordial and productive and ensured that Committee members could approach their oversight functions with objectivity and insight.

The past year was eventful and several initiatives will lead to follow-up activities and meetings. The following is a summary of the Committee's activities during the year.

- 4.1 The Committee focused on the Department's approach and commitment in ensuring that a programme of transformation was in place that ensures that the organogram is representative of race and gender by broadening its equitable representation.
- 4.2 Senior Management posts within the Department were not representative of race and gender. This remains a concern to the Committee and it will continue to engage with the Department in this regard.
- 4.3 The Committee also engaged with the Department on matters of environmental policy, planning and coordination and the support offered to municipalities in terms of the development and implementation of their Climate Change Adaptation Plans and Sustainable Energy Plans as well as the implementation of projects as part of its sustainable Settlement Rural Municipal Support Programme.
- 4.4 The Committee was also briefed at a joint meeting, together with the Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works, on the traffic gridlock situation in the Kuilsriver and Kommetjie areas. The Committee was satisfied with the progress in the afore-mentioned projects and will continuously monitor the operations thereof.
- 4.5 Pollution in the Berg River catchment is a cause of great concern especially to communities, farmers and industry in the various municipalities of the West Coast and Cape Winelands regions. Various stakeholders have implemented initiatives to address the pollution concerns raised. The focus of the Cluster B visit week to the Cape Winelands area, in relation to the Committee, was therefore the success of the Berg River Improvement Plan within the context of the Western Cape Sustainable Water Management Plan to improve the water quality of the Berg River system as well as future plans for roll-out to the Oliphant and Breede Rivers.
- 4.6 The discipline of Air Quality Management was broached in terms of the link between air quality and climate change. Specific emphasis was placed on air quality planning and information management focusing on the Western Cape Air Quality Management Plan and the health risk assessment, air quality regulatory services and air quality monitoring.
- 4.7 The Standing Committee, as part of the Service Delivery Cluster, undertook a study visit to Munich in Germany and Dijon in France to observe best practices abroad in the areas of waste management, renewable energy, transport, agriculture and tourism. Relationship building and the enhancement of capacity and knowledge were also key objectives.
- 4.8 As part of its oversight function, the Committee visited the Vrolijkheid CapeNature Reserve in Robertson to focus on biodiversity and conservation issues linked to the Reserve and its impact on economic growth and tourism in the area. Similarly, the Committee visited the Meulwater Water Treatment Works in Paarl to gain an understanding of the functioning of the plant, challenges experienced as well as successes that have been achieved.

- 4.9 The Committee is pleased to announce that, as a result of its oversight function, all municipalities have by-laws in place that are aligned to the Spatial Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act 16 of 2013) and the Land Use Planning Act, 2014 (Act 3 of 2014).
- 4.10 Three vacancies arose on the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board. Section 4 of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board Act (Act 15 of 1998) provides that the Minister, after consultation with the Standing Committee, shall make appointments to the Board. To this end the Committee engaged with the Department and

CapeNature on the expertise and experience required to fill the vacancies and provided the Minister with a shortlist for his consideration for appointment to the Board.

- 4.11 The Committee also evaluated the Annual Reports of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and its Entity, CapeNature. The *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015] and *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016] were the subjects of a public participation exercise and also of intense discussion. Attendance at meetings was good with low absenteeism due to valid reasons.

5. Legislation

In the 2015/16 Financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1.1 *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.1.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

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 held two public hearings in consideration of the Provincial Money Bills and one public hearing in consideration of the Department and Entity's Annual Reports.

7. Financial particulars

The Committee's actual expenditure for the 2015/2016 financial year was R127 820.00 against an adjusted budget allocation of R133 259.00 resulting in an under expenditure of R5 349.00.

3. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works for the 2015/2016 financial year, dated 30 August 2016, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Hinana, NE (DA)
 Dugmore, CM (ANC)
 Magaxa, KE (ANC)
 Max, LH (Chairperson) (DA)
 Mnqasela, M (DA)

Alternate Members

Lekker, PZ (ANC)
 Lentit, RB (DA)
 Maseko, LM (DA)
 Schäfer, BA (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to -

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, 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 to 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 Transport and Public Works
- 2.2 Government Motor Transport

3. Overview of Committees Activities

No of Committee Meetings	17
No of Public Hearings	3
No of International Study Tours	1
No of Oversight Visits	4
No of Provincial Bills considered	2

4. Oversight activities

The 2015/2016 year was considered a productive year in which interactions with the Department and Entity and the many stakeholders consulted were both cordial and productive and ensured that Committee members could approach their oversight functions with objectivity and insight.

The financial year was eventful and several initiatives will lead to follow-up activities and meetings. The following is a summary of the Committee's activities during the year.

- 4.1 A debate on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System Project took place where the Committee was briefed by the City of Cape Town on the planning, implementation and consultation process followed in terms of Phase 2 of the BRT System and its impact on the Wynberg community. The meeting was well attended by the public who represented the Wynberg Ratepayers Association, Wynberg Taxi Association as well as the South Road Families Association.
- 4.2 The Committee also engaged with the Department of Transport and Public Works with regard to the George Integrated Public Transport Network System (GIPTN) to ensure that the public receives effective, prompt and safe transport services. The Department provided the Committee with a brief overview of the GIPTN and the key areas of concern that were expressed at the National Council of Provinces meeting held in Oudtshoorn on 13 April 2015. Concerns included the compensation paid to operators affected by the GIPTN, training, the allocation of tenders and the fact that no more Operating Licences will be awarded on routes operated by the GIPTN. The response from the Department was satisfactory and the Committee, while acknowledging that the GIPTN is a complex institutional project involving all three spheres of government, expressed its satisfaction with the implementation thereof as well as with the associated benefits to the George community. The operating company has been managing this project for a year and the Committee will continue to engage with the Department and the operating company on this matter.
- 4.3 The Committee was also briefed at a joint meeting together with the Standing Committee on Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on the traffic gridlock situation in the Kuilsriver and Kommetjie areas. The Committee was satisfied with the progress of the afore-mentioned projects and will continuously monitor the operations thereof.

One of the focus areas of the Cluster B Visit Week to the Cape Winelands area was on the traffic situation in Stellenbosch, the effect of possible interventions as well as collaboration and partnerships.

- 4.4 The Cluster also visited the Willems Vallei Primary School in Porterville. The visit emanated from an engagement between the Department of Transport and Public Works and the Standing Committee at the consideration of the Department's Annual Report (2013/2014) in October 2014 regarding the appointment of a contractor (Filcon) through an open bidding process for the upgrading of three primary schools, namely Wesfleur, Parkview and Willems Vallei that were in a poor condition. The Committee also undertook a visit to the Wesfleur Primary School in Atlantis concerning this matter.

- 4.5 An oversight visit was undertaken to the Gene Louw Traffic College in Brackenfell. The College boasts many achievements. The most prestigious was being awarded the Best Traffic Training Centre in South Africa Award out of a total of nine colleges that competed. The College also boasts new facilities that will improve traffic safety and facilitate the training of traffic officers.
- 4.6 Of concern to the Committee was the implementation of Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) initiatives within the Department. The Department briefed the Committee on its support of B-BBEE by outlining the legislative framework in which it is incorporated and provided the Committee with its impact on procurement regulations. The Committee, while understanding and acknowledging the complex legal environment in which the Department operates, expressed its satisfaction that the Department has successfully developed and implemented a Preferential Procurement Implementation Plan so that the principles of B-BBEE is upheld.
- 4.7 The situation with Metrorail and its impact on the residents of the province was and still is of grave concern to the Committee. To this end the Committee has and continues to engage with Metrorail and the South African Police Services on issues affecting train commuters in the Province.
- 4.8 Another focus area of the Committee was the state of the structural defects at schools, namely, Delft South, Hawston, Masakhane and Scottsdene. The nature of the problems was placed into context by the Department and the underlying causes and circumstance surrounding the current defective structures were highlighted. The Committee will continue to engage with the Department in this regard.
- 4.9 The increasing conflict among taxi operators was also a focus area of the Committee and to this end the Department briefed the Committee on the current conflict between the Vrygrond Taxi Association and the Steenberg/Retreat Taxi Associations outlining the reasons for the existing conflict and the enforcement operations that were instituted to target illegal operators.
- 4.10 The Standing Committee, as part of the Service Delivery Cluster, undertook a study visit to Munich in Germany and Dijon in France to observe best practices abroad in the areas of waste management, renewable energy, transport, agriculture and tourism. Relationship building and the enhancement of capacity and knowledge were also key objectives.
- 4.11 The calendar year 2015 concluded with a briefing by the Department on its traffic plan for the festive season by outlining the various provincial operational and road safety initiatives. It further provided the Committee with detail on its traffic law enforcement activities, fatigue awareness operations, communication strategies as well as major road block events for the upcoming festive season. Similarly the Committee engaged with the Department on the Easter Season Traffic Plan.
- 4.12 In spite of having very comprehensive plans in place, road fatalities over the past festive season and Easter period increased. The Committee expressed serious concern at the lack of funding to fill key positions as was evident by the large number of unfunded vacant posts within the Provincial Traffic Directorate. The impact of this state of affairs on the safety of motorists and pedestrians was

disconcerting to the Committee. The Committee will follow up on this serious matter.

4.13 The Committee also evaluated the Annual Reports of the Department of Transport and Public Works and its Entity. The *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015] and *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2015] were the subjects of a public participation exercise and also of intense discussion. Attendance at meetings was good with low absenteeism due to valid reasons.

4.14 The financial year concluded with the consideration and discussion of the Department's budget. The Committee will continue to exercise its oversight function with vigour in the new financial year.

5. Legislation

In the 2015/16 Financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

5.1. Provincial Bills

5.1.1 *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.1.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

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 held two public hearings in consideration of the Provincial Money Bills and one public hearing in consideration of the Department and Entity's Annual Reports.

7. Financial particulars

The Committee's actual expenditure for the 2015/2016 financial year was R93 281 against an adjusted budget allocation of R117 759 resulting in an under expenditure of R24 478.00.

4. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs and Sport for the 2015/2016 financial as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Mackenzie RD (DA) (Chairperson)
Kivedo BD (DA)

Makeleni P (ANC)
 Olivier RT (ANC)
 Wenger MM (DA)

Alternate Members

Botha LJ (DA)
 Dugmore CM (ANC)
 Mitchell DG (DA)

Pretorius PJC (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to —

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive Member and the Department, 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 fulfilment 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 Cultural Affairs and Sport
- 2.2 Western Cape Language Committee
- 2.3 Western Cape Cultural Commission
- 2.4 Heritage Western Cape

3. Overview of Committees Activities

Number of Committee meetings	17
Number of Public Hearings	3
Number of Oversight Visits	3
Number of Provincial Bills considered	0
Number of Cluster Visit Weeks	1

(The number of Committee Meetings held includes the number of public hearings, as a public hearing, although serving a different function, is still considered to be a meeting of the Committee).

4. Oversight activities

National Council of Provinces, Taking Parliament to the People

- 4.1 During April 2015, the Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs and Sport formed part of the National Council of Provinces' Taking Parliament to the People

programme in Eden district. The Committee Members were allocated to different groups that conducted oversight visits to various sites in the district.

Highlights of engagements with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and stakeholders

- 4.2 The Committee advertised calls for nominations to the Western Cape Cultural Commission and the Western Cape Language Committee using paid-for print media as well as other platforms such social media, requesting the three universities located in the province to advertise, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport's website and media alerts.

Prior to the nominee selection for the Entities, the Department of Cultural and Sport briefed the Committee on the Entities' functions as well as the legislative framework and processes specifically related to the Western Cape Cultural Commission and the Western Cape Language Committee. After thorough deliberations and consideration of applications, the Committee submitted its lists of nominees for both of the aforementioned Entities to the Office of the Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport. Despite a busy parliamentary programme, affected by a series of public hearings during May 2015 and a lengthy recess period between June and August, the full process for nominations for both Entities was facilitated between April and August 2015.

- 4.3 The Committee formed part of the Social Cluster Visit Week of 1 to 5 June 2015. The sites visited pertaining directly to the Committee's oversight role were the George High School and the Drosty Museum. The focus at the school was on sports equipment and funding distribution in respect of the MOD programme activities at the school whereas the visit to the museum was underlined by a guided tour of the Swellendam based facility.
- 4.4 Also in June, the Committee revisited the Western Cape Archives and Records Service. The oversight visit was a follow up to a visit conducted in August 2014. In addition, the Department presented its Quarterly Performance Reports.
- 4.5 In September 2015, the Department briefed the Committee on its Club Development Programme. The Department was also invited to a Committee event promoting local football. The Ajax Cape Town Football Club's management, staff and first team squad, as well as representatives from Milano United Football Club and Vasco Da Gama Football Club, were all present at the event.
- 4.6 Following the discussions on the Department's Annual Report and Vote 13 in the schedule of the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill*, [B4 — 2015], the Committee hosted a unique event at the start of December 2015. The South African Football Association, along with lead sponsor South African Breweries, launched its SAB League kit handover ceremony at the Legislature. The SAB League is the largest national grassroots football development programme.
- 4.7 In February 2016, the Committee conducted an oversight visit to the Provincial Library Services. During the guided tour, the Committee engaged with staff and were given an in-depth briefing on the functions of the Library Services head office. The financial year ended in March 2016 with the Committee's discussion on the Budget processes pertaining to the Department.

5. Legislation

5.1 Provincial Bills

The Committee deliberated and reported on its consideration of the following pieces of legislation referred to it:

5.1.1 Vote 13 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.1.2 Vote 13 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

5.1.3 Vote 13 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Additional Appropriation Bill* [B 3–2016]

5.1.4 NCOP Bills (Section 76)

No section 76 Bill was referred to the Committee during the period under review.

6. Facilitation of public involvement and participation

There were several Committee meetings attended by members of the public as well as the media. During the Annual Report discussion as well as the Appropriations discussion, members of the public were requested to make oral submissions.

7. Financial particulars

The Standing Committee was allocated an amount of R129 000 before adjustments.

At the close of the 2015/16 Financial Year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs and Sport accumulated to an amount of R109 173, 26.

5. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Finance for the 2015/2016 financial year, dated 24 August 2016, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Joseph, D (Chairperson) (DA)

Beerwinkel, C (ANC)

Mnqasela, M (DA)

Schäfer, BA (DA)

Uys, P (ANC)

Alternate Members

Dyantyi, Q (ANC)

Hinana, N (DA)

Lentit, R (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to-

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, 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 Provincial Treasury
- 2.2 The Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (Entity)

3. Overview of Committees Activities

No of Committee Meetings	21
No of Public Hearings	4
No of Oversight Visits	4
No of Provincial Bills considered	2
No of National Bills considered	1

4. Oversight activities

- 4.1 The 2015/2016 financial year commenced with a briefing by Provincial Treasury on its Quarterly Performance Report for the period July – September 2014. This was followed by an oversight visit to the Grand West Casino where the Committee was briefed on the measures instituted by the establishment to ensure compliance with the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Act (Act 4 of 1996) and the Regulations.
- 4.2 As an extension of its oversight over Provincial Treasury the Committee identified the Golden Valley Casino for an oversight visit during the Service Delivery Visit Week that took place in July 2015. During the oversight visit the delegation was also guided on a tour of the Casino premises.
- 4.3 During engagements on the Quarterly Performance Reports of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (“the Board”) the Committee was made aware of staffing challenges at the Board. The Minister of Finance was later requested to brief the Committee on the nature of the matters before the Labour Court and the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration. The Board in the final quarter briefed the Committee, Provincial Treasury and the Minister of Finance on progress with regards to the development and implementation of a Turn-around Strategy for the Board.

- 4.4 The Committee conducted interviews for the appointment of members to the Board following the emergence of three vacancies. Interviews were held in February 2016, following which the Committee submitted the names of recommended candidates to the Minister of Finance.
- 4.5 During an oversight visit to the Board offices in June 2015, the Committee observed that the current offices did not offer suitable accommodation. The Committee recommended that the Board request Provincial Treasury, the Department of Labour, the Department of Transport and Public Works and the Fire Department to investigate and compile comprehensive reports with regards to the occupational health and safety of staff working on the premises.
- 4.6 The Committee requested the Board to brief it on the findings of research undertaken on the socio-economic impact of gambling in the province. The Committee recommended that the Board should strengthen its current research by undertaking research on the correlation and causal linkages between gambling and drugs, alcohol and gangsterism.
- 4.7 As part of the Committee's mandate and oversight function a meeting on the Department's Annual Report took place as per Standing Rule 105 (1) of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. The Committee engaged the Department and the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board on its Annual Reports submitted in terms of the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999). Stemming from the discussions, the Committee recommended that Provincial Treasury expedite the transfer of allocations to municipalities to ensure that municipalities have ample time to utilise the budgeted funds well within the financial year.
- 4.8 The Department briefed the Committee on Vote 2 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015] and the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016], referred to the Committee in terms of Standing Rule 187. The Committee considered the Bills and members asked questions and requested documents and papers from the Department pertaining to matters which stemmed from the discussions on the Bills.
- 4.9 The Committee deliberated on the *Financial and Fiscal Commission Amendment Bill* [B 1B–2015] (Sec 76) (NCOP). A public hearing was held on the 26th of May 2015 and a submission was made by the Fiscal and Financial Commission. Provincial Treasury briefed the Committee on the implementation of the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) and the Standard Charts of Accounts for Municipalities. The briefings and follow-up sessions on the IFMS included progress on migrating all provincial departments to the LOGIS system and challenges experienced as a result of delays in the national procurement processes. The Committee will continue to receive progress reports in this regard.

5. Legislation

In the 2015/16 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1.1 *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.1.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

5.2 NCOP Bills

5.2.1 Section 76 Bills

5.2.1.1 *Financial and Fiscal Commission Amendment Bill* [B 1B–2015] (NCOP)
(Sec 76)

5.2.2 Section 75 Bills

5.2.2.1 *Taxation Laws Amendment Bill* (NCOP) (S75)

5.2.2.2 *Tax Administration Law Amendment Bill* (NCOP) (S75)

5.2.2.3 *Finance Intelligence Centre Amendment Bill* (NCOP) (S75)

6. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

As part of the Committee's mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held a total of three public hearings in consideration of Bills. To this extent the Committee advertised extensively on the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016], the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015] and the *Financial and Fiscal Commission Amendment Bill* [B 1B–2015] (NCOP), informing and inviting interested stakeholders to participate in public hearings.

A public hearing was also held to consider the Department and Entity's Annual Reports.

7. Financial particulars

The Committee utilised R117 076.00 of its allocated Budget of R130 193.00.

6. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Human Settlements for the 2015/2016 financial year, dated 30 August 2016, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Hinana, N (DA)
Joseph, BD (EFF)
Lentit, RB (DA)
Magaxa, KE (ANC)
Maseko, LM (Chairperson) (DA)

Alternate Members

Dijana, T (ANC)
Schäfer, B (DA)
Max, L (DA)
Mnqasela, M (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to-

- 1.1 maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, 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 The Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal
- 2.2 The Western Cape Housing Development Fund

3. Overview of Committees Activities

No of Committee Meetings	20
No of Public Hearings	3
No of Oversight Visits	5
No of Provincial Bills considered	2

4. Oversight activities

- 4.1 The 2015/2016 financial year commenced with a meeting which highlighted the advantages and challenges of implementing the utilisation of alternative building material in the construction of government built houses. The Committee invited Magnastruct and Futurehouse amongst others to brief it on panelisation and magnesium oxide boards focusing on the cost effectiveness, durability and environmental impact of alternative building material in comparison to building with traditional building material. They discussed international application and utilisation of alternative building material as well as on the economic impact for importing the material and the training of local labourers.
- 4.2 As part of the Committee's mandate and oversight function a meeting on the Department's Annual Report took place as per Standing Rule 105 (1) of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. The Committee engaged the Department, the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal and the Western Cape Housing Development Fund on its Annual Reports submitted in terms of the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999). Stemming from the meeting the Committee requested that the Department provide it with a list of the Historically Disadvantaged Individuals (HDI's) employed by the Department, a report on the Department's findings on fraud and corruption, the Tribunal's Business Improvement Plan and an action plan to address the Auditor General's qualified opinion on the Housing Development Fund's financial statements.

- 4.3 The Department briefed the Committee on Vote 8 in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015] and the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016], referred to the Committee in terms of Standing Rule 187. The Committee considered the Bills and members were able to ask questions and request documents and papers from the Department pertaining to matters which stemmed from the discussions on the Bills. Further hereto the Department briefed the Committee on its Quarterly Report detailing the progress and challenges on its current projects.
- 4.4 In addition hereto the Committee deliberated on the *Extension of Security of Tenure Amendment Bill*, [B 24–2015] (Sec 75) (hereinafter the Bill). Members were provided with the opportunity to comment on the Bill.
- 4.5 On 14 April 2014, the Committee was requested to investigate a petition by Mr John Jacobs, on the Wolwedans Housing Project and to look into the recommendations stemming from the Royal Haskoning Structural Engineers Report. The report listed the engineer's findings on the defective houses and provided recommendations for remedial action in terms of cracks, monitoring of piling and foundations for possible deflection.
- 4.6 In a meeting dated 1 October 2014 the Committee resolved to conduct an oversight visit to Grootbrakrivier. The oversight visit commenced on 5 May 2015 in which the Committee members were able to engage with residents and observe the status of the rehabilitated housing project. Stemming from the visit, the Committee recommended that further repair work be done and that the Department report back on its progress in terms of the repairs.

Construction on the slopes in Wolwedans was deemed to be challenging. Skilled engineering and design solutions were required to construct suspended reinforced concrete slabs on end bearing piles to prevent excessive settlement. Extreme seasonal climate conditions which veered from very dry spells to excessive rain, resulted in water retention which adversely affected the foundations of the structures. The variation in heat levels, water retention and the difference in the material fibre utilised for construction had an adverse effect on the structures foundation. This resulted in cracks in the walls and foundation slabs. During this time, no provision was made for storm water management systems and/or stabilising interventions due to budgetary constraints.

The Department informed the Committee that an amount of R9 million was made available for storm water management and retaining walls to curb further damage to foundations. Funding for further remedial work on the defective structures was required. The municipality requested that the NHBRC facilitate a claim from the NHBRC's warranty fund to pay for remedial work on the structurally defective houses. The Committee requested that the NHBRC provide it with progress reports on the rehabilitation of the Wolwedans housing project.

- 4.7 The Committee deliberated on the nominees recommended by the Department for appointment to the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal. According to the Rental Housing Act (Act 50 of 1999) Minister Madikizela must consult with the Standing Committee on Human Settlements prior to the appointment of nominees to the Tribunal. The Committee, after its deliberations on the nominees, provided a detailed report to the House and the Ministry.

- 4.8 The Housing Development Agency briefed the Committee of the organisation's successes, the status of its current projects, community challenges and contractual difficulties. They informed the Committee of the organisation's plans to deliver 23 000 housing opportunities to approximately 120 000 people which included social facilities and amenities for each of the projects. They indicated that 12 500 houses with water and sanitation services have been delivered. They elaborated on the N2 Gateway projects and provided statistics on the planned units, completed units and outstanding projects.

5. Legislation

In the 2015/16 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1 *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]

5.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016]

6. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

As part of the Standing Committee's mandate to facilitate public participation in the legislative process, the Committee held two public hearings in consideration of Provincial Bills and one on the Annual Report of the Department of Human Settlements. To this extent the Committee advertised extensively on the Annual Report and on Bills such as the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016] and the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015], informing and inviting interested stakeholders to participate in public hearings.

7. Financial particulars

The Committee utilised R115 817.38 of its allocated Budget of R130 193.00.

7. Annual Committee Report of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee (POC) for the 2015/16 financial year, dated 26 August 2016, reports as follows:

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Wiley, M G E (DA) (Chairperson)

Joseph, B D (EFF)

Joseph, D (DA)

Maseko, L M (DA)

Uys, P (ANC)

Alternate members

Tyatyam, SG (ANC)

Christians, F C (ACDP)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the POC, as prescribed by the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act No. 10 of 2009) (FMPPLA), is to:

- 1.1 Be the oversight mechanism of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament which must maintain oversight of the financial management of Parliament to—
 - (a) consider instructions issued by the Executive Authority in terms of section 37(5);
 - (b) consider the annual report submitted to Parliament in terms of section 60;
 - (c) consider instructions issued by the Executive Authority in terms of section 66; and
 - (d) perform any other functions specified in this Act or by the Rules of Parliament, or consistent with the objects of the FMPPLA.
- 1.2 Require the Accounting Officer and any other official of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament to appear before it.
- 1.3 Exercise the same powers that committees of Parliament have under sections 56 and 69 of the Constitution of South Africa (1996).
- 1.4 Consider the quarterly and mid-year reports of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.
- 1.5 Consider the Annual Report of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.
- 1.6 Any audit reports issued by the Auditor-General on the affairs of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament; and
- 1.7 Any other financial statements or reports referred to the Committee by the House.

In fulfillment of its mandate the Committee must:

- 1.8 Facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee.
- 1.9 Conduct its business in a fair, open and transparent manner.
- 1.10 Promote cooperative governance.
- 1.11 Report regularly to the House.

2. Reporting departments

The financial statements included in the Annual Reports for the financial year ending 31 March 2015 of the following provincial Institution was examined -

- 2.1 Western Cape Provincial Parliament

4. Overview of committee's activities

Number of Committee Meetings	11
Number of Public Hearings	3
Number of International Study Tours	0
Number of Oversight Visits	0
Number of Provincial Bills considered	2
Number of NCOP Bills considered	0
Workshops/conferences attended	0

The 11 meetings constitute only Committee meetings and does not take into consideration the meetings where members of the public where invite via the media to attend the Committee's meeting.

5. Oversight activities

- 5.1 The Parliamentary Oversight Committee satisfactorily conducted oversight over the Western Cape Provincial Parliament during the 2015/16 financial year.
- 5.2 The Committee commenced the financial year with a meeting, on 14 May 2015, whereby it invited the legal advisor of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament to present on the statutory mandate of the newly established Parliamentary Oversight Committee.
- 5.3 The Committee inherited the outstanding resolutions of the Public Accounts Committee. This was due to the fact that the Parliamentary Oversight Committee will conduct oversight over the performance, as well as the financial affairs of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. This is in line with the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act No. 10 of 2009).
- 5.4 At each of its meetings, the Parliamentary Oversight Committee conducts oversight mainly over the following information:
 - 5.4.1 Western Cape Provincial Parliament's Quarterly Performance report;
 - 5.4.2 Western Cape Provincial Parliament's Financial Statement report; and
 - 5.4.3 Any information requested from the Provincial Parliament to enable the Parliamentary Oversight Committee to fulfil its mandate.
- 5.5 In addition, the Committee concentrated on key areas and milestones of the institution, such as key risks and progress in regard to using a GRAP (Generally Recognised Accounting Practice) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) compliant system as an accounting framework, staff training and the establishment of policies, such as cash and investments, assets and liabilities, Supply Chain Management etc.
- 5.6 The Committee focussed on the frameworks and controls which govern the institution's information technology sector. This is one of the audit areas of the Auditor-General of South Africa in the determination of an audit opinion for a particular year. The Committee received presentations on how the institution will address matters related to information security, user account management and disaster recovery plans.
- 5.7 The Committee made headway in passing resolutions which focused on addressing cost containment measures in the institution. These included:
 - 5.7.1 Revising the meeting slots of Standing Committees to ensure that overtime expenditure of the institution are minimal; and
 - 5.7.2 Reassessing the catering needs for internal meetings of the institution, as well as standing committee meetings.
- 5.8 During the Annual Report period, the Committee engaged with the Auditor-General of South Africa and Audit Committee regarding the Annual Report of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for the 2014/15 financial year. Although the institution received a clean audit outcome, the Committee is cognisant of the fact that there remains a risk for a regression if proper oversight is not conducted over the performance and financial affairs of the institution.

To this end, the Committee is committed to engage the Western Cape Provincial Parliament in order to remain within the dispensation of a clean audit, year on year.

6. Legislation

In the 2015/ 16 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following provincial legislation:

- 6.1 Vote 2: Western Cape Provincial Parliament in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4–2015]; and
- 6.2 Vote 2: Western Cape Provincial Parliament in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016].

7. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held one public hearing meeting during the Annual Report period. To give effect to this, the Committee's Annual Report meeting was advertised, informing and inviting the public and stakeholders to participate in public hearings. In addition, the Committee held two public hearing meetings on the following money Bills, the *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B4-2015] and the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2016], respectively, on Vote 2: Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

8. Financial particulars

At the close of the 2015/16 financial year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Committee accumulated to an amount of R 16 132.79, from a pooled budget for "Other Committees" of R40 000 (Rules Committee, Chairperson's forum, Conduct Committee, Parliamentary Oversight Committee and Disciplinary Committee). The expenditure was incurred on catering for the Committee's meetings during the financial year.

8. The Annual Report of the Petitions Committee for the 2015/2016 financial year is as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

Hinana, N (DA) (Chairperson as from October 2015)
 Kivedo, B (DA) Chairperson from June 2014 to September 2015)
 Davids, SW (ANC)
 Gillion, MN (ANC)
 MacKenzie, RD (DA)
 Mitchell, DG (DA) (Member as from October 2015)

Alternate members:

Joseph, D (DA)
 Wenger, MM (DA)
 Mnqasela, M (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to:

The mandate of the Petitions Committee is to facilitate public participation and the monitoring and oversight function over the legislative process in relation to petitions, in conferring with relevant government and civil society organs. The Petitions Committee must report to the Provincial Parliament on each petition and make any appropriate recommendation, including amongst others, that the matter be referred to the Provincial Parliament, another committee of the Provincial Parliament, a Chapter 9 Constitutional institution, the Provincial Executive or municipal council.

Standing Rules 110-112 of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament set out the composition and powers of the Petitions Committee as follows:

- (a) 110, the Committee is composed in accordance with Rule 74;
- (b) 111, the Chairperson is appointed in terms of Rule 77; and
- (c) 112, the Committee must carry out the functions assigned to it by the Speaker or by resolution of the House.

2. Overview of committees activities

No of Committee meetings	4
No of Public Hearings	0
No of International Study Tours	0
No of Oversight Visits	2
No of Cluster Visits	0
No of Provincial Bills considered	0
No of NCOP Bills considered	0
Workshops/conferences attended	0

3. Oversight activities

- 3.1 In its second year of the 5th Parliament, the Committee strived to give special focus on engaging with the public in order to promote the work of the Committee.
- 3.2 The Committee commenced the 2015/2016 Financial Year by examining its first petition for the 5th Parliament, which was from the Community Policing Forum in Citrusdal. The initial meeting also looked at the work of the Public Education and Outreach (PEO) Unit of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament and how the Committee and PEO could work together to promote the Petitions Committee.
- 3.3 As part of the Committee's mandate is to investigate all petitions before providing recommendations, the Committee undertook a fact finding visit to Citrusdal. During this visit, the Committee gave all petitioners a platform to voice their concerns about the situation in Citrusdal.
- 3.4 In the second quarter of the Financial Year, the Committee engaged with stakeholders with regards to the Citrusdal Petitions. The main objective of the meeting was to get a better understanding from various entities, which play a pivotal role in the Citrusdal community.

- 3.5 The Committee conducted its first Petitions Education Workshop in St Helena Bay in August 2015. The decision to conduct this workshop was based on the provision in the *Regulations of the Western Cape Petitions Act, 2006*, in Schedule 3 Sub sections (a) to (c) which state that the “Committee must take reasonable steps to inform the citizens of the Province of their rights in terms of the Act.
- 3.6 In December 2015 the Committee concluded the petition received from the Community Policing Forum in Citrusdal, making tangible recommendations which could assist in improving the life of the community of Citrusdal.
- 3.7 The Committee ended the 2015/2016 Financial Year by examining a new petition from Thembaletu Farmers Unity in George.

