

**PARLIAMENT OF THE  
PROVINCE OF THE  
WESTERN CAPE**

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**QUESTION PAPER**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

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Note: \* Indicates translated version.

**THURSDAY, 30 APRIL 2020**

**1. Mr B N Herron to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:**

With regard to the Department of Health's response to COVID-19:

Quarantine and field-hospital sites:

- (1) (a) Which provincial and municipal sites have been allocated or identified for quarantine or field-hospital purposes by each municipality, (b) what is the progress in repurposing these sites, (c)(i) how many additional beds are available at these sites and (ii) where are they located and (d) what is the target number of quarantine or field-hospital beds for the province;

Screening and testing:

- (2) (a) Which provincial and municipal sites have been allocated or identified by each municipality for (i) testing, (ii) screening and (iii) triage purposes, (b)(i) how is the door-to-door screening being done and (ii) by whom, (c) how are the areas to be screened identified and (d) how many residents of the Western Cape have been tested for COVID-19 to date;

Strandfontein homeless camp:

- (3) The assessment by Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders), the international humanitarian medical NGO, of Cape Town's Strandfontein homeless camp found that the risk for the transmission of the COVID-19 virus was very high due to "gross overcrowding and because the availability of screening and healthcare services are erratic" and "the danger of doing harm is great and this should alarm anyone". The NGO has called for the phased decommissioning of the Strandfontein homeless camp. In the light of this finding: Whether her Department agrees with this assessment; if so, what are the relevant details?

**2. Ms G N Bakubaku-Vos to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:**

With reference to claims made in the media on 2 April 2020 that her Department has several programmes that provide food to approximately 1 000 000 people who are food insecure:

(a) What is the detailed breakdown in terms of (i) age, (ii) area and (iii) food products given and (b) what is the (i) number and (ii) details of child-headed households supported during the lockdown period?

(164)

**3. Ms G N Bakubaku-Vos to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:**

With regard to the Doctors Without Borders (MSF) finding that gross overcrowding at the Strandfontein temporary shelter posed dangerous risks for the homeless of contracting COVID-19 and tuberculosis:

- (1) (a) What is the total number of homeless people housed at the shelter and (b) how many have been relocated with their families;
- (2) whether the findings has been brought to her attention; if so, how will she and her Department intervene to address the highlighted challenges;
- (3) what are the reasons for not practicing social distancing at the shelter, as mattresses are less than 1,5 m apart;
- (4) whether she and her Department (a) support calls for the decentralisation of the service and (b) will engage with municipalities to accommodate homeless people in various community halls and other unused municipal buildings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether it has been brought to her attention that the City of Cape has issued fines to homeless people; if so, how will she intervene;
- (6) whether her Department has provided victim support to the homeless person raped at the Strandfontein temporary shelter; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (7) whether measures have been put in place to prevent the reoccurrence of rape at the site; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(165)

**4. Ms G N Bakubaku-Vos to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:**

(a) What measures have been put in place to curb the increase in the number of cases of gender-based violence during the nationwide lockdown and (b) how is her Department assisting the victims of gender-based violence during the nationwide lockdown?

(166)

**5. Ms R Windvogel to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:**

- (1) Whether, with regard to the positive COVID-19 cases in the province, she can (a) provide a breakdown of the number of people who are quarantined in government quarantine sites and (b) indicate how many people are self-isolating at home; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether, with regard to the COVID-19 cases at Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain and Klipfontein where people live with their families at home, provision has been made

to take these patients to quarantine sites or self-isolation sites; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(167)

**6. Ms R Windvogel to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:**

- (1) What is the number of forensic personnel who are employed in the province;
- (2) whether she has made provision to employ additional forensic personnel in the event of an overwhelming increase in COVID-19-related deaths; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether the mortuaries have enough space to cope with large numbers of corpses in the event of an overwhelming increase in COVID-19-related deaths; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether, with regard to COVID-19 recoveries in the province, she can provide a breakdown by region and ward; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) (a) what is the total number and (b) what are the details of the occupations of the essential workers who have contracted COVID-19;
- (6) whether any medical personnel have been infected with COVID-19; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (7) whether the province has sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical personnel; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (8) (a) of the total number of COVID-19 cases, how many people contracted the virus while they were buying essential goods in shopping malls and shopping centres and (b) what extra precautionary measures have been put in place at shopping malls and shopping centres to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

(168)

**7. Mr M Kama to ask Mr A T Fritz, Minister of Community Safety:**

- (1) Whether he can provide a detailed breakdown of arrests, and the respective transgressions, made during the period of the national lockdown; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any arrests related to (a) murder, (b) drugs, (c) the possession of illegal firearms and (d) gangsterism were made during the period of the national lockdown; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(169)

**8. Mr M Kama to ask Mr A T Fritz, Minister of Community Safety:**

- (1) Whether the medical personnel who are conducting widespread community screening and testing are provided with security; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the SAPS and other law enforcement members who are assisting in the fight against the COVID-19 outbreak have the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(170)

**9. Ms N D Nkondlo to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:**

With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and the national lockdown that has slowed down government services and programmes:

- (1) What is the projected aggregate spend by municipalities for this quarter of the financial year versus their budgets;
- (2) whether there is any variances and whether this points to the possible under-spending of most municipal budgets; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details and breakdown;
- (3) what mitigating measures have been put in place by his Department for municipalities to mitigate the budget risks for municipal finances and spending associated with the lockdown and COVID-19;
- (4) whether there are any municipalities that have exercised the Regulation No 429 by the National Treasury on the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 – Exemption from Act and Regulations – under one or both conditions stipulated in section 3(1)(2); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether there are any municipalities that have passed special adjustment budgets given that there are only two months before the municipal financial year-end; if not, why not; if so, what are relevant details, including details of major shifts, adjustments and revised or new areas of spending related and/or not related to COVID-19 emergencies;
- (6) (a)(i) which conditional grants have been affected by COVID-19 and the lockdown and (ii) what are the details per municipality, (b)(i) what major revenue streams have been affected by COVID-19 and the lockdown per municipality and (ii) how has this exposure been managed by each municipality?

(171)

**10. Ms A P Bans to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:**

With regard to the phase 1 economic measures announced by the national Minister of Finance, including (1) the immediate release of fund to where it was needed and (2) Instruction Note 8 of 2019/20 applicable to Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) institutions and Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) Circular 100 for municipalities and municipal entities to speed up the procurement of goods or commodities that are required to reduce and control the spread of the virus:

- (1) Whether her department heeded the call to speed up the procurement of the goods or commodities required to reduce and control the spread of the virus; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether, with regard to the immediate release of funds to where it is needed, her Department received any allocation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(172)

**11. Ms A P Bans to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:**

With regard to the COVID-19 outbreak:

- (1) Whether her Department was consulted and supports of the use of the Strandfontein sports grounds as a temporary shelter for homeless people; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether there are any other sports facilities that have been availed and/or are currently in use for the COVID-19 response; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(173)

**12. Ms A P Bans to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:**

- (1) Whether the COVID-19 outbreak has had any impact on her Department's budget and on the funding of various stakeholders and entities; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether her Department has offered any support to athletes, artists, sport fraternities and traditional leaders during the nationwide lockdown; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(174)

**13. Mr L L Mvimbi to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:**

Whether his Department has put any precautionary measure in place during the national lockdown to minimise any potential noncompliance with the Public Finance Management Act and the Municipal Finance Management Act by institutions to which these acts apply; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(175)

**14. Mr C M Dugmore to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

With regard to the mixed messages that have been communicated by the provincial government, including about the sale of cigarettes during the lockdown and the wearing of masks:

- (1) What are the reasons for these mixed messages;
- (2) whether any corrective steps have taken against the respective Ministers and officials involved in communicating these mixed messages; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(175)

**15. Mr C M Dugmore to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

Whether the Premier has met with the leaders of the opposition parties in the legislature as requested by the leader of the opposition; if not, why not; if so, please provide details of when such meetings took place?

(176)

**16. Mr C M Dugmore to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

Whether he supported the action of a senior official in the provincial Department of Transport and Public Works who contacted the Golden Arrow bus company and instructed them not to provide transport for the relocation of the refugees from the Central Methodist Church to Bellville; if not, why not; if so, what was the reason for this support?

(177)

**17. Ms R Windvogel to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:**

With regard to the service pressures relating to the COVID-19 outbreak:

- (1) Whether any provision has been made to get additional therapists and counsellors to assist the front-line medical personnel; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?
- (2) what measure have been put in place to help medical personnel to cope emotionally and physically in the event of an increasing death toll due to the virus?

*(178)*

**18. Mr D America to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:**

Whether any municipality passed an unfunded budget during the last administration (2014–2019); if so, (a) which municipalities and (b) what assistance did his Department provide?

*(161)*

**PLEASE NOTE: The replies to the questions contained in this Question Paper are due on 15 May 2020. Should the replies not be submitted before or on the deadline, the Members have the right to have the questions transferred to the Question Paper for oral reply in accordance with Rule 206.**