



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

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NAME	DESIGNATION	CODE	INITIAL	DATE
Mr B Daza	Senior Procedural Officer	1, 8 & 9	B. M.	24.10.2019.
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Ms J Glass	Clerk of the Papers	10		

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| 1 | For your information | 6 | Approval and signature |
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COMMENTS



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Report of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport on the 2018/2019 Annual Reports of the Department of Community Safety and the Western Cape Liquor Authority, dated 22 October 2019.

The Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport having deliberated on the 2018/19 Annual Reports of the Department of Community Safety and the Western Cape Liquor Authority, for the year ended 31 March 2019, reports as follows:

1. Introduction

The Western Cape Provincial Parliament's Annual Report programme for the 2018/19 financial year was advertised in newspapers inviting stakeholders and members of the public to attend and participate in the discussions. The Committee deliberated on the Annual Reports of the Department of Community Safety and the Western Cape Liquor Authority on 11 October 2019 as part of its oversight function. Before proceeding to the deliberation of the report of the Western Cape Liquor Authority (WCLA) and the Department of Community Safety (the Department), WCLA's Governing Board Chairperson and its Chief Executive Officer, the Minister and the Head of Department were given an opportunity to make opening remarks.

The Department and the WCLA were examined on:

Part A: General Information,

Part B: Departmental Performance Information; and

Part D: Human Resources Management of the Department's Annual Report.

Members of the public were also given an opportunity to pose questions and to make input during the discussions.

2. Western Cape Liquor Authority

Overview

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr S George, provided introductory comments. The Chairperson of the WCLA's Governing Board, Adv T Sidaki, provided introductory comments. Both focused on two aspects in their overviews. The first was that of the WCLA aiming to be a self-sustaining entity. Mr George reported that the WCLA is close to achieving its desired level of self-sustainability and that improved regulations within the liquor trade industry will enhance this self-sustaining feature. Adv Sidaki echoed the WCLA's efforts to move beyond licensing fees, penalties and short term applications as the only forms of revenue stream for the entity. He added that the WCLA's expenditure is largely affected by industry related inefficiencies, resources used to address incomplete and late liquor trade applications, as well as high advertising costs.

The second key aspect is the WCLA's alcohol harms reduction approach. There is a need for effective measures to minimise the effects of the liquor industry on domestic and gender based violence, and binge drinking. The WCLA has opened consultation with the Western Cape Education Department to create awareness of alcohol harms to divert youth from liquor consumption.

2.1 Key points from the discussion on the WCLA

2.1.1 The WCLA reported that there exists a highly organised system where legal alcohol distributors trade with illegal distributors. There are currently no regulations to control this trade. The White Paper on Alcohol Harms Reduction Policy aims to bring these illegal outlets to trade within regulations.

- 2.1.2 The WCLA reported that despite thorough advertising and recruitment processes, it has not identified a suitable candidate to fill the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer vacancies. The current Acting CEO, Mr S George, has been seconded from the Department to the WCLA. The WCLA is expediting measures for these permanent posts to be filled, fully cognisant of employment equity practices and employing young professionals.
- 2.1.3 Due to its transition to implement updated and revised legislation, the WCLA is more focused on the Alcohol Harms Reduction aspect of its overall mandate. Through establishing partnerships with local organisations, such as Community Police Forums, the WCLA aims to achieve significant success on combatting the ill effects of alcohol in the province.
- 2.1.4 The WCLA aims to achieve self-sustainability by the 2020/21 financial year. This level can be achieved despite large proportions of the budget being spent on processes to impose fines for illegal and negligent liquor trade practices.
- 2.1.5 The WCLA reported that by focusing on upstreaming prosecutions, and imposing significant sanctions, regulating the liquor trade industry will be more manageable.
- 2.1.6 There are monthly meetings conducted with the Provincial South African Police Service management structures. These meetings aim to build and maintain a strong working partnership with key stakeholders.
- 2.1.7 There are also significant engagements with municipalities regarding rezoning processes as these affect the scope for issuing and/or denying liquor trade licences, as well as address the alcohol harms related effects.
- 2.1.8 The WCLA reported that some of the challenges it faces include its limited resources to deal with a large liquor industry, especially having to counter the marketing strength that this industry has, and preventing people of age selling liquor to the youth.
- 2.1.9 The WCLA has embarked on awareness and outreach programmes across the province and has also conducted door-to-door campaigns to engage with parents and youth on the risks associated with alcohol abuse.
- 2.1.10 The Liquor Licensing Tribunal has established a Section 24 Committee, as provided for in Section 24 of the Western Cape Liquor Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2008).