4. Financial particulars

The Petitions Committee was allocated an amount of R129 000 for the Financial Year 2015/2016.

At the close of the 2015/2016 Financial Year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Petitions Committee accumulated to an amount of R15 851.69.

9. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on its oversight visit to the office of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board, dated 16 August 2016, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprised of the following members:

Joseph, D (DA) (Chairperson and leader of delegation)
Beerwinkel, CF (ANC)

Mnqasela, M (DA)
Schäfer, BA (DA)
Uys, P (ANC)

Alternate Members

Dyantyi, Q (ANC)
Hinana, NE (DA)
Lentit, RB (DA)

1. Introduction

The office of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (hereinafter “the Board”) relocated to Seafare House, 68 Orange Street, Gardens, Cape Town in 2004. The Board previously leased office space for a period of six years from the old Reserve Bank Building in St Georges Mall, Cape Town. The yearly rental agreement for approximately five floors at the Reserve Bank amounted to R2 million. To save costs, the Board was requested to relocate to Seafare House where no occupational rent is required.

2. Overview of the visit

The Committee met at Seafare House and was welcomed by Mr Abrahams the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Board and the Board members. (See enclosed list of Board officials and members and departmental officials who were in attendance). The meeting commenced with a tour of the facilities after which the Committee was briefed by the CEO on the Board's Quarterly Performance Report and the status of the office space.

3. Background

The Board currently employs 81 persons including Board members. In 2004 the Board consisted of 44 employees and in 2015 the total stood at 74.

The 2013/2014 Annual Report of the Board reported that the Seafare House office space was not conducive to the Board's needs. It was further reported that the office accommodation did not make provision for employees with disabilities and that the lack of space inhibited organisational growth. In addition to the above, the Chairperson of the Board and the Provincial Minister of Finance in their quarterly meetings, raised the issue on the utilisation of alternative accommodation for the Board.

The Department advised the Board that the office space was not utilised optimally and suggested that an open plan office lay-out be used. The Provincial Minister of Finance subsequently facilitated a walk-about at the office accommodation in Dorp Street to provide the Board with an example of an open plan office space.

The age of the Seafare House building and the fact that it has been declared a heritage site made it impractical to replicate the suggested office plan. According to the Handbook on the Conservation of Heritage Buildings, any additions, alterations and new developments should complement the buildings original scale, form and mass. The Board commenced with its renovations during November - December 2015. The total cost of the renovations amounted to approximately R20 000.00.

It is for this reason that the Committee resolved to embark on an oversight visit to Seafare House to observe the changes made to the floor plan.

4. Findings and Observations

During the tour of the office of the Board the Committee was able to observe the following:

- 4.1 A general meeting room is currently being occupied by the CEO as an office. A partition separates the CEO's desk from the boardroom table where meetings are held;
- 4.2 Fire proof metal filing cabinets are utilised in which to store documents. All files are stored for a period of 20 years;
- 4.3 No consultation rooms are available within which to meet applicants or members of the public;
- 4.4 No canteen has been made available. Staff utilise the court yard or eat at their desks;
- 4.5 There is insufficient parking space for staff and visitors;
- 4.6 Because the building is a heritage site, it is exempt from certain building regulations such as accessibility for the disabled. Access for the disabled is made available from

the back entrance of the building but is not sufficient to accommodate a wheelchair; and

- 4.7 The Fire Department has conducted walk-in assessments and indicated that a compliance certificate for Seafare House will only be issued once the Department of Transport and Public Works provides them with an approved building plan.

5. Information Requested

The Committee REQUESTED that the:

- 5.1 Board provide it with its office floor plan, which details past and present changes made to the office layout; and
- 5.2 Provincial Minister of Finance provide the Committee with a report on the status of the future plans in terms of office space for the Board.

6. Resolution

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- 6.1 Conduct an oversight visit to the Kenilworth Racecourse to observe the gambling and racing event in February 2017; and
- 6.2 At a future date, invite Provincial Treasury to brief the Committee on the status of casinos' sustainability.

7. Persons in Attendance

Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (WCGRB)

Mr P Abrahams, Chief Executive Officer
 Mr W Bowers, Manager: Human Resource Manager
 Mr T Swart, Acting Chief Financial Officer
 Mr A Mathews, Head of Department: Information Technology
 Mr R Bennett, Head of Department: Gambling Compliance
 Ms Y Skepu, Manager: Legal Services

WCGRB Board Members

Ms J Gantana, Board Member
 Mr C Bassuday, Board Member
 Mr D Lakay, Board Member
 Mr T Arendse, Board Member
 Mr S Faku, Board Member

Provincial Treasury

Ms C Horton, Deputy Director: Public Policy Services