3. Department of Community Safety

Overview

The Minister, Mr A Fritz, and the Head of Department, Mr G Morris, provided brief comments on the Department's focus. The Department, having spent 98% of its 2018/19 budget allocation, reported that its Court Watching Brief project has received recognition by the national Minister of Police and that there is current consultation with the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng provincial government departments to implement similar programmes in these provinces. The Department has focused extensively on strengthening Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Community Police Forum (CPF) structures to be effective partners in the fight against crime. The establishment of a K9 Unit, supporting highway policing, and further enhancing the youth diversion programmes, such as the

Chrysalis Academy and the Youth Safety and Religion Partnership, were other salient points listed by the Department.

3.1 Key points from the Department of Community Safety discussion

- 3.1.1 The Department reported that there are 11 556 members across the 142 accredited NHWs. Accreditation is renewed every two years and the duration of the actual accreditation is largely dependent on clearance by the South Africa Police Service (SAPS).
- 3.1.2 The Department reported that its monitoring and evaluation of NHWs were adversely impacted by the lack of staffing capacity to ensure that this programme is effectively facilitated.
- 3.1.3 The Department also stated that the NHWs face challenge that include lengthy accreditation processes, training and resourcing.
- 3.1.4 The monitoring styled Court Watching Brief project led to the Western Cape SAPS instituting disciplinary action against 27 of its officials, during 2018/19.
- 3.1.5 The Department spent roughly R1 million on its two day Safer Western Cape Conference.
- 3.1.6 The 67 interns include graduate interns as well as those from the Premier's Advancement of Youth (PAY) Project.
- 3.1.7 The stipend per child for the Youth Safety Religion Programme, has been in to R60 per child per day.
- 3.1.8 The Western Cape Provincial Safety Advisory Committee, established in the 2018/19 financial year, met on five occasions. The Committee submitted its recommendations to the Provincial Minister of Community Safety to improve the implementation of the Western Cape Community Safety Act of 2013.

4. Requests for information

The Committee REQUESTED that the Western Cape Liquor Authority provide:

- 4.1 A copy of the Western Cape Liquor Authority's Employment Equity Plan.
- 4.2 A list of the names of persons on the Liquor Licensing Tribunal, and those serving on the Section 24 Committee. Include the structure of the Section 24 Committee, the appointment process, and its functions.
- 4.3 A list of the areas, for the year under review, that the Western Cape Liquor Authority visited to engage and share relevant information including the role of communities in the liquor licensing application process, creating awareness on the negative consequences of liquor abuse, and to answer questions for clarity.
- 4.4 A copy of the Western Cape alcohol-related harms reduction policy.

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department of Community Safety provide:

- 4.5 A copy of the findings of the review relating to the Department's report on its partnership with the National Secretariat of Police to compile a review of the 150 police stations in the Western Cape.
- 4.6 A copy of the Safer Western Cape 2018 Conference Report, as well as an update on the implementation of the resolutions listed in the Report.
- 4.7 A breakdown of the unemployment statistics and child headed households of the 10 stations in the top 30 murder stations.
- 4.8 A list of the membership of the Western Cape Provincial Safety Advisory Committee.
- 4.9 The number of graduates and Premier's Advancement of Youth interns who were given full time employment opportunities in the Department, during 2018/19.
- 4.10 A copy of the analysis of sick leave applications for the 2018/19 financial year. The list should not include the names of the applicants.
- 4.11 A list of the Neighbourhood Watches that were not accredited and have not receive funding, and the reasons for the non-funding.

5. Recommendations

The Committee recommended that the Department of Committee Safety avails all reports requested by the Standing Committee, on the Department's website, where access of such reports to the public is not prohibited by legislation.



MR RI ALLEN, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